THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 3RD SHOT BY JENNIFER LUCORE

Marsha asks: "I was interested in your thoughts on strategy. I hear so many players talk about the third shot being a soft shot so that your team can get to the kitchen line. What is your take on the third shot and what is your strategy when hitting it?"

Jay asks: "I understand the mechanics of the 3rd shot, drop shot, master shot (whatever it's called) but need some help with where to place it to combine a solid strategy with the shot. Help?"

Susan asks: "I've read about mastering a 3rd shot. What are your thoughts?"

Great questions- For our purposes here, I'll stay with "third shot". I've also heard it referred to different names, but they generally describe the type of shot like "drop shot" or "long dink" opposed to being the actual third shot of a point; admittedly, I'd not heard of the "master shot". The third shot is a valuable and necessary shot to master; maybe that's where that name came from. This shot is used when your opponents are already at the net and you're at the baseline needing to get yourself to the kitchen line. The third shot is a long dink hit from the baseline softly over the net and into your opponent's non-volley zone. The goal, often easier said than done, is to land it at their feet not allowing them to volley the ball in the air. When executed correctly this shot allows the person (and their teammate) hitting the third shot to get to the net. The sooner you get to the net, the higher chance of winning the point.

The location of placement is dependent on various scenarios, but the middle is generally the safest and highest percentage; in part because the net is lower, but also because you have more room for error and there is always the chance of confusion on the part of your opponents. If the opportunity presents itself, by an opponent being out of position, cross court or down the line, it can be effective. Lastly, I'm sure you've noticed players who "play" to the weaker player. That's a whole other strategy that may be considered as you decide where or who to hit your third shot to. Whatever you decide, once the ball leaves your paddle move to the net ready for the elusive pop-up. If you're ready, you'll be occasionally gifted a perfectly placed ball ready to be smacked for a winning volley shot. That is a great feeling!

Who is Jennifer Lucore? Probably the most winning 5.0 pickleball player in the world. She plays Singles, Doubles & Mixed and regularly wins GOLD. See her play at the Nationals.

UPDATES ON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP IN ABBOTSFORD, BC

Pickleball Canada National Open Championship will be held in Abbotsford, B.C. on July 6 - 7, 2013. Many thanks to our Presenting Sponsor Investors Group of Abbotsford, B.C. Other sponsors include City of Abbotsford, Tourism Abbotsford, Pickleball Inc., Pro Lite Sports. The support of our sponsors is very much appreciated. This National Tournament will be sanctioned by Pickleball Canada. Rules are International Federation of Pickleball (IFP) Rules. This event is open to all players from any part of the world. Pickleball Canada members can receive $5 discount from their registration fees. There are 21 events including Open and Age divisions with a Junior Singles event (18 years and under). Over 200 players have now registered. Most events are almost full. Players will be placed on a waiting list if the event is full. Entries must be received no later than June 12, 2013. Please call ARC direct (604) 853-4221 to register & pay by credit card.

2013 Pickleball Canada National Open Championship Registration form: http://pickleballcanada.org/tournaments
The fastest growing sport in North America.

**CANADIANS ENJOYING PICKLEBALL IN FLORIDA**

Several years ago our friends Bob & Ellen Horton of Collingwood, Ontario, invited us to The Villages. They took us to their local Hacienda recreation area and introduced us to a new strange game. What the heck is pickleball!! Thanks to the very friendly resident “experts” at Hacienda we were soon hooked. Hacienda is just one of over 30 recreation areas in The Villages which have pickleball courts, but none had Charlie Penta!! The man who started pickleball in The Villages retired at 80+ from a very successful pickleball career and became the one who kept the courts moving when the line ups were long & hot at Hacienda. His famous grizzly change of court call “FOUR MO”, has been imitated but never matched. Charlie made everyone feel welcome and greeted them all by name as they came in the gate. Even when the number of Canadians, mostly from Collingwood, started to stretch the line-up for a game to 24+, Charlie reveled in the hustle & excitement to chat with his new Canadian friends. Putting up his flag to indicate that games go only to 9 points was a highlight for him, and we all respected his authority. Unfortunately, Charlie & his wife Lucille moved north last year to be near family, but he will always be remembered as the “Heart of Hacienda.” Come on down, it is still a friendly place and we know you have fun playing here. Article by Bill & Linda Furse.

**SIR JAMES DYSON - AN INSPIRATION TO ALL**

I just read a two page article about Sir James Dyson that should be an inspiration to everyone of us. You can read it in “The Costco Connection” magazine, March/April issue, pages 30 & 31.

He makes some astounding, down to earth remarks about our “instance gratification” society today that admires instant effortless brillance.” He states we should admire those who slog on and get there in the end. He says “failure” is celebrated in his large successful manufacturing company that employs 3,100 people.

He says;“ We invest in failure and rejoice in it as this is how we learn and then we stick to it. We learn from each mistake and that is how we come up with solutions.” What a great way to think and act. Such a positive approach to what is all around us today.

He took his DYSON bagless vacuum cleaner in the UK from nothing (near bankruptcy) to Number One against Hoover and Electrolux in 4 years. This is amazing when you realize Hoover & Electrolux controlled that market for over 60 years or more.

He is inspiring engineering groups all over the world through his James Dyson Foundation. Our children & grandchildren need to know and learn to think this way and not look to others to entertain them. The article is called “Perfecting the art of Invention.” Read the article and be inspire. Editor Ed
MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT - DAVE SHEPHERD

There has been plenty happening in Canadian pickleball. Snowbirds have arrived home after a winter enjoying pickleball from dawn to dusk in warm sunshine (most of the time!) They also speak of new friendships made and details of their accomplishments on the pickleball courts. Those of us who have stayed in the Great White North have also enjoyed our indoor pickleball where the temperature is always the same and it never rains!

Tournament season here is coming up with the PCO National Open Championship in Abbotsford on July 6th. and 7th. This event is already almost totally filled. There are tournaments in every part of the country and it is encouraging to see that almost all events are using IFP rules. This is as a result of player requests.

With all these tournaments coming up, all players should make sure that they know the rules. Most rules you will already know, but it is a good idea to re-read the rule book for any additions or changes, and to look at the "Rules Corner by Bev. Butt" in this monthly newsletter. Bev always has some good advice and clarification on rules questions. Here is a link to the latest IFP Rule Book http://ipickleball.org/rules/pbrules

In tournaments, you will inevitably be asked to referee a game or two. This can be very intimidating the first time you ref. To make this easier on yourself, practice refereeing a local non tournament game. The players will appreciate your efforts and you will find that it is not as difficult as it seems. Once you have the first one under your belt, you will really enjoy it, and you will be a huge help to any tournament organizer.

We should always remember that not all players are or want to be tournament players. People have many reasons for playing, some have very competitive natures and want to be the best in any sport they play. Some enjoy the competition but are not quite so driven. Others play to keep fit, enjoying the camaraderie and the social aspect of pickleball. Players ages range from teenagers to seniors in their eighties. We have a huge variance in physical abilities, some partly due to increasing age. We should all respect each other and our different goals in pickleball, and a big thank you goes to all those good players who generously play some games with players who are not so skilled. That is how we all improve and it is what gives pickleball players the reputation across the country as being such a welcoming and friendly group.

Pickleball Canada Membership Chair Position Open. Larry Evans is retiring as the Membership Chair. The Board is looking for a qualified candidate to fill this position. Contact: president@pickleballcanada.org for more information about the duties of this position.

DURHAM REGION, ONTARIO, PICKLEBALL WORKSHOPS

Bill Gohn, Russ French, in photo, (and Dave Werry - not in photo) initiated a pickleball skill workshop consisting of two 2 1/2 hour sessions to help the Durham Region Pickleball players hone their pickleball skills. Players from Whitby, Port Perry, Oshawa, Courtice, and Bowmanville signed up very quickly for this great opportunity. In fact, the response was so great that the guys ran 2 complete workshops during March and April. Keeping the numbers small to allow maximum play time for 4 people of similar abilities on each court and one or more instructors per court, the players received group and individual instruction on the following: long serves, long returns of serves, the soft third shots, backhands, top spins, dinking, lob and smashes. After each practice session of a particular skill, a short game was played at which time the players were rewarded for using the skill and reminded of the skill being used. This always helps because you know what it's like when you get into a game! Both sessions went extremely well. The second session was held at 7:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. and that didn't seem to bother anyone. Now all we have to do is practise, practise, and play, play, play! Thanks Bill, Russ, and Dave, plus their addition al helpers.

Photo and submission by Carol Doughty, Pickleball Ambassador, Convenor for Whitby @ Brooklin and Durham East Club at Kingsway College.

CALGARY PICKLEBALL CLUB IS IN A GROWTH MODE BY GORD MCLURE PRESIDENT

The Calgary Pickleball Club marked its first anniversary at its AGM on Saturday, April 20th. We have seen a surge in interest in pickleball in the past couple of months so seeking out new venues for players is a new challenge.

As our numbers grow, so too does the spread in skill levels amongst the players. At our main pickleball venue we are going to divide our Saturday session into two halves, the first being recreational with a mixing of all skill levels, and the second dividing into more competitive groups. To accomplish this we are initiating a ladder based on the USAPA model with the intent that over the next six weeks all players will evolve towards their appropriate skill placing for the second half of the session. Lessons focusing on particular aspects of the game are planned. We are also demonstrating the game at a number of venues where there is interest. We had the opportunity to set up a court at the recent ZOOMER show in Calgary and have been flooded by follow-up requests for more info about the game.

Pickleball in Calgary is in a growth spurt!
TOURNAMENTS THIS YEAR FOLLOWING IFP RULES

2ND ANNUAL PICKLEBALL CANADA NATIONAL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, ABBOTSFORD, B.C.
CANADA’S LARGEST TOURNAMENT - JULY 6TH & 7TH. 21 EVENTS, 17 COURTS. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.
WE ANTICIPATE OVER 200 PLAYERS FROM ALL OVER NORTH AMERICA
LONDON, ONTARIO PICKLEBALL CLUB WILL BE HOLDING THEIR FIRST TOURNAMENT MAY 25TH, 2013
DETAILS AT: WWW.Pickleballassociationofontario.org
AT MOUNT BOUCHERIE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - IFP RULES APPLY
OPEN, CO-ED, DOUBLES, ROUND ROBIN - 9:00 AM, SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2013
SANCTIONING AVAILABLE (INCLUDING INSURANCE) FOR APPROXIMATELY $2.00 PER PLAYER
(MINIMUM $50 for your tournament.) Email us for details.

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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

Correct Address

Pickleball Canada Organization
10823 – 82 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 2B2

Correct Address

Rules Corner

By Bev Butt
Chair Rules Committee P.C.O.

Did you know?

Distractions on Court

Question: A recent doubles ladder event was tied 14-14. During next rally, on adjoining court (separated by wire mesh) a player slipped and fell. Our opponent turned his head to look and missed the shot. He claimed a “let” due to the distraction. In good sportsmanship, we allowed the replay, but I don’t feel we were obliged. What do you think? -- BF, AB

Distractions on a court or on another court can happen. When a player falls on your court, play may stop out of concern for the player. In recreational play, players may decide if they all wish to replay the rally. This is more a courtesy decision. Usually you would not expect to see this courtesy extended due to a distraction on another court but it could. However, in both recreational play and certainly tournament play, a distraction on any court is secondary to the rally and it is up to players to focus on the play until rally is completed.

The point is won or lost in the usual way with no stopping of play or replay due to the distraction, unless a referee deems otherwise -- or unless all players choose to agree to a replay as you did “for sportsmanship” but it is not an obligation.

Send comments/questions to bbutt@sasktel.net

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