



Pickleball Canada

*The fastest growing sport in North America
Le sport qui affiche la croissance la plus
rapide en Amérique du Nord*



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President's Message - Shirley Shepherd

2014 PCO Board of Directors

Pickleball Canada held an Annual General Meeting and a Board Meeting at Coast Abbotsford Hotel on July 7, 2014. The Board of PCO elected Shirley Shepherd as the President, Garth Merkeley as the Vice-President and Linda Dane as the Treasurer.

Shirley Shepherd will stay on as Secretary until we find a replacement for this position. Patsy Simon has been re-elected for a three year term as a Board Member and she is the new Rules Committee Chair. Merrie Lee continues as the Membership Committee Chair. Denise Griffin continues as the Newsletter Editor/Publisher. Garth Merkeley continues as the Ambassador Committee Chair. Other Board Members include Ed Burke, Dave Shepherd, Christine Perras and Bill Furse.

2014 PCO Webmaster and Committees

Jim Dixon continues to be our Webmaster. PCO would like to welcome Ron Telford as the Ratings Committee Chair and Mani Billan as the Club Membership Committee Member.

2015 National Eastern/Western Tournaments

Pickleball Canada has held three successful annual National Tournaments in Abbotsford, B.C. It has been more difficult for players to travel from other provinces due to the high travelling cost, especially the eastern provinces. In order to make the National tournament more accessible to more players, the Board of PCO has decided to hold the 2015 Eastern/Western National Tournaments in two locations.

2015 Pickleball Canada Eastern National Open Championship

PCO is very pleased to announce that The City of Waterloo, Ontario will host the 2015 Pickleball Canada Eastern National Open Championship to be held in the Manulife Financial Sportsplex and Healthy Living Centre at RIM Park. The tournament will be in July but the exact dates are not confirmed.

2015 Pickleball Canada Western National Open Championship PCO is not finalized.

New Affiliated Club and new PCO Sanctioned Tournament

PCO is very pleased to welcome Parklands Pickleheads, Spruce Grove, Alberta as our new affiliated Club. They will be holding their first PCO Tier 4 Sanctioned Tournament: September Smash Tournament at Spruce Grove, Alberta on September 6 & 7, 2014. Please see more information under "Upcoming Tournaments".

Other news and updates: USAPA Certified Referee Program

USAPA has a certification of referees program in place. Please contact John Grasso <jgrassoiii@aol.com> if you are interested to take the training course to become a USAPA Certified Referee.

CORRECTIONS:

In the July newsletter, we apologize that we made an error in the President's message: PCO Area Ambassadors from B.C. participated:Karen Renfrew (Sunshine Coast) and Linda Brown (Salmon Arm).





Top PCO Tournament Point Earners 2013

Follow this page to read the profiles of PCO tournament point earners



This month Pickleball Canada Organization would like to showcase Terry and Jim Saunders, a couple from Kelowna BC, who have earned 1600 and 800 tournament points in 2013.

We were first introduced to the game of pickleball in Rincon de Guayabitos, Mexico about six years ago. There they have an avid group of pickleball players who play daily on three dedicated pickleball courts. These courts are adjacent to the tennis courts and while both Jim and I play tennis, Jim was the first one to step over to join the pickleball group. I on the other hand said that, "hell would freeze over before I play that sissy game" and remained a tennis player.

It did not take me long, however, to figure out that if I didn't play pickleball that I was missing out on a lot of good fun. That old saying holds true, 'if you can't lick 'em, join 'em!

Over the next few years, pickleball seemed to be our game of choice and our tennis games grew fewer. Pickleball is almost an addiction now and it seems the more we play, the more we want to play. Jim was very instrumental in obtaining 3 dedicated pickleball courts here in West Kelowna and while we play most of our games in Kelowna at the Parkinson Recreation Centre (where they have six dedicated courts with hopefully 6 more

to be added in the immediate future)

the game of pickleball has grown to almost 400 members in Kelowna making it the largest group I believe in Canada.

It is quite funny how this sport has grown so much and the number of tournaments that are being held. We have become 'circuit' pickleball players and it seems our calendar is full of tournaments to play in.



We are fortunate in that we winter in Arizona where we live in a community that boasts over 1,000 pickleball members. There is a very high caliber of players in our community and we are treated to many great pickleball games, either playing or watching.

To sum it up, the Doctor could not prescribe a better medicine. Pickleball keeps you physically, mentally and socially active. People of all ages can play this game while obtaining all sorts of health benefits.

See you on the courts!

Submitted by Terry and Jim Saunders

Upcoming Tournaments



Pickleball Open Tournament

Peachland Community Centre, 4450 6th Street, Peachland, BC

Saturday August 23 and Sunday August 24, 2014

Sanctioned by Pickleball Canada

SATURDAY: Doubles Round Robin - Men's and Women's 3.0 and 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5

SUNDAY: Mixed 4.5 and 5.0

Each player is guaranteed 7 games within a group of 8 players for each event entered.

ENTRY FEE: PCO members \$15.00

Non members \$20.00 (includes a PCO membership)

Add \$5.00 for each event entered

LUNCH is included each day

SATURDAY NIGHT - 5:00 PM - BUFFET \$20.00

REGISTER: In Person: Peachland Community Centre, 4450 6th Street, Peachland, BC

By Phone: 250-767-2133

Online: <http://www.peachland.ca> click on Recreation Link ACTIVITY: 2236

For further information contact the Tournament Directors: Mike Carter
250-484-0245 mike.carter108@gmail.com

Doug Power 250-494-7494 powerdoug@hotmail.com



Parkland Pickleheads Presents 2nd Annual September Smash

50 % of this years Tournament Proceeds to be donated to BILY Canada
(www.bilyedmonton.com)

To be held September 6th & 7th, 2014 at Henry Singer Courts located on
South Avenue,

Spruce Grove, Alberta

(right across from SandyView Farms) Registration closes Saturday, August
29th, 2014

Men's Doubles

Skill Level (2.5-3.0) and (3.5 and Above)



Women's Doubles Skill Level (2.5-3.0) and (3.5 and Above)

Mixed Doubles

Skill Level (2.5-3.0) and (3.5 and Above)

Cost is \$25.00/per person for a PCO member or \$30.00/per person for a non-PCO member. You can enter One Doubles and One Mixed Doubles.

Players may play above their Skill Level but NOT below & must choose only one skill level for all events in the tournament.

For information email septembersmash2013@gmail.com

or

call Rick @ 780-863-0033

Guaranteed three (3) games; Medals for top three (3) in each category and skill level

PCO Sanctioned Tournament IFP rules apply

Please bring a chair and a great smile
(September 13th & 14th will be the alternate dates, if necessary)

See poster page 6

***Any player or group who would like to have their tournament advertised ,
please send request to: Denise at de.griffin@sasktel.net***

2014 BC Senior Games,
September 9 to 13, 2014

Upcoming BC Senior Games

Pickleball is Featured



Langley 2014
BC Seniors Games
Everyone Wins!

Check it out at:

<http://www.2014bcseniorgames.org>

Beyond Limits Active Senior
Tours & Travel, LLC





Parkland Pickleheads

Presents 2nd Annual

September Smash

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Pickleball News Coast to Coast

Hi from the Bathurst, NB Pickleball Club



Some 3 years ago, Snowbirds Joe and Pat Flynn met with local Motel owner Bob DeGrace and convinced him to convert a seldom used tennis court to a Pickleball court. That was the birth of Pickleball in Bathurst. Shortly thereafter Gerald Theriault, with the help of a few friends, made it his mission to promote the game in the area. The Group has since grown to 70+/- members.

This summer the City of Bathurst has converted an unused tennis court and we presently have 3 new Pickleball courts with the potential of a 4th one on this site. We also have 2 more accessible courts within the City and of course our original and favorite spot at Danny's Inn Restaurant & Conference Centre.

From September to May inclusively, we play inside at the Pavilion in back of City Hall. We have space for 4 courts within this complex.
(Photo Included)

If any Pickleball enthusiast is in Bathurst and wishes to have a game, please contact one of the listed names below...

Joe & Pat Flynn:	506-546-9485.
Gerald Theriault:	506-546-4774
Joe Cormier:	506-548-2360

Main Court Locations

Pavilion Gymnasium.
150 St George St, Bathurst

Danny's Inn Restaurant & Conference Centre. 1223 rue Principal, Beresford

Grove Hill Park. Nicolas Denys Drive,
(Just off Youghall Dr.)

Submitted by: Joseph Cormier

Pickleball on Clay Tennis Courts??



Who would have thought? It's a first for New Brunswick and as far as we know a first in Canada. Recently, Marty Moore of the Riverview Tennis Club, contacted Shirley Shepherd, PCO President to announce that pickleball is now offered at the Club on clay courts. Due to many requests from snowbirds, Marty told Shirley that he set up two courts for members and guests. He went on to say that they "have had two very different Pickleball experiences on clay courts in Riverview, NB. Following a brief but heavy rainfall, "the courts were wet

and very soft and we could not get any bounce from the Pickleball ball. We tried our Red Ball tennis balls but they were a little heavy. Then we used the green dot tennis balls. They worked well – a little more bounce but not as heavy. We were able to have some good rallies". A few days later, "the courts were drier and so a bit harder. We used outdoor Pickleball balls and the bounce was between knee and mid thigh high. We understand that this is the height to be expected. We had good rallies and lots of fun. So in other words, if the courts are dry and hard, the regular outdoor pickleballs work good. If the courts are damp and soft, the green dot tennis balls work good."

The Riverview Tennis Club www.riverviewtennis.ca is to be congratulated for being so innovative and promoting the sport of pickleball in New Brunswick. We understand that playing on clay courts is easier on joints. Maybe they are on to something!

*Submitted by Marty Moore, Riverview Tennis Club
Edited by Denise Griffin*

PICKLEBALL RECOGNIZED AS A "GROWING SPORT" in Whitby

On Tuesday, May 26, 2014, Bruce Doughty, the President of the Pickleball Association of Ontario (PAO) attended the Whitby Operations Committee Meeting in the Whitby Council Chambers to hear the Draft Sports Facility Strategy Technical Background Report from Todd Brown of Monteith Brown Planning Consultants who has been surveying and meeting with user groups of recreation facilities to help Whitby plan for sports facilities for the next 20 years. It was reported by the consultants that the facility should be age-friendly, culturally relevant, and accessible to all and include drop-in programs. He also specifically mentioned pickleball as a "growing sport". Monteith Brown will be tabling a draft report for the community to review in early 2015. There will be further opportunity for public input. You can be sure that the Whitby pickleballers and the PAO will be participating and following with interest the development and implementation of a sports facility strategy for Whitby that includes more pickleball venues, indoors and outdoors! *Submitted by Carol Doughty*



Pickleball Fever Hits Thornbury Ontario in a big way.

In February of 2014 Town Officials were approached by a couple of Pickleball enthusiasts armed with a lengthy document explaining the game of Pickleball, the fastest growing racquet sport in North America etc, etc., in hopes of convincing the Town of the need of establishing a facility in order to offer the sport to our community.

We fully expected the standard response “What is Pickleball”? Well to our surprise it was an easy sell as they knew all about the game and were most eager to help establish a local facility, offering us the Beaver Valley Community Hall for as many afternoons as we wished. Needless to say we left the Town Office excited and ready to move, two courts were laid out on March 3rd, 2014.

We only booked the hall three days a week and began to advertise hoping to get at least 10 players to cover the hall rental. Posters were hung in the local Library, grocery store, coffee shops etc. Well, within the first week we had over 20 players, with a mix of experienced and new inductees to the sport. In two weeks we fielded over 70 calls. One day per week was set aside for lessons and were putting

through 8 to 10 new players weekly. Five weeks later we had over 100 players. OOPS, too many. the Town extended our play time to 5 hours per day but we were still burdened with an excess of players and wait times were getting lengthy. No one seemed to complain as it became a social gathering and all that

seemed to be missing was the wine.

To solve our dilemma we soon split the group in two, 2 1/2 hours sessions. Not easy to break up the established friendships but in the end everyone seemed pleased with that decision.

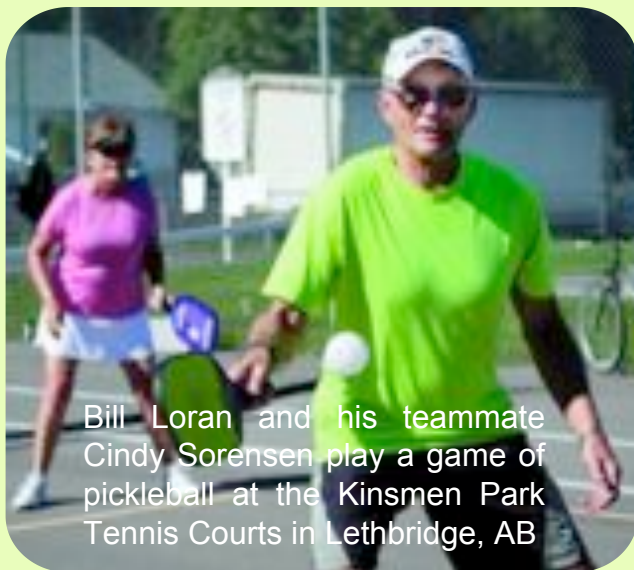
Back to City Hall last week pleading for the installation of two outdoor courts. Again surprised by the response as they were well aware of our success and suggested they budget for three outdoor courts for next summer.

The Town of the Blue Mountains has a full time population of just over 6000 residents, and almost 14000 full and part time residents. However, MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) estimates our one day population including visitors to be approaching 29,000 people. Already a very active and touristy community with a good mix of young and older residents the need for activities such as pickleball are very evident.

We expect our membership to soon approach 200 people after the installation of the Outdoor Courts.

Thanks Again to the Town of the Blue Mountains. *Submitted by Harry Stevens*

Have a taste for pickleball?



Bill Loran and his teammate Cindy Sorensen play a game of pickleball at the Kinsmen Park Tennis Courts in Lethbridge, AB

Photo by David Fuller, the Herald

A game of pickleball anyone? If you haven't heard of the hybrid sport yet, you may soon be a minority, as it's being touted by local enthusiast Jim Wood as the "fastest growing sport in the world."

(Jim Wood is the Pickleball Canada Organization Ambassador for the Lethbridge, AB Area. Pictured above Bill Loran is also a PCO member)

Though the sport may be new to many Canadians, Wood said pickleball is huge among snowbirds in vacation spots such as Florida, California, Arizona and Mexico. In fact, it was Wood, and a handful of other local sunbirds, who initially brought the game to Lethbridge. "The people playing here brought it back, myself included, from our winters in Arizona and California. We brought it back and have had an organization here for about three years," Wood said.

"It's the baby boom demographic now. We are different than seniors used to be - we are out here having a good time. I started playing in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and the fellow who taught me the game was 90 years old, so if you're upright and active you can play.

Although pickleball may have a large senior following, Wood stressed that a younger demographic would also enjoy the game.

He noted that many high and junior high schools across the U.S. now have their own pickleball leagues. In fact, on Wednesday a family visiting Lethbridge took part in a pick-up game. Wood explained that since Lethbridge is listed on the U.S. Pickleball Association's website under "Places to Play," the local club often sees visitors itching to get a game in.

Locally, pickleball has been gaining in momentum in the last handful of years. What began as a group of four, has grown to a dedicated group of over 20 avid players. The group gets together Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Kinsmen Park from 9:30-11:30 AM. Additionally, indoor games are played the same days at 1 p.m. at the Lethbridge Seniors Centre. Wood encourages anyone interested in the sport to come down and check it out. "We play throughout the spring and summer. Anyone interested is welcome to come by. Come on down, all you need is a decent pair of shoes and we have paddles to loan. Give it a shot."

*Article written by Lindsay Ducharme, for the Herald.
Adapted by Linda Dane, Provincial Ambassador for Alberta, Treasurer PCO*

Lakeland Seniors Play Pickleball at Summer Games

The 2014 Lakeland Senior Mini Games were held in Bonnyville, Alberta from June 24th - 26th. Pickleball made its debut on the events schedule as organizers felt it was the “up and coming” game. The Organizing Committee invited players from the Bonnyville C2 drop-in group to a meeting, and together we came up with a format for the Pickleball event. We had Women’s and Men’s Competitions in both the 50 - 65 and the 65-plus age categories. As our usual center was being used for other events connected with the games, we taped out 3 courts at the local curling rink. Eight teams entered the competition. The first afternoon we had random matches. The following morning we played for medals. That afternoon we hosted an Open Mixed Fun Competition for anyone competing in the games to enter. We also had 8 teams enter in the Mixed. Our two days of competition were fun-filled, and an opportunity for us to highlight our sport to both the seniors in the Lakeland and to our local Community. We plan to hold many more exciting events in the future through the Lakeland Senior Games Association. We hope to encourage more athletes to participate in this fast-growing sport.

Submitted by Linda Eyles



Women's 50 – 65 Gold Medal Winners Estelle Dechaine and Anita Germain with Willie McGregor Vice Chair LSGA



Men's 50 - 65 Gold Medal Winners: Rob Barrett and Richard Papp with Dana Swigart LSGA Organizing Committee



Men's 65 plus Gold Medal Winners:- Ed Primeau and Brian Tercier with Willie McGregor

Vernon Pickleball Club held their second Open Invitational Tournament at MacDonald Park

A total of 64 players played enthusiastically on a hot, beautiful Okanagan day, July 26. Some of the top ranked players in western Canada participated in our tournament. Many players came from out of town (Richmond, Penticton, Kamloops, Kelowna, etc...). The courts were lined with spectators.

Outdoor play continues throughout the summer at MacDonald Park and Middleton Mtn. Check the Club's website, vernompickleballclub.org for more information. *Submitted by Jack Carriou*

Below are tournament results.

Level 3.5 Pool A

1. Greg Thompson, Vernon
2. Bruce Simpson, Vernon
3. Mel Saranchuk, West Kelowna

Level 3.5 Pool B

1. Ann Collier, Vernon
2. Helga Hepditch, Kelowna
3. Brian Burgess, Vernon

Level 3.5 Pool C

1. Jim Lissa, West Kelowna
2. Pat Andrews, Vernon
3. Darrell Sherrin, Kelowna

Level 3.5 Pool D

1. *Gerry Forcier (had a perfect score ~ 77 points), Vernon
2. Lisa Thompson, Vernon
3. Betty Loyst, Peachland

Level 4.0 Pool A

1. Peter Darvill, Richmond
2. Louis Lalond, Kelowna
3. Eric Taylor, Kelowna

Level 4.0 Pool B

1. Dale Charlton, Kelowna
2. Doris, Albert, Kelowna
3. Van Mallow, Kelowna

Level 4.0 Pool C

1. Ray Gagnon, Kelowna
2. Rob Relling, Vernon
3. Dan Baum, Kelowna

Level 4.5

1. Dan Jmaeff, Lake Country
2. Jim Saunders, W. Kelowna
3. Doug Dimery, Kelowna



New Club Membership Announcements

Pickleball Canada would like to welcome the following new affiliated club memberships:

Oceanside Pickleball Club,
Parksville, BC with 117 club members.

Pickleball Saskatchewan,
Regina, Saskatchewan with 50 club members.

Spruce Grove Pickleheads,
Spruce Grove, AB with 64 club members.

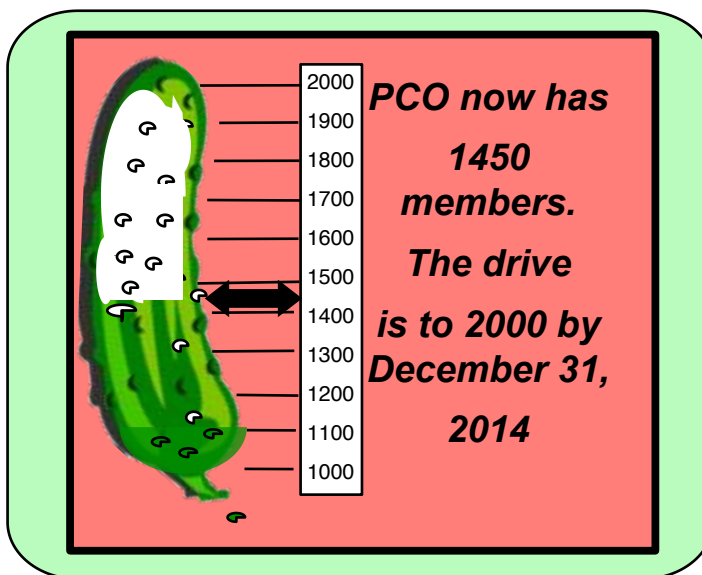
***This brings the Total
number of affiliated
clubs to 13***

Submitted by Shirley Shepherd



Canadian Suppliers to
the greatest game with
the strangest name!

Grant Brittain
604-768-8657
pickleballinternational.com



Please re-new or join PICKLEBALL CANADA

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

PICKLEBALL CANADA ORGANIZATION

10823 – 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

New
Pay with Pay Pal
Check the Web Site

New
Pay with Pay Pal
Check the Web Site

Your Board Of Directors

Shirley Shepherd, President
president@pickleballcanada.org
 Garth Merkeley, VP & Ambassadors
gmerkeley@shaw.ca
 Shirley Shepherd, Secretary
shirleyshepherd@shaw.ca
 Linda Dane, Treasurer ldane@daneco.com
 Denise Griffin, Editor & Publisher
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 Merrie Lee, Memberships ardmer@hotmail.com
 Christine Perras, Director at large
thesevenofus@shaw.ca
 Jim Dixon, Webmaster sysop@pickleballcanada.org
 Ed Burke, Director at large edburke@live.com
 Patsy Simon, Chair Rules Committee
psimon@staff.ednet.ns.ca
 Bill Furse, Director at large bfurse@sympatico.ca
 Dave Shepherd, Director at large
dwshepherd@shaw.ca

Provincial Ambassadors

AB - Linda Dane ldane@daneco.com
 BC - Shirley & David Shepherd
shirleyshepherd@shaw.ca
 Sask - Carol Martens-Clappison
carolsarahmartens@sasktel.net
 MB - Brian Shippam shippam@mts.net
 Ont. - Dave Hall twoboomers@yahoo.ca
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 NB - Raymond Doiron info@pickleballnb.ca
 PEI - Garth Matthews g.matthews@hotmail.com
 NS - Patsy & Steve Simon
psimon@staff.ednet.ns.ca



from your
PCO RULES
GURU (Patsy Simon)

Question: what is the difference between an indoor ball and a outdoor ball? The ball pictured on the

left of Figure 2-2 is customarily used for

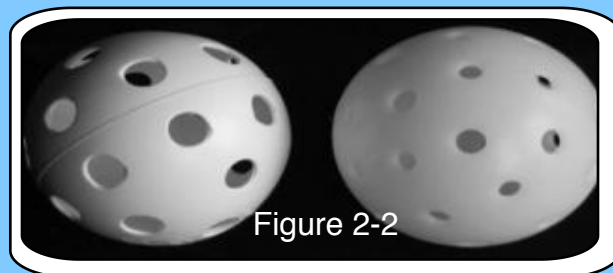


Figure 2-2

indoor play (larger holes) and the ball pictured on the right is customarily used for outdoor play (smaller holes). However, all approved balls are acceptable for indoor or outdoor play. The complete list of approved balls is on the IFP website. If you are playing in an IFP sanctioned tournament whether it be indoor or outdoor it is the tournament director that chooses what ball will be used. For a complete description of ball specifications check rule 2D in the official IFP rule book.

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