



## Presidents Report 2020 AGM

### Where, when, and why did Pickleball BC get started?

**October 30, 2016** I applied to Pickleball Canada to be the BC Provincial Ambassador to or for Pickleball Canada (PCO). After a few months in this unknown space and through conversations with PCO it became obvious that an umbrella organization comprising all BC pickleball players and clubs was really what was required.

And so it started.

Through evolution and significant growth, on January 20, 2019 Pickleball BC was granted status as a registered not for profit society under the name PCO PICKLEBALL ASSN BC. Prior to that, November 2018, we signed an agreement with Pickleball Canada as their sole representative in British Columbia.

As of October 15, 2020 we had 5683 registered members, and 45 active Clubs. Members and clubs - we have about 25% of the National totals. COVID -19 has taken a toll with some clubs reporting as many as 20% of their membership not rejoining - yet. But they all report quite an influx of new registrants. Net - our numbers are down about 10%. Even with social distancing and other restrictions in place pickleball in BC is 'healthy'.

Our monthly Newsletters have contained significant registration statistics - no reason to be verbose again.

### General Progress from 30,000 ft.

- The number of members and clubs is a significant advance for pickleball in BC.
- We have a formal agreement (MoU) with Pickleball Canada
- We have a formal agreement (MoU) with BC Senior Games Society (aka 55+)
- We have applied to viaSport for membership
- Our website has high traffic counts and contains much BC based information
- Our monthly Newsletter enjoys a large readership base
- We have members leading or on several PCO committees
  - Officiating
  - Rules
  - Interprovincial & Territorial Advisory Committee
  - Integrated Technology Program - this seems to have several anagrams - ITP, IPP, EPIC ?
  - Several members of Pickleball BC are on the Board of Pickleball Canada.



## **Future Endeavors**

With a Full board of Directors slate we should be able to take on and complete many tasks that we were not able to manage with a short Board.

- Greater participation in the implementation of the ITP project. This is primarily a software task - bringing together either through outsourcing or development everything one needs to run or manage pickleball affairs from the grass roots to the National level. We should see this coming in stages early 2021. A few of the salient features:
  - An online fully integrated members registration system is one key and valuable element
  - Ratings and ranking software from recreation play to tournament level
  - Tournament management capability
- Participation in other PCO based development projects - nationally certified coaching courses for one
- Development of a Provincial Tournament structure
- Host the Western Regional Pickleball Tournament - currently set for 2023
- Support a bid for the 2023 Canadian Nationals

## **Thanks etc**

My personal thank you to the 8 or 9 individuals that were at one time or still are members of the Pickleball BC Board. To those that took 'early leave' - thank you for the time you could give. Tricia Timmermans, who is moving back to Australia - thank you - hope you take your paddle and can get in a few games down under. To those returning - we are not done yet.

I am pleased and excited that we had 14 candidates for the 11 Board positions for the 2021 year. I hope I will be afforded an opportunity to work with the successful 11. We have work to do.

Many thanks to all the clubs and their leadership teams. For the advice, the support, the criticisms. And the opportunities to come play in your community from time to time - so far that is over 50 locations.

And thanks to all the players I meet, played against, and lost games to - it has been a learning experience, a maddening experience, a frustrating experience but also a very rewarding one!

Remember when calling the ball out use your outside voice - would you like me to demonstrate?