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PCO Welcomes all pickleball submissions.
Please send to Editor, Denise Griffin
gwgriffin@shaw.ca

President's Message - Shirley Shepherd

Since June 19, 2011, Pickleball Canada Organization (PCO) has been an official member country of the International Federation of Pickleball (IFP).

The IFP was organized to perpetuate the growth and advancement of pickleball throughout the world. The member organizations representing their respective countries have agreed to conduct the business of the IFP in conformance to the Constitution and Bylaws of the IFP. Member organizations also support the International Rules of Pickleball. The IFP website, http://ipickleball.org/, was established in April 2010.

The international rules were adapted from the rules of the USAPA that were first published in March 1984 and include all revisions to date. The published version of the rulebook contains IFP rules in English.

Other versions of the IFP rules in French, Spanish and Chinese are also published on the IFP website.

USAPA, PCO, All India Pickleball Association (AIPA) and Pickleball Spain are the four member organizations that are the governing bodies of the sport in their respective countries. Pickleball is played in many other countries such as the UK, France, Greece, Mexico, etc. More member countries will be joining IFP as the sport continues to grow. The IFP sets the stage for all countries to join in future international competition with a common set of rules.

Pickleball courts in Tennis Clubs:

Below are some Tennis Clubs that have included Pickleball in their facilities:

Kamloops Tennis Club, Kamloops, B.C.
Prince George Tennis Club, Prince George, B.C.
Aurora Community Tennis Club, Aurora, Ontario
Riverview Tennis Club, Riverview, New Brunswick
Growing number of players and Places to Play in B.C.

Pickleball is growing in leaps and bounds all over the country. As of April 1, 2015, the estimated number of players in B.C. is 9123. There are 124 Places to Play pickleball in B.C. This increase is due to the large number of new clubs and groups starting up in small cities and towns. PCO would like to thank our hard working dedicated Ambassadors and experienced players for promoting the game in new communities.

Pickleball/tennis courts in Elks Park, Morden, Manitoba

Residents can play pickleball on the newly revamped tennis and pickleball courts in Morden’s Elks Park, Manitoba. The courts have undergone renovations in the past year, including a flexi-pave surface treatment. The renovations were funded with fundraising efforts by the Morden Elks and grants from the City of Morden, The Action Plan for Canada, The Manitoba Elks Association, Access Credit Union and Delmar Commodities. The facilities will remain free for use and are available to all residents.

PCO Area Ambassador

Medicine Hat, Alberta

We are very pleased to announce that Karen Taylor has been appointed as Pickleball Canada’s Area Ambassador for Medicine Hat Senior Services Pickleball Club MHSSPC, Medicine Hat, Alberta effective March 25, 2015.

Karen has experience as a Board member with Big Brothers Big Sisters and she knows what it takes to get the community engaged in an organization.

She will Work with the City of Medicine Hat municipal government to address the shortage of Pickleball courts in the Medicine Hat area.

Thank you Karen for promoting Pickleball in Medicine Hat, Alberta.
This month Pickleball Canada Organization would like to showcase Karen Sawatsky, who has earned 4100 tournament points in 2014.

I would not call myself a particularly athletic person, there was no emphasis on sports in our home and there were not a lot of opportunities for involvement in organized sport. As children growing up in Paraguay we played soccer and were vocal supporters of our local soccer team, "Go Olympia!!" ... but I wasn't involved in any organized sports. Later our family purchased a pingpong table and my brothers and I enjoyed/battled our way through many games.

I married a man who enjoyed sports and we raised our children with an intentional involvement in different sports. Exercise and sports became a part of my life and when my husband passed away, different exercise activity provided me with a support group, stress relief and the physical strength I needed during a difficult time.

Over the past years I have participated in a variety of sports like running, weights, yoga, swimming, fast walking, etc, but grew bored after a time and needed to change my exercise routine every year or so. On an early morning walk with my good friend Geri she suggested we try Pickleball. I was a little dubious about a sport called “Pickleball" but she knew of friends who played the game and loved it. This was about four years ago and since those first games I was hooked. We went out for coffee after some of these sessions with other players and talked about shots, rules, strategies, etc. but also shared our personal lives.

This game has given me many hours of enjoyment, great exercise and also provided me with new friendships, both locally and through other clubs. As an added bonus I enjoy playing in the mixed doubles events with my twin brother. I invited him out to play a few months after I started and he got hooked on the game as well. I love the Abbotsford, BC club, finding the players to be very helpful, friendly but also competitive. There is much to learn about this game. When starting out it was all about the hard hits and the smashes. It was difficult to make decent kitchen shots that the more experienced players couldn't pounce on. The importance of doing well in the short game, as evidenced in the higher level players, is something that I am now trying to work on.

In the past two years pickleball has become an even bigger part of my life as I found myself planning holidays around places to play. I have enjoyed playing with a great group in Palm Desert and this last February I had a great time playing while on a holiday to Oceanside. I am a little envious of the players who are fortunate enough to spend their winters in the South playing Pickleball while enjoying the warmth that goes along with the South, but I am thankful for the many great places to play right here in the Fraser Valley. See you on the courts!
Upcoming Tournaments

FIRST ANNUAL
Byrne Creek Leos Charity Pickleball Tournament, Burnaby, B.C.
April 18-19, 2015
PCO Sanctioned (Tier 4) IFP rules Apply
Mens and Ladies Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, Open
To register go to: http://www.pickleballtournaments.com

Kitchener-Waterloo Pickleball Association is Hosting a Pickleball Tournament

Sunday, April 12 & Monday, April 13
KW Badminton Club; 69 Agnes Street in Kitchener
Open Womens, Mens and Mixed (Sunday)
Womens 55-64, 65+
Mens 55-64, 65+
Registration and information is now ready!! Please email at kwpickleballassociation@gmail.com if you need a copy emailed to you!!

Nanaimo Pickleball Tournament, Nanaimo, B.C.

May 1,2 and 3, 2015.
The Nanaimo Pickleball Club and The City of Nanaimo are pleased to offer our second officially ranked tournament sanctioned by Pickleball Canada and in the process of USAPA sanctioning.

We are offering the following rating levels 3.0, 3.5, 3.75, 4.0, 4.5+ subject to the number of entries. You are guaranteed at least four games in each competitive event category that you register. If playing in the doubles category, you will need the name of your partner when registering and codes provided on our website. If you are playing doubles, your team registers in the ranking of the highest skilled player.
You can register beginning March 4th, 2015, online at IReg.nanaimo.ca or call 250-756-5200.
The Club will be offering limited billeting for our visiting participants. If you need a place to stay, please email Nanaimopickleball@gmail.com with Billeting in the subject title.
More information will be available on our website:
nanimopickleball.com>Events>Tournament.
Mens and Ladies Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles.
This will be a ranked tournament. http://nanaimopickleball.org
PCO Sanctioned (Tier 4) IFP rules Apply

5th Annual Sannich, BC Recreation Pickleball Tournament
June 12-14th, 2015.
Men’s & Women’s Singles, Doubles,
Mixed Doubles and 65+ Mixed Doubles.
IFP rules apply. To register: http://www.victoriapickleball.org/
Pickleball Kelowna Indoor Spring Tournament
Saturday, May 9, 2015
Location: Kelowna Secondary School
1079 Raymer Avenue
Kelowna B.C V1Y 4Z7
Name of Tournament Directors: Dale Charlton, Ray Timbers & Gilbert Guenette
email address: DCharlton@sinclairdental.com <DCharlton@sinclairdental.com>
Phone: 250-878-8791
PCO Sanctioned (Tier 3) IFP rules Apply

KAMLOOPS OPEN PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Note: This tournament is Full - Registration Closed
May 30-31, 8:30 am to 5:00pm
MacDonald Park Kamloops
Tournament Director: Ross Perkin, rossperkin328@yahoo.ca 250-318-1275
Tournament will use IFP rules and all participants will be expected to sign a PCO waiver
Format: Double knockout (2 of 3 main draw, games to 15 in back draw)
Events: Men’s Doubles, Ladies Doubles, Mixed Doubles
(Men’s and Ladies Saturday, Mixed Sunday)
Categories: 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 plus
PCO Sanctioned (Tier 4) IFP rules Apply
Lunch will be provided each day and all participants will get a gift.
Registration fee: 1 event $35, 2 events $50

Battle of the Paddle at Pinetree
By: City of Coquitlam and Fraser Valley Pickleball

Fri 06/26/15 thru Sun 06/28/15
Pinetree Community Centre, Coquitlam, BC V3B7Z4
Website: http://www.fraservalleypickleball.org
Event brackets will be:
Men’s and Women's Singles 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and Open on Friday, June 26 starting at 5:00 p.m.
Men’s and Women’s Doubles 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and Open on Saturday, June 27 starting at 8:30 a.m.
Mixed Doubles 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and Open on Sunday, June 28 starting at 9:00 a.m.
A note about registration:
For this tournament, you MUST use one of the three registration options described at pickleballtournaments.com. You CANNOT use pickleballtournaments.com to register for this tournament since Coquitlam's Parks and Recreation department is looking after all registrations.

We encourage you to register as early as possible in case the tournament fills up.

**2015 Pickleball Canada National Eastern Open Championship**

Manulife Financial Sportsplex and Healthy Living Centre at RIM Park in Waterloo, Ontario on July 10th, 11th and 12th, 2015.
PCO Sanctioned (Tier 1) IFP rules Apply
To register go to: [http://www.pickleballtournaments.com/pbt_main.pl](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com/pbt_main.pl)
See page 17 for the poster

**2015 Pickleball Canada National Western Open Tournament**

Parkinson Recreation Centre
Kelowna, B.C. on July 10th, 11th and 12th, 2015.
PCO Sanctioned (Tier 1) IFP rules Apply
To register go to: [http://www.pickleballtournaments.com/pbt_main.pl](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com/pbt_main.pl)
See page 16 for the poster

**2015 Salmon Arm Open Pickleball Tournament**

To be held at Club Shuswap Golf & RV destination—east side of Salmon Arm.
on Saturday July 25 & Sunday July 26, 2015.
Saturday—Mixed Doubles (4divisions)  3.5  3.75  4.0  4.5 +.
Sunday—Men’s Doubles / Women’s Doubles: Div.1 (3.5-3.75) + Div.2 (4.0 - 4.5+)
***register with your own partner. ( a list will be kept of “single entries” if necessary)
Limited to 48 people. **Guaranteed 5 games each day.
To register please email Linda Brown, uffdamay@gmail.com with your intent or if you require
further information. Then send a post dated cheque ( July 10, 2015 ), payable to Club
Shuswap, for $52.50/person. Mail to : Linda Brown
1610-13th Avenue, S.E., Salmon Arm, BC  V1E 2G7

**Vernon Pickleball Club Fund Raising Doubles Tournament**

Next indoor fund raising doubles tournament is October 24, 2015 in Vernon. We
are taking names now.
Contact: vernonpickleballclub@gmail.com

Any player or group who would like to have their tournament advertised , please send request to:
Denise at de.griffin@sasktel.net
Ontario Players Bring Home the Gold

Congrats to Bill Furse, Pickleball Canada Director and Pickleball Association of Ontario member and his partner, Walter Pauls of Collingwood, Ontario. These two avid players teamed up to win Men's Doubles Gold 70+ in the Florida State Senior Games in December, 2014. This team qualified for the State Games by winning a silver medal in the Villages Senior Games last year. Winning the Gold Medal in the State Games qualifies Bill and Walter to play in the 2015 USA National Senior Games to be held in Minneapolis, July 3-16, 2015.

Congrats to Looey Tremblay and Paul Leeder of the Kitchener-Waterloo Pickleball Association and PAO members who won a gold medal in the 4.5 Men's Doubles at the East Naples Skill Level Tournament in Florida, March 14, 2015. Quite an achievement fellas!

Adapted from the Pickleball Association of Ontario Newsletter, March 2015
Vernon Pickleball Club Indoor Charity Tournament

On March 28th 120 people played in a one day skill rated tournament in Vernon, BC in support of the Vernon Hospice House and the Cancer Society. There were no prizes and no standings. Participants played 5 games in the round robin and 2 games in seeded pools. $1600 was raised and after expenses, $550 was presented to the Hospice House and $550 to the Cancer Society. Great work out there in Vernon!

Thank you to Coach Dave, Julie and Dave who worked tirelessly with me. Submitted by Cheri Burgess
PCO Ambassador for Powell River, BC Reporting In

Thought I would give you a quick update on my recent trip to Texada Island. We had about a dozen (adults/teens) that turned up and more that couldn't make it but still want to give it a try. We've been asked to go over it again and will do so after spring break. They have a great venue with 3 badminton courts at the school gym. Pete and I brought our own personal nets and the group over there has said they will buy their own.

Also wanted to let you know that a few months ago I set up an indoor court south of town in the Regional District for the people out at Kelly Creek. They are now playing 3 times a week. The school there bought them a net, 4 paddles and balls. I am trying to get them to agree to allow me to paint lines for 2 outdoor courts at the school on their paved basketball/street hockey area.

Lastly, I have been communicating with the Regional District regarding pickleball lines on the tennis court south of town at Palm Beach and hope to hear something favourable soon.

(Submitted by Rheal Leon, our Area Ambassador for Powell River, BC)
Pickleball Around the World

I'm in Spain and making some good progress promoting pickleball. I wanted to let you know that we recently finished the September Spain Pickleball Tours and had a great time so I've decided to keep them going in 2015. The following are the 2015 dates.

Join Us on a 9-day Pickleball Tour to Spain
Experience a behind-the-scenes look into Spain's rich history and culture combined with a chance to play pickleball with the locals almost every day of the tour.

4 Tours Scheduled for 2015

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Check-out the Web site and view photos and video from 2014
www.vivapickleballtours.com

International Places to Play Pickleball
http://www.usapa.org/places-to-play-pickleball

ABW (Aruba), STA CRUZ # 56, STA. CRUZ, ABW
GBR (Great Britain) -
Bunyan Leisure Center, Bedford, GBR,
Russell Park, Bedford, GBR
Kidlington & Gosford Leisure Centre, Kidlington, GBR,
Kirkley Community Sports Centre, Lowestoft, England
Waveney Sports Centre, Lowestoft, England
GRC (Greece) - Vritomartis nudist resort, Chania, GRC
MEX (Mexico) -

Athletic Club San Carlos, San Carlos, MEX
El Dorado Ranch Pickleball Club, San Felipe, Mexico
El Sargento, BCS, MEX
Cabo Blanco Hotel, Barra de Navidad, Ja, MEX
Canto del Sol Tennis Club, Puerto Vallarta, MEX
La Deportiva, San Miguel de Allend, MEX
Loma del Mar, San Carlos, MEX
Mazatlan Pickleball Club, Mazatlan, MEX
Marina Real Condominiums, San Carlos, MEX
San Carlos Gym, San Carlos, Sonora, MEX
San Carlos Pickleball Association, San Carlos, MEX
Totonaka RV, San Carlos, Sonora, MEX
GTM (Guatemala) San Andreas, Sajcabaja, GTM
Pickleball in Puerto Vallarta Mexico

The first annual “Tropical Puerto Vallarta” Pickleball tournament, was held at the Canto Del Sol tennis club in Puerto Vallarta Mexico from March 11th-13th 2015. Tournament organizers, Michelle Nava and Lyall Harrison (featured in all of the presentation photos) put on a truly fun and well run affair with everyone who participated thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Mens Doubles Champs
Douglas Taylor of Saratoga Beach B.C. and Will Penner of West Kelowna B.C.

Ladies Doubles Champs
Mira Bergeron of Montreal Que. and Yvonne Lefebvre of Brampton Ont.

Mixed Doubles Champs
Chad Williams of Santa Clara Ut and Jamie Knoph of Greeley Co.

Mixed Social Doubles Champs
Michael Forrest of Port Ludlow, Wa. and Yvonne Lefebvre of Brampton Ont.

The trophy presentations and after tournament party was held at Que Pasa, a local restaurant that supplied food, refreshments and music for the players.

Group photo of the tournament players.

The tournament was sponsored by (in no particular order) Ciel, Corona Light, Cuervo, The Sheratan, Powerade, Aces High Tattoo PV, Viejo Vallarta Restaurant, No Way Jose Restaurant, The Blue Shrimp Restaurant, 3rd Base Sports Cantina, and Cel Trev AudioVisual. This tournament was truly an international event as there were many Canadian as well as many American players.

Presentation to school children and teachers.

This tournament was solely dedicated to promoting the sport in Mexico by donating equipment to local schools in the area.

For each $200 dollars raised, one school receives 1 portable net, 4 balls, 4 paddles, and lines painted on the ground for 1 court. This is the second of 23 schools.

This is the first annual and the word is, it will be in February next year, so keep your dates open.

www.PickleballPuertoVallarta.com
**Update - Pickleball in Puerto Vallarta 2014-2015:**

The year began where last year left off. We continued to grow in numbers of persons participating and numbers of days booked for play. We started in early November with 12 – 16 players using one to two courts and steadily grew to, at the height of the season, 55 – 60 players playing 5 days per week, using four courts and having 26 players per session. The group was divided into Tuesday/Thursday and Wednesday/Friday, with Sundays being reserved for mens doubles and ladies doubles. The final number as of March 5th 2015 was 87 players on the email distribution list. The group is fast nearing the limit of numbers that can play as we can only accommodate 26 players per session. We continue to struggle with the tennis club whereas we have tried to get them to collect the money ($50.00 pesos per player this year and we are told $60.00 pesos per player next year), but they refuse to do it so it falls to volunteers to be there early and collect all the money and pay for the courts after the session is over. We have also tried to get them to paint permanent lines or at the very least to maintain the painters tape that is used to play. So far all requests have been denied.

The general group of players is very diverse with regard to skill level and country of origin. We have had players from Europe, USA, Canada, and Mexico. Occasionally there will be someone standing at the entry to the courts asking what is that game you are playing, we have even had people join in on the spur of the moment. It’s a great experience for all as the game brings everyone together, there are no borders, just out of bounds and kitchen lines.

On behalf of all the players, I would like to thank Frank and Yvonne Lefebvre of Brampton Ont., Susan Whelan of Athens, Greece, Bill Yezek of Peoria Il, many others who did things without being asked Cathy Dieter for her relentless ball collecting, and the Canto Del Sol staff for all the extra effort and help that they provided during the year.

Submitted by Ken Frey Regina Sk, Ca.

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**Pickleball Goes Tropical**

The sport of pickleball has spread to Costa Rica. Tony Horpel, has been appointed as the first Costa Rican Ambassador for USAPA. How about that! He has recruited twelve players and they are in the process of painting lines for 3 courts in a local gym.

Thinking of visiting the Hawaiian Islands. Take your pickleball paddle as you will now be able to play indoors and outdoors on the islands of Oahu, Maui, and Kona.
Please re-new or join PICKLEBALL CANADA

Membership application form is available on the web site. Completed form and payment can be

PICKLEBALL CANADA ORGANIZATION
10823 – 82 AVENUE, EDMONTON, ALBERTA, T6E 2B2

MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR PICKLEBALL CANADA
New/re-new membership rates are:
One year $12.00
Three years $32.00
Five years $50.00

Club Group Rates available (20 members min.), contact: president@pickleballcanada.org

"You never know when you put on a smile and extend an open hand to a new Pickleball Player how it will impact their health and their life."
Frank Street, USA Pickleball Association Ambassador, Spokane Valley
**Your Board Of Directors**
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[dwshepherd@shaw.ca](mailto:dwshepherd@shaw.ca)
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PEI - Garth Matthews  
[g.matthews@hotmail.com](mailto:g.matthews@hotmail.com)
NS - Patsy & Steve Simon  
[psimon@staff.ednet.ns.ca](mailto:psimon@staff.ednet.ns.ca)

**Pickleball Blues**
Check out YouTube singer/songwriter Richard Shine as he sings the "Pickleball Blues". He is an amazing musician and a pickleball player from Robson Ranch, Arizona. Richard sings on behalf of all those players whose "dropshot is not droppin' where its supposed to be" and their partners are "done with them and want a timeout indefinitely." Gotta love it!  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Atazp_5JJQ&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Atazp_5JJQ&feature=youtu.be)

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**IFP Rule Revision: March 1, 2015**

4.I. Readiness. Serves shall not be made until the receiver is ready and the score has been called. Serving before the score is called shall result in a fault, and loss of serve. The referee shall call the score when he or she determines that the players should be in position to resume play.

14.D.4.b. Instruct the players on the need to wait for the referee to call out the score before serving, or a fault will incur.

*Submitted by Patsy Simon, PCO Director and Chair Rules Committee*
Pickleball Canada has decided to have 2 National Championship tournaments for 2015...one in the West and one in the East. The Pickleball Canada National Western Tournament held in Kelowna will be skill based (not age-group based) and be played outdoors. This is a Pickleball Canada/USAPA sanctioned tournament that will use IFP rules.

**Location:** Parkinson Recreation Center, 1800 Parkinson Way, Kelowna, B.C., V1Y 4P9

**Tournament Information:**

- Early registration runs from January 1st, 2015 to April 30th, 2015.
- $25 registration fee plus $10 for each event entered.
- Late registration is from May 1st, 2015 to June 1st, 2015 — there is a $10 fee for late registration.
- Players may enter a maximum of 3 events and may only enter one doubles, one mixed doubles and one singles event.
- Registration should be completed online at [www.pickleballtournaments.com](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com)
- Pickleball Canada members will receive a $5 discount off the registration fee. When registering online please make sure you enter your membership number in your personal profile to receive the discount. Leave it blank if you are not a member.
- Please note that if you are currently not a member of Pickleball Canada Organization (PCO) your registration fee will include a PCO 1 year membership.
- Pickleball Canada Tournament points will be awarded to the top three teams in each event.
- Players must be 16 years of age or older any time in 2015 in order to compete.
- Entry fee includes food voucher & welcome bag.
- Players who do not indicate a rating within their registration will be placed in the 3.0 category, although the tournament committee reserves the right to place individual players in an appropriate category.
- All events will be double elimination with each match being best 2 out of 3 games to 11 on the “A” side of the draw. On the “B” side of the draw each match will consist of one game to 15.

**Events:**

- Men’s Doubles 3.0, 3.5—Friday
- Women’s Doubles 3.0, 3.5—Friday
- Men’s Doubles 4.0, 4.5, Open —Saturday
- Women’s Doubles 4.0, 4.5, Open —Saturday
- Mixed Doubles 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, Open—Sunday
- Men’s & Women’s Singles Open—Sunday
- Rain Day—Monday, if necessary
2015 Pickleball Canada Eastern National Championships

Waterloo, Ontario - July 10—12, 2015
Manulife Financial Sportsplex and Healthy Living Centre, RIM Park

DIVISIONS / AGES OF PLAY:

- 12 - 70+ (Juniors to Older Adult)
- Men’s, Women’s, Open & Mixed Doubles
- Open Men’s and Women’s Singles
- Junior Boys & Girls Doubles

FEES:

- $35.00 Registration Fee / PCO Members SAVE $5.00
- $10 per additional category
- KWPA is Hosting Instructional Clinics July 9th
- Clinics are facilitated by USAPA 5.0 Level Players
- Fee of $30 per Clinic—Intermediate & Advanced

TOURNAMENT DETAILS:

pickleballtournaments.weebly.com

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION:

pickleballtournaments.com

CLINIC REGISTRATION E-MAIL:

kwpickleballassociation@gmail.com

2015 Eastern National Championships made possible by:

RIM PARK—WATERLOO, ONTARIO CANADA - 43.5200° N, 80.5000° W

USAPA (Tier 4) / PCO (Tier 1) SANCTIONED
OPEN TO INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS