President's Message - Dave Shepherd

I am very pleased to share some of the positive feedback we received from the 2013 Pickleball Canada National Open Championship last month. Although some of these have been directed to Shirley and I, we accept them on behalf of all the volunteers who gave up their free time to make the event a great success. Without the volunteers the event could not happen. Shirley and I extend our sincere thanks to all those who served as volunteers.

Dave Shepherd

Here is some of the feedback:

“There is never enough thank yous for those who volunteer and especially those who volunteer their countless hours of time, such as persons like yourself and your wife.”

“My sincere appreciation to you both for the manner in which you organized, coordinated and conducted the recent Pickleball Championships.”

“Thank you for all your hard work putting on the Pklbl Tournament. It meant a tremendous expenditure of time and effort from you both and I commend you on your fabulous job. Your team of volunteers were always smiling and helpful and I extend my thanks to them too.”

“It was a pleasure to watch the high level of games and see what can be achieved…..lovely to watch those enthusiastic juniors…..not to mention the seniors!!”

“I had a wonderful time meeting so many players and spectators. The energy of the tourney was so exciting. The volunteers were so helpful and courteous. City of Abbotsford .. Thank you so much.”

“Congratulations on running your big event. I know that often participants don’t take the time to recognize all the organizers, volunteers and tournament chairs who have put in countless hours behind the scenes. I appreciate all your hard work. Please pass on my thanks to all your many co-workers.”

“It is a huge undertaking with all the planning and organizing of the events, etc. and we certainly appreciate all your efforts. What a great success! Congratulations.”

“We all had a great time! I wanted to say thank you for all the time you put in on the tournament and to say thank you to all your volunteers.”

“You and Dave organized a fabulous tournament. It was so well run I’m sure every year it’s going to get bigger and bigger. Your young volunteer group was awesome too!”

“I would like to thank all of you for all your hard work setting up and supporting this year’s Nationals. What an overwhelming project to undertake and I am sure at times it is very thankless. It was such a great event.”

“I want to thank you and Shirley and everybody involved in organizing this event.”
NS Meets BC on the Pickleball Courts

Recently, Ed Burke visited his grandson in Canning, Nova Scotia, took in the awe inspiring Peggy’s Cove, ate fresh lobster, scouted out relatives at Pier 21 and yes…played pickleball!

With his grandchildren, Jonathan and Amy, Ed was welcomed by Patsy Simon and her husband, Steve at the East Dartmouth Community Centre and joined them in several games of pickleball. Patsy is a Pickleball Canada Director and an Ambassador.

Patsy jokingly asked Ed to take it easy on this group of players as they had just learned the game. No need, as they proved to be stiff opposition. No, Ed did not win all his games. Good thing the skies were sunny and the Maritime welcome just as warm. Ed would highly recommend playing in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia to all members.

We all know Ed as the former Pickleball Canada newsletter editor, photographer for many pickleball events and a member of the Kelowna Pickleball Club in BC. Currently, Ed is a Board Member for Pickleball Canada.

Haliburton/Minden Pickleball Group

Pickleball Challenges

Haliburton County, better known as “Cottage Country”, is located 3 ½ hrs. northeast of Toronto, with a population of 17,000. The Haliburton/Minden Pickleball Group had their first information meeting in the spring of 2011, spearheaded by Tom and Dorothy Howat. Currently, Doug McIntosh and Doug O’Dell volunteer to support our Pickleball Group, which numbers about 50 enthusiastic players. Our main obstacles are facilities. In the spring we are able to play in the Minden Arena with 5 portable nets until August when the hockey ice is put in. Then we move to the curling rink until October when that ice goes in. Then we move to the Minden Community Centre, which is not ideal as the ceilings are low. In the fall of 2012 we started playing at the Haliburton High School, but we must work around school scheduling. Last year we painted a PB court on an outdoor basketball court in Haliburton, which is fine as long as weather permits. As you can tell we have a pretty dedicated, active group who love the game. It is great exercise and pretty much anyone can play. I’m sure one day we’ll start seeing it as an activity in our schools. If we had consistency with our facilities I know we could grow the sport to a much higher level. Until that time we’ll just enjoy our games and encourage new players to come out and give pickleball a try.

Submitted by Susan and Stuart Buck, Ambassadors Haliburton County
Pickleball Persistence Pays Off!

I am an Ambassador for LaSalle, Ontario, who has been trying to bring pickleball to my community for 2 years....finally, it is happening! I found a good sized, fenced in, basketball court at a park named after our former Mayor, Vince Marcotte. The backboards and hoops were pretty rusted out but the cement pad was perfect. I emailed a request to our local head of recreation for pickleball court installation at this site.

In the meantime, I attended a surprise birthday party and guess who was there--none other than Vince Marcotte himself. (I did not know at the time that my friend who hosted the party had talked to him about my dream of bringing pickleball to his park!) So of course my conversation was all about the game and his park. He was very interested. The day after the party I got an email from the head of rec wanting to meet at the basketball court in a few days. When we met I was armed with information about pickleball. He said, “No problem, 3 courts would be installed by the end of July.”

So we are waiting with anticipation and excitement for the new courts and plan to have an opening ceremony and ribbon cutting by Vince Marcotte. We are also planning to challenge the current mayor and some of his staff to a game. These will be the first courts in LaSalle.

On another note, I was able to get the first two tennis courts ”pickled off” in Windsor, Ontario at Mitchell Park. I have taught several LaSalle people to play there, including my 14 year old neighbor, Craig Baggio. He is so taken by the game that he has a team name and logo for the new courts coming to La Salle. Pickleball is more than a game. It is a wonderful way to make new friends, learn something brand new and inspire people to become more active. Thought I would share but you will just have to wait for the REST OF THE STORY.........Submitted by Marge Lindsay, Ambassador LaSalle, Ontario

Editors Note: We look forward to Part II of this story and pics of you and Vince Marcotte, Marge!

Spelling Correction re: Results of Canadian National Pickleball Tournament July 6-7

Please note: Women’s Doubles 65+ Event Bronze winners was Jane Puusepp (Vancouver) and Pat Crawford

Apologies for the spelling error Jane!
picklleball players from the Malvern Club in Scarborough and guests from other clubs in the Mississauga and Durham Regions, to join them in a mixed “Modified Whist” style friendly play event. Ed kept all 24 players well organized and did a great job of mixing pickleballers from different clubs—the goal of this event. It was a great morning of play to kick off the Canada Day weekend. Article submitted by Carol Doughty, Pickleball Ambassador Ontario

**Morris Manitoba**

**Hosts Manitoba Lotteries 55+ Games**

The Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries 55+ Games was held in Morris, Manitoba on June 11, 12 & 13th, 2013. This is the first year that Pickleball was a competitive event in the Games thanks to a group of Pickleball volunteers doing a great demo at the games the previous year. Teams represented various areas in Winnipeg as well as the Pembina Valley. There were 3 teams in the Women’s Doubles, 8 teams in the Men’s Doubles and 8 teams in the Mixed Doubles. Four courts were lined by some great volunteers from Morris in their Southern Manitoba Convention Center. Cheryl Waldner, Angela Reid and Joan Masters (all from Morris) did a great job with court accommodations and volunteers to make this first event a success. Jim Evanchuk and Karyn Heidrick from ALCOA did an amazing amount of work putting together all the events and promoting Pickleball at the Games. Gold medal winners were Nina Constable & Dianne Dunsford (Women’s), Jim Vincent & Brian Shippam (Men’s) and Debbie Hoglund & Jim Vincent (Mixed); all from the St. James Assiniboia Pickleball Club in Winnipeg. Article submitted by Craig Vickery Pickleball Chairman 55+ Games, Morris, Mb.
Pickleball is Alive and Well in Alberta

On Sunday, July 21st, an assembly of seasoned Calgary pickleball players congregated at the outdoor courts at the Oakridge Community Association to ace, lob, spin, dink and smash. They did it in the glorious sunshine that Calgary is famous for.

The competition was hosted by Calgary 55 Plus. Kudos to Gord McLure, Zone 3 Pickleball Coordinator and Calgary Pickleball Club President. With the help of many volunteers he organized and ran this very successful inaugural event.

First and second place winning teams in each category get to move on to the provincial playoffs in Sherwood Park on August 22, 2013. Adapted from an article on www.pickleballinalberta.ca

Pickleball Growth at Oceanside (Parksville), BC

Outdoor Play May – October

In the summer of 2012 some of us started playing pickleball on the community tennis courts in Parksville, BC. The Parks Board had painted lines for us to play. We were only allowed 30 minutes of play per time so we inquired as to how we could have reserved play times. The Board said we need to form a club with a minimum of 20 members.

Fast forward to May 2013 - we formed a club under the umbrella of PGOSA (Parksville Golden Oldies Sports Association) and in 2 1/2 months the club has grown to 95 members.

We have six portable nets on the lacrosse box, where the Parks Dept. generously painted lines for six courts. Two of our members Jim Cunningham and Mike Davies have been giving lessons to new players. We have over 25 newbies to the game so far.

Most of our members are snowbirds playing in Arizona, Yuma and California for six months of the year. As a result we have some very strong players who mentor our newbies.

We still have growing pains. However, our motto is to have a challenging game and most of all FUN and FRIENDSHIP. Our first tournament will be on August 23rd. Article submitted by Gereth McCaskill gereth@telus.net

Rapid Growth in North America

As of June, 2013 the United States Pickleball Association lists 1,851 places to play in the USA and Canada. The USAPA “Places to Play” database for North America shows:

- 2010 – averaged 17 new places to play pickleball each month
- 2012 – averaged 30 new places to play pickleball each month
- 2013 – averaged 40 new places to play pickleball each month
Results of Nanaimo Pickleball Tournament July 26-28, 2013.

1st place 2nd place 3rd place

Mixed Doubles

Barry and Caroline Bissonette
Ross Wallwin Lynn Hodge
Wilt and Theresa Orcutt

Men’s Doubles -

Lorne Strumecki Grant Brittain
Ron Pitcher Mike Bellis
Andrew McKimmon Marco Jankowiak

Women’s Doubles

SJ Lehmann Theresa Orcutt
Nadine McKay Glenda Jackson
Margie McWilliam Barbara Moody

Ladies singles:

First and Second

Trudy Pitcher Elizabeth Peckham

Tier 2 - 1st place 1000 points, 2nd place - 500 points, 3rd place - 300 points.

Below are the 2013 Pickleball Canada Tournament points from the Nanaimo Pickleball tournament:

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<th>Name</th>
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Pickleball players in Kelowna, BC celebrated the grand opening of 6 official outdoor pickleball courts on June 22nd at the Parkinson Recreation Centre. Over 100 curious onlookers came out to take part in the court side ribbon cutting and join in a game or two of pickleball. Kelowna pickleball players now have a true home in the glorious Okanagan sunshine. A salut to the dedication and persistence of all the proud volunteers who worked towards this achievement.

Pickle Ball Court Love Story

While attending the Grand Opening of the Parkinson Rec Outdoor Pickleball Courts, I came across a very nice love story. Paul and Sharon Malkinson met on the Kelowna Pickleball courts. Sharon, a newbie was introduced to the sport by a good friend. As time passed, Paul and Sharon began dating and on May 18, 2013 they were married. Their touching pickleball love story is available in a national magazine, "Beyond 50", Summer 2013 issue. Sharon and Paul continue to play pickleball and have become very good players. Submitted by Bill Canning

It is with great sadness that we remember Sue Stovel who passed away July 22, 2013.

Sue was an avid supporter and player of pickleball who helped unselfishly with the introduction and teaching of pickleball to new players at the Parkinson Activity Centre in Kelowna, B.C. Sue participated in the British Columbia Seniors Games many times and was the Pickleball Zone 5 Representative along with her husband Brian.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Sue's husband Brian and family.
Nanaimo Pickleball Club
First to Sign Up for New PCO Club Membership

Great news! Pickleball Canada would like to welcome all sixty-three members of The Nanaimo Pickleball Club of B.C. as the first Affiliated Club members. Thank you Nanaimo Pickleball Club for joining Pickleball Canada, your National governing body.

Submitted by Shirley Shepherd

Upcoming Tournaments

August 14-16  Oshawa, Ontario, The Investors Group of Ontario 50+ Open Provincial-register at www.pickleballassociationofontario.org

August 20-24  Kamloops, BC, British Columbia Senior Games-info at www.bcseniorgames.org

September 14  Vernon, BC, Vernon Outdoor Pickleball Tournament-contact Cheri Burgess brianburgesslaw@hotmail.com or ph. 250-545-5864

September 19-21  Truro, NS, Nova Scotia 55+ Senior Games-
contact Patsy Simon psimon@staff.ednet.ns.ca

October 11  Durham Region, Ontario, Honor Your Partner Mixed Doubles-capped registration for members only-
contact Carol Doughty caroldoughty1@yahoo.com

If any player or group would like to have their tournament advertised here please send to:

Denise at gwgriffin@shaw.ca
Please re-new or join PICKLEBALL CANADA

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

PICKLEBALL CANADA ORGANIZATION
110823 – 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

PCO now has 650 members.
The drive is to 1000 by December 31, 2013

Your Board Of Directors
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Sask - Vacant at this time
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from your PCO RULES GURU

A question from a player......

What if the ball looks to be going out of bounds, hits the top of the net post and then lands in a legal playing zone, is it still considered out? (i.e. Is the net post considered a permanent object?)

From the IFP Rules (International Federation of Pickleball)

12.1. The Net Posts. The net posts are positioned out of bounds. If a ball strikes the net post or anything attached to the net post, it is a fault and a dead ball is declared. This rule does not include the net, the net cable, or rope between the net posts.

It is a fault if.....

7.G. A ball in play strikes any permanent object before bouncing on the court.

IFP Comment: If the ball in play hits a permanent object after it has bounced on the court, the player who hit the ball wins the rally. If the ball in play hits a permanent object before it bounces on the court, it is a fault. (revised April 1, 2011)

Here is a link to the Rules on the IFP site.
http://picklemball.org/rules/pbrules-t8b.pdf

Know the rules, you'll play better!