Another season of outdoor play in Canada is coming to a close and it has been a busy summer for sure. The number of new clubs continues to grow with players organizing across the country.

As many of you know, the goal of PCO is to become a National Sport Organization (NSO) and we are making good strides in that regard. To become an NSO, one of the criteria is to have 8 affiliated provinces. We are very pleased to announce that New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are now affiliated with PCO. They join the already affiliated provincial organizations in Saskatchewan and Quebec. Alberta plans to affiliate in the spring. These provinces have agreed that their members will also automatically be PCO members.

One of the issues that PCO has worked on this summer is to improve the insurance that is available to our members. If you are an affiliated club or provincial organization, your clubs or members have coverage under a $2M liability policy for all your scheduled club play and training. Each member is also covered under a small sport accident policy while playing in Canada. You can see the policy information on the PCO website in the membership benefits section.

We have also negotiated a lower premium with our insurance broker on Directors & Officers (D & O) insurance for our affiliated clubs and Provincial organizations. They have agreed to reduce the minimum premium from $600.00 to $400.00.

We are currently working on a Strategic Plan and would like input from our members so we know what you believe our priorities should be. You will soon be receiving an email survey from PCO. Please take the time to help decide the direction for pickleball in Canada. We truly value your opinion!

Now, go enjoy some pickleball time!

President’s Message by Val Vollmin

Your Board of Directors

Val Vollmin, President
president@pickleballcanada.org

Marg Ouimet, Vice President
vicepresident@pickleballcanada.org

Colin Caldwell, Secretary and Rules Chair
secretary@pickleballcanada.org

Carolyn Stevens, Treasurer
treasurer@pickleballcanada.org

Merrie Lee, Membership
membership@pickleballcanada.org

Ellen Dale, Ambassador Chair
ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org

Directors at Large
Jim Scorgie, Alan Thompson, Reg Dumont,
Robin Grant, Valerie Van Spengen

Chair Positions
Chuck MacDonald, Tournament Chair
Les Franke, Ratings Chair
Bill Gohn, the Convenor for Port Perry Pickleball continues to help grow the Port Perry Pickleball Club and receives honored award for his efforts. Besides convening the Port venue, Bill has served on the PAO Board as the Treasurer for 2 years, continues to serve as its financial advisor, participated in many PAO workshops for children and adults in which pickleball was introduced, and generally added a lot of laughs with his joie de vivre attitude on and off the court.

A comment overheard when Bill was getting his reward was "This was long overdue".

Well deserved and congratulations, Bill!

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CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS

Mississaugans Diane Pounder and Ute Hueffer in women’s doubles 65+, Larry Howells and his partner from Brampton, Terry Trueman, in the 55+ men’s doubles. We are also pleased to announce that Mississauga won the bid for the 2018 Ontario 55+ summer games and improvements are in already progress.

4th Annual September Smash in Alberta

It was an amazing weekend for the 4th Annual September Smash and the inaugural Pickleball Alberta Championships! 145 players from across Alberta, Saskatchewan, BC and the northern US traveled to Spruce Grove to participate in the Pickleball Canada sanctioned tournament. All the results can be found at PickleballTournaments.com

Thank you to our amazing Parkland Pickleheads Team, as we all know it takes a team effort! Thank you to the Tournament Planning Committee - you know who you are! Pickleball in Alberta is growing and getting better every year.
**Provincial Ambassadors**

AB – Brenda Feser  PCOprovincialambassadorAB@gmail.com  
BC – TBA  
SK – Carol Martens-Clappison  carolsarahmartens@sasktel.net  
MB – Brian Shippam  brian@shippam.com and  George Rodrigue  gdrodrigue@gmail.com  
ON - Dave Hall  twoboomers@yahoo.com  
QC – Claude Gauthier  claudeetlyne@yahoo.com  
NB – Jake Grandy  jake.grandy@yahoo.com  
PEI – Bruce Fitchett  bruceandrobin54@eastlink.ca  
NS – Frank Rossiter  fjrossiter@ns.sympatico.ca

**PickleBall Canada — We want to hear from you!**

Watch for the survey coming soon to your email.  
Be sure to complete the survey and help PCO move the sport of Pickleball to the National level!  
Your opinions are valued!

⇒ Pickleball Channel.com has some good highlight videos about the U.S. Open on their website as well as some great matches from the U.S. Open.  
⇒ The internet is loaded with pickleball information including how to improve your game through strategy and skill development.  
⇒ A Quick way to improve your game is to always play the stronger player during recreational matches.

PCO welcomes all pickleball submissions.  
Please send photo and text (.doc, txt or .rtf) with a max of 400 words by the first day of the publication month to Newsletter Editor.  
Wanda Cassidy at  news@pickleballcanada.org.
**PICKLEBALL—More Than Just a Game**

*Stratford ON Pickleball Players outsmart City Council*

Stratford, ON Pickleball players were determined to get courts in their community even after 4 years of presentations to their City Council were unsuccessful. So Garry and Karen Hill converted part of a shed on their farm into 2 indoor courts! Some very grateful players come to play 6 days a week at what has now been renamed the “Pickleball Manor”, hosted by the King & Queen for a day!

**PICKLEBALL — Where?**

We went on a Mediterranean cruise last October on the Nieuw Amsterdam out of Barcelona. The ship painted pickleball lines on their mini court! We just had to lower the net and we were playing. We had some beautiful backdrops for our games, the Rock of Gibraltar, Mount Vesuvius, Ville France and many others. It was spectacular! Go on a cruise and play Pickleball!!

Sent in by Rod & Barb Townsley
**DRILLS & SKILLS tip of the month from The Pickleball Coach**

Warm up Drills - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QsPibJbmWO

1. Straight Dink
2. X-court Backhand Dink
3. X-court Forehand Dink
4. Rally to 5 pts. Straight On
5. Rally to 5 pts. X-crt Forehand
6. Rally to 5 pts. X-crt Backhand
7. 3rd Shot Drop - continuous & setter can volley any ball back
8. Mid Court Drop - continuous play
9. Straight Volley
10. In-Sync Volley - opposite each other moving from side to side on court
11. You Go - I Go Volley (Swing Volley) - move to opposite sides of court

“might as well face it you’re addicted to PICKLEBALL”

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**Castlegar, BC** — The City finished our 8 new outdoor courts and we're ready to play!

Check out our Facebook Page, Castlegar Pickleball for scheduled play times!

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**HERE I COME! READY OR NOT!**

Lane Mintz, son of Leila and Ryan Mintz, grandson of Catherine and Wayne Bolahood, is practising now for his first tournament.

This 18-month old has been brought to many tournaments since his birth to watch his Mom, Dad, Uncle, and Grandparents participate. The Pickleball Association of Ontario was pleased to have him at its 2016 PAO Championships held recently at the Markham Pan Am Centre on Saturday, Sept. 24 and Sunday, Sept. 25. He brought a smile on everyone’s faces.

Will he be a lefty?

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**Let’s play Pickleball!**

Share photos and stories of your pickleball addiction...send to news@pickleballcanada.org
The Surrey Pickleball Club held its’ first “Members Only Tournament” on September 10th, 2016 and what a great success! The tournament was a round robin format with 84 players, playing in every rated category.

It was a fun-filled day and the weather could not have been more cooperative. The beautiful west coast presented us with a sunny day and highs of 22°C or for some of us, sometimes better known as 74°F!

We were very fortunate to have some of the biggest names in pickleball donate many amazing prizes for our fundraising raffle! We also had several vendors showing off their latest pickleball paraphernalia, even an orthotics company for lots of aching knees.

At the end of this fun and exciting day, medals were awarded, raffle prizes drawn and handed out to the delight of everyone there! www.surreypickleball.com