Meet Patsy Simon - New Director from N.S.

Patsy was born in Glace Bay, Cape Breton, grew up there with her 6 siblings. She attended Morrison High School and after graduation attended Teachers’ College in Truro, NS. After teaching for a few years Patsy moved to Halifax area, started teaching, got married, had 2 beautiful girls.

To further her education Patsy attended Mount St. Vincent University to complete a B.Ed and M.Ed in Science and Elementary Education. She taught for 34 years, loved it, and is now enjoying a very busy retirement. Patsy does consulting work for Dept. of Education in Evaluation Services; she along with a group of retired teachers who traveled the province every Fall and do professional development with all the grade three teachers in the seven school boards in NS. Patsy did lots of volunteer work, most rewarding was teaching adult learners how to read. She also just finished a 2 year term on the Glen Arbour golf executive chairing the events committee, and she sits on the beautification committee for her subdivision. Patsy is an avid golfer and plays approx. 5 days a week. That will change once they get out-door Pickleball courts. She likes to keep active by running daily, and just ran her first 10 K marathon in May. She takes Zumba classes, plays the fiddle & piano, loves to garden, bake, swim, read, golf, speed skate, ski and play badminton & Pickleball.

Four years ago, while vacationing with her husband Steve at The Villages in Florida, they discovered Pickleball. We had never heard of it until then and loved it from the get go. This past April they attended and thoroughly enjoyed Coach Moe’s 4 hour workshop and bought his two videos to share with friends.

Although Patsy has only 4 years experience in Pickleball she is confident she will do a good job in promoting the sport especially how much fun it is to play. She and Steve are working diligently in promoting Pickleball in N.S. and jointly share the position of Provincial ambassadors. Patsy has so far recruited 5 keeners to be area ambassadors. At their local St. Margaret’s Centre they have a group of 8 people who play badminton every Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the Fall and Winter and have converted them to playing Pickleball.

Patsy & Steve formed the NSPA which now allow them to apply for grants as a non profit organization. They recently purchased a portable net, a dozen paddles and balls so that they are well equipped to do demonstrations. In June they gave their first demo to a women’s group in a neighbouring community.

Patsy & Steve have also met NS government officials who are very keen to support Pickleball provincially.

Welcome Patsy to Pickleball Canada. We know you will be a huge asset to our nationally growing group who are the authority for Pickleball in Canada. We are looking forward to hearing more about the growth of Pickleball in Nova Scotia.

The Pickleball Mississauga Association, now 51 members strong successfully continued its 3rd league session. The Spring league ended June 24th. The event was attended by the founders of Pickleball in Ontario, John & Margaret Hoyt, as well as the City of Mississauga’s deputy mayor Ron Starr. Ron was surprised that the fun game of Pickleball was such good exercise and could also be played at such a competitive level. Lunch followed and prizes were awarded. The lunch was provided by our sponsor Chartwell Classic Robert Speck. Pickles served as part of the luncheon and were relished by the happy group. Submitted by: Gerry Infeld, president PMA.
Investigation of outdoor courts in Whitby, ON by Carol

On a very hot day in July, Russ French (the fearless Ambassador for Oshawa & Clarington) accompanied by Hans Tim, Joe Serfleck, Bill McCormack and Carol Doughty (Ambassador for Whitby) started off on the investigation of 3 tennis court areas in Whitby to try out outdoor Pickleball and the portable net that was crying out for the past five days since Russ got it “PUT ME UP, PUT ME UP!”

Lessons learned:
1. The USAPA portable net is fabulous and easy to put up. Just ignore the numbering system on the poles. How does this order make sense: 1,2,3,4,7,7,7,6,1,2,3,4? But it works this way.
2. Unwrap the net to find the instructions before you try to put the poles together.
3. Buy outdoor balls!!
4. The orange and white balls bounce a lot differently than they do in a gym.
5. It’s a long way to go to get your ball if you miss it or it gets hit out of the court.
6. The sun gets in your eyes if you don’t set the courts up properly, north to south.
7. Take a lot of water.
8. The sky is the limit for long high lob shots.
9. You don’t want to fall on that hard asphalt.
10. Tennis players are quiet when they play.
11. It’s a strange feeling with so much space.
12. Every group needs a supervisor who knows how to swing with the flow.
13. The courts are lit at night for playing. Why didn’t we set up then?
14. Watch out for those rivers of ruts.
15. When you have had enough heat, there is a Tim’s close by with ice caps.

We now know the dimensions of a tennis court and can easily tape the lines for Pickleball with the green tape. We need bungee cords and weights to bring the net down to the proper height and bicycle flag poles to mark the sides. There is no problem with the portable nets, now, they are very easy to put up & move. If we had 2 portable nets we could put one on each side of the tennis net. We learned a lot. Now we just have to organize an outdoor Pickleball league/club.

Thanks so much to Russ for moving Pickleball into a new era in Durham by purchasing the nets with some of the money from the $1. collected at Legends each week and leading us onward to outdoor Pickleball. Now we can experience what it is like to play in Arizona for Florida. Submitted by: Carol Doughty

The City of Surrey proudly opened their newest centre this Spring at 6188—176th Street. The new 66,000 square foot multi-purpose facility features three full size gyms, a large fitness/weight room and a variety of programs & events for people of all ages including Pickleball

The Cloverdale Seniors Centre, located a short distance from this new facility hosts a core group of senior Pickleball players. The grand opening marked a vast improvement over the old centre with limited courts. The new facility has 8 courts in the main gym providing more than enough courts. This facility provides welcome relief for the very busy South Surrey Rec. Centre with its long wait times. Many of the South Surrey players now come to Cloverdale.

The sparkling white walls and dividers take getting use to when you are playing with a white ball but you learn to adjust the more you play on these brand new courts.

We commend The City of Surrey on building such an impressive and functional building suitable for so many sports including Pickleball. We (P.C.O.) have offered our services, including training and seminars to help grow the sport in Surrey/Cloverdale.
Throughout Canada and particularly in British Columbia and Alberta there has been a battle going on about which group is the real “Pickleball Canada.” This issue has left many players wondering who’s who.

In the past months a group out of Calgary registered the name Canada Pickleball with Corporation Canada and requested that we, Pickleball Canada, cease using our name which has been historically ours since the inception of Pickleball in Canada back in 2009.

Of course Pickleball Canada could not just let this pass. Pickleball Canada’s Board of Directors filed an Allegation of Corporate Name Confusion with Corporation Canada. The preparation and filing took many weeks to accomplish and in the recent weeks, due to the fact that there has been no response from the Allegee Canada Pickleball, we have rightly assumed that our Allegation has and will not be challenged. Furthermore, the Allegee has indicated to Corporation Canada that they will be changing their name to Canada Pickleball Federation. All this confusion has led to many questions being asked of our Board Members. The most frequent one is “I’ve been approached to join Canada Pickleball for free, is that you guys?” To that question I respond, absolutely not!

The group Canada Pickleball or Canada Pickleball Federation or whatever new name they choose to come up with has been offering free memberships so they can pad their numbers with the hope that players and Sports Canada will recognize them as representatives of Pickleball in Canada.

I find this particularly interesting since our friend in Calgary has stated that there are no freebies to be had in Pickleball and that his conception is that Pickleball must be run by professionals and can only exist if there is a fee structure of pay for play attached. So one can only marvel at the change of attitude.

Canada Pickleball keeps stating on their website that they are the governing body of Pickleball in Canada. You can call yourself anything you want but it doesn’t necessarily make it so. We of course challenge that misrepresentation. Pickleball Canada has and will remain the governing body and driving force behind Pickleball in Canada.

So my friends don’t be confused by cheap imitations. Pickleball imitations are like guys on the corner trying to sell you a $20.00 Rolex. You only get what you pay for.

If anyone in Canada approaches you to join their group for free be advised that they are not Pickleball Canada. If you have any concerns feel free to contact me via our website or at: cbcaldwell@shaw.ca

Westend Edmonton players pictured to the left. Left to right are: Ajit Masand, Leo Garneau, Edson Foo, Dennis Tomkinson, Jean Hui and Linda Dane (Pickleball Canada Ambassador and newly appointed director).

Until a couple of months ago, the only choice for Pickleball in Edmonton had been indoors. With our short summers it is such a treat to be able to play in the sunshine. Leo Garneau who is a member of the (Edmonton) Westend Seniors Activity Centre approached the association to allow the group to convert two unused tennis courts for Pickleball use. This Centre already hosts indoor Pickleball twice a week. The group of about a dozen advanced players were looking for more available court time for competitive play. Currently the courts are booked 2 days a week, however beginning in August, court times will be made available to players of all skill levels.

The association is very pleased that the courts are now being used. There is an amazing amount of interest in this growing sport. Edmonton currently has 4 active locations playing Pickleball with close to 100 registered members between 4 clubs.

Pictured to the left are PCO (Pickleball Canada) members Dennis Tomkinson & Frank Hui painting lines on the two outdoor courts. For more info contact Linda Dane ldane@daneco.com

The little town of PEACHLAND, BC has a very active Pickleball group who meet at the Peachland Recreation Centre Monday & Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. They have from 6 to 12 players out each day with a $3.00 drop in fee. Pelma is the organizer for the Rec. Centre and our PCO Treasurer Christine Perras plays here as well and would like to thank everyone who faithfully comes out to play 4 times a week. If you are holidaying in the Okanagan, please drop in and enjoy a great game of Pickleball in a very nice facility and very enthusiastic, hospitable players too.
TOURNAMENTS THIS YEAR

Let us list your tournament here. Just send an email to: ed.burke@shaw.ca and if you are a member of Pickleball Canada and follow IFP (International Federation of Pickleball) rules, we will be happy to promote your event here.

Tournaments are a wonderful way to grow our sport. Offering medals and prizes is not always needed. We hear of many tournaments that are held just for the love of the game. They play Round Robin Rules so everyone gets to play from 5 to 7 games with different partners in doubles and mixed. Points scored is how they calculate the individual winners.

Please re-new or join PICKLEBALL CANADA

Your support is needed to help us grow & meet our commitments to communities across Canada.

If you have questions, we'll try to answer them quickly.

If you are already a member, please share your information with us.

Membership is a Privilege - We want your participation in all decisions.

Help us grow - With your input and support we'll have so much more to offer all members.

There is strength in numbers. Contact us below or go to: www.pickleballcanada.org

Canadian Picklers save tennis court. This Spring Dave & Bev Butt returned to Regina, SK from AZ to learn their condo tennis court was to be torn up for a parking lot from lack of use. As a member of the board of Pickleball Canada, Bev had an idea. She distributed 68 flyers, inviting residents to Pickleball demos. Players from community indoor groups were invited. For 2 months Bev & Dave taped lines on the court each Tues, Thurs and Saturday. Drills, tips & handouts were available for level 1 to 2. Scoring was lowered to 7 because of the large turnout. They played into the night and the courts were full of laughter & skills improved. They have now painted permanent lines on the duragrid court and hopefully saved the court.

MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR PICKLEBALL CANADA

New/re-new membership rates are:
One year $12.00
Three years $32.00

Your Board of Directors

Colin Caldwell, President - email: chcaldwell@shaw.ca
Bill Franzman, Vice President & Ambassadors - bafran@shaw.ca
Christine Perras, Treasurer - email: thesevenofus@shaw.ca
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Linda Dane, Director at large - email: ldane@daneco.com
Bill Canning, Past President - email: billcanning@pickleballcanada.org

RULES CORNER BY BEV BUTT
Chair Rules Committee P.C.O.

DID YOU KNOW?
International Federation Rules
Why have Canada, USA and India chosen to adopt the International Federation of Pickleball Rules? “The IFP was organized to perpetuate the growth & advancement of Pickleball on an international level and to set goals for worldwide play and recognition. The IFP is chartered to promote Pickleball for the enjoyment of its members and to encourage sponsors to contribute goods, services, advertisements and financial support so that this sport can grow to its potential. The IFP, as a governing body of international Pickleball, formulates and interprets all Rules of the sport. The purpose of the Rulebook is to provide Pickleball players with the Rules necessary for organized league and tournament play.” Website: www.ipickleball.org