As we enter 2016 we continue to see tremendous growth in pickleball communities across the country, with many new clubs and groups forming. Since the start of the Pickleball Canada Organization in 2009, we have continued to grow and overcome many challenges along the way. From just over 500 members in 2012, I am happy to report that in December 2015 we registered our 3000th member (Antonette Bousquet).

Much of that growth is due to the hard work of our ambassadors, and I would like to say “thank you” to each and every one of you for your dedication and the many hours that you put in to promoting pickleball in your area. I am also very pleased to announce that Ellen Dale has been appointed as our Ambassador Chair and is looking forward to working with all of our ambassadors.

I sincerely wish that 2016 brings all of you health, happiness and all the pickleball you wish to play!
You’re Up!

by Ellen Dale

“You’re Up!” Don’t you love hearing those words after waiting a few minutes for the next available court? I am a totally addicted ‘pickleballer’ and can’t wait to get back out for my next game. Come to think of it, I don’t know any player who doesn’t feel that way. So, how should your club determine who goes next?

I recently spent a month in Victoria where I had the pleasure of ‘pickleballing’ with the gang at the George Pearkes Recreation Centre. Other than a couple of duly noted spots on the weekly playing schedule, the play is open to all levels of players. All four players leave the court, then the two winning players’ paddles go in ‘Winners’ box and the two second place paddles go in the ‘Runner Up’ box where they mix with paddles from other courts. The rural mailbox ‘arm’ on the side of each box indicates which group of players is next in the alternating rotation for an available court. After paddles are pulled out of one box, the arm goes down and the arm on the other box is raised. When the new foursome reaches the court, they split up so as not to be playing back-to-back games with the same partner.

Personally, I found this to be a welcoming, inclusive and equitable way to share the courts. I immediately felt like part of the group and I didn’t have to seek out someone of my level to play with. And after all, isn’t one of the best things about pickleball the social aspect of mixing and playing with lots of different people?

So what is a good way to share the courts while at the same time meeting the needs of all levels of players? I’d love to get some dialogue going on this topic. Please send photos and written comments to me at: ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org. A “BIG SHOUT-OUT” to the pickleball players at George Pearkes Recreation Centre for the friendly interactions and the great games. I can’t wait to ‘hang’ with you again!
Upcoming Tournaments

**International Indoor Pickleball Championships 2016**

Wednesday through Sunday, May 11-15, 2016
Northwest Sports Hub
701 Allen Avenue, Centralia, WA

Cash and prize awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each Skill event.

Categories: Age Group and Skill Level for MD, WD and MX. Junior Singles, MS and WS will only be Skill Level

Divisions: Open, 4.5, 4.0, 3.5, 3.0
Age Groups: Juniors, 19+,35+,50 to 75+ in 5 yr increments

**ENTRY FEE:**
- $50 Registration Fee if paid before April 18th
- $70 before May 2nd
- $10 event fee for each event and $25 for each Open event
- Register/Pay Online at: [http://www.pickleballtournaments.com](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com)

**Byrne Creek Leos Charity Pickleball Tournament**

Hosted by Metro Vancouver Pickleball Club
Sat 01/16/16 - Sun 01/17/16
Location: Byrne Creek School, Burnaby, BC

Men's singles (Sat) - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, Open
Men's/Women's Doubles (Sat) - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, Open

Mixed Doubles/Women's Singles (Sun) - 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, Open

Cost $35 per registrant & $10 for each event
Lunch, fruit, & drinks provided
To register: [http://www.pickleballtournaments.com](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com)

**Kamloops Pickleball Club Doubles Tournament at McDonald Park, Kamloops, BC**

3.5, 4.0 and possibly 4.5+
May 28-29, 2016
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Double knockout-format
Cost per person is $35 for 1 event; $50 for 2 events
Entrants must be members of Pickleball Canada.
Contact Ross Perkin at rossperkin328@yahoo.ca

**2016 US Open Pickleball Championships, Naples, Florida**

April 26 - May 1, 2016
Cash purse of $20,000
Draw = 1,000 amateur and professional competitors expected
Spectators = 10,000 expected
The event will be broadcasted on the Tennis Channel to 40 million viewers.

**Vernon, BC PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT January 23 & 24**

SATURDAY
3.5 Womens / Doubles Start time 9:00
3.5 Mixed / Doubles 12:00 pm
3.5 Mens / Doubles 3:00 pm

SUNDAY
4.0+ Womens / Doubles Start time 9:00 am
4.0+ Mens / Doubles 9:00 am
3.0 Womens / Doubles 12:00 pm
4.0+ Mixed / Doubles 12:00 pm
COST $ 35 single event; $15 additional events
Lunch and prizes included
Deadline to register January 16 / No refunds after this date.
REGISTER vernonpickleball@gmail.com
INFO NANCY (250) 503 - 6631
Membership Information

Please re-new or join PICKLEBALL CANADA. Membership application form is available on the website at http://pickleballcanada.org

One year $12.00
Three years $32.00
Five years $50.00

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

Membership and Renewal

Please print and submit online completed forms and payment to:

PICKLEBALL CANADA
471 Christleton Ave, Kelowna, BC V1Y 5H9

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Rules Corner

Question:
What is the permitted service motion?

Answer:

4.A.
Serve Motion: The serve must be made with an underhand stroke so that contact with the ball is made below waist level (waist is defined as the navel level).

Underhand Defined: The arm must be moving in an upward arc and the paddle head shall be below the wrist when it strikes the ball (paddle head is that part of the paddle excluding handle). The highest point of the paddle head cannot be above any part of the line formed where the wrist joint bends.

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If you have contributions to the monthly newsletter, please submit them as a text document (.doc, .txt or .rtf) with photos to Matthew Giancola, Newsletter Editor/Publisher at <news@pickleballcanada.org> by the first of the publication month.