

## The fastest growing sport in North America

*Le sport qui affiche la croissance la plus rapide en Amérique du Nord*

<http://pickleballcanada.org>



Pickleball Canada Official Newsletter

February 2016

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PCO Welcomes all pickleball submissions.

Please send text and photo documents (.doc, .txt or .rtf) by the first day of the publication month to

Matthew Giancola, Editor, at [news@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:news@pickleballcanada.org)

## President's Message

By Val Vollmin

One of the goals of Pickleball Canada(PCO) is to have pickleball recognized by Sport Canada as an official national sport. There are a number of hurdles we will have to overcome to accomplish this and it will not happen overnight. Our board of directors is hoping to work with your provincial organizations as we move towards this goal.

I am very pleased to announce that the PCO Newsletter will soon have an "Experts Column"! Two of the top female players in the world have very kindly agreed to write an article for our monthly newsletter.  
Mona Burnette and Cookie

Drake will be discussing strategies and giving you tips on how to play the game. If you have any questions for our experts, please send them in so they can help you improve your game.

Pickleballcanada.org will soon have a new look! We are close to having our new website up and running. Be sure to check it out. Follow us on Facebook too!

Stay tuned...the board of directors is currently working on some exciting new initiatives!

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## SHOULD I ENTER THE TOURNAMENT?

by Carol Doughty

Upon hearing the news of a tournament, some people decide to not enter that tournament because they feel that there is no way that they can win. They may say things like, “It’s a done deal! Players A and B will win gold; C and D will win silver; and E and F will get Bronze. That’s always the way it is.”

Let’s look at the semi-finals at the Women’s U. S. A. Open Tennis tournament on Friday, Sept. 11, 2015, held at Flushing Meadows, New York, to reflect upon this way of thinking.

Before the semi-finals, Serena Williams was favoured to win this event. In fact, “[e]veryone so desperately wanted this pure Grand Slam – the four most prestigious championship titles in one calendar year, last achieved by Steffi Graf in 1998- for Williams”. However, this did not occur. Instead, Serena had to accept a “three-set defeat in the semifinal... against the unseeded Italian, Roberta Vinci, a woman playing in her first Grand Slam final”. “It was a stumbling upset... leaving the tennis universe speechless”.

How did it end up that Serena played Roberta? According to Rosie Dimanno, the sports columnist of this article, Roberta stepped onto the court for the semifinals “by luck of the draw and injuries and top contenders ousted, without having to face any opponent in the top 20”. This included Eugenie Bouchard’s unfortunate fall and resulting concussion.

Let’s face it. Roberta played very well and earned the title as “a clever tactician”. With regards to Roberta’s play on Friday, Serena said, “I thought [Roberta] played the best tennis of her career...I think she played literally out of her mind”.

This is quite the compliment from a woman who is considered “the best female tennis player on the planet, arguably the best tennis player ever, maybe even the best player in any sport ever. Just not on [Friday] afternoon”. Serena proved that “she is not invincible on a bad day for her and a great day for her opponent.”

This, too, can happen in pickleball. We all have good games/days and play well/badly at any given moment. From now on, we can add the saying, “Remember Roberta Vinci” as a reminder that no one is “invincible” and enter tournaments with hope and anticipation of what will occur.

See you on the podium!

References: “Serena comes up short in Grand Slam bid”  
By Rosie Dimanno, TORONTO STAR, Sat., Sept. 12, 2015

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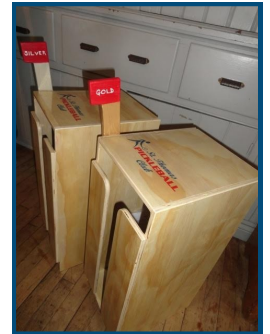
<http://pickleballcanada.org>

## SHARING THE COURTS!

by Ellen Dale

We've had some great responses to the "You're Up!" article in January's Newsletter.

Dave Hall, Ontario's Provincial Ambassador, reports that his club in St. Thomas decided to give the paddle box idea a try. Club member & crafter, Bryan Van Patter, immediately got to work creating the boxes shown in photo while Jan Nicholson added the finishing touches. A big THANKS to both of them!! One player commented: "Our pickleball experience was much more enjoyable, inclusive and less stressful. None of our players played with the same partner twice and all players' paddles spent time in both boxes equally. Great suggestion to make our sport even more pleasurable. I think it made everyone feel included and really mixed up the players. Thanks for introducing us to this system."



In Flat Rock, Michigan, paddles were lined up on the bench. Winners got to stay on the court and split. After two wins you had to come off. They decided to try the 'paddle box' idea and have all four players rotate each time. They immediately recognized that the 'new way' provided more equitable play time. The old way rewarded the better players with extra court time. It was particularly noticeable when eight or more players were waiting for the three courts. More time was spent on the sidelines before finally getting on the court to lose quickly.

Consider what is fair and equitable court usage for the number of courts, the availability of those courts and the number of players in your club. Let us know what you're doing in your club when it comes to court usage, scheduling and rotations. Take some photos and write some comments or articles that we can share to keep the conversation going. Send them to:

[ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org).

Help us grow the sport of pickleball in Canada!

Coming in March....."Pickleball for All Ages: Kelowna's Youth Program". We welcome submissions from any group which is promoting pickleball for the young guns – let us know all about it at [ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org)

## 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup>
- \$70 before May 2nd
- \$10 event fee for each event and \$25 for each Open event
- Register/Pay Online at:  
<http://www.pickleballtournaments.com>

### Spray Lake Sawmills Family Sports Centre Pickleball Tournament

June 4-5, 2016

Registration Deadline May 16 Start time dependent on final number of entries

Fees:

Members \$20 for one event  
+\$10 for second event  
Non-Members \$25 for one event  
+\$10 for second event

Register online at

<http://www.slssportscentre.com/>

800 Griffin Road East Cochrane, AB T4C 2B8  
403-932-1635 [www.slssportscentre.com](http://www.slssportscentre.com)

Men's Doubles (Saturday) 2.0-3.0, 3.5, 4.0+

### 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](mailto: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.**

### The Canada 55+, Brampton, Ontario

August 16-19, 2016

55+ 65+ 75+

Men (Doubles) Women (Doubles) Mixed (Doubles)

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER PROVINCE/TERRITORY = 36

Normally a double round robin in pickleball will suffice, but dependant on the number of participants entered, this may have to be altered to a single or a triple round robin.

To register: <http://www.canada55plusgames.com/>

## 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](mailto: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

## Pickleball Canada



## Your Board Of Directors

### Val Vollmin, President

[president@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:president@pickleballcanada.org)

### Marg Ouimet, Vice President

[margouimet@gmail.com](mailto:margouimet@gmail.com)

### Colin Caldwell, Secretary and Rules Chair

[cbcaldwell@shaw.ca](mailto:cbcaldwell@shaw.ca)

### Jim Scorgie, Treasurer

[jimscorgie@hotmail.com](mailto:jimscorgie@hotmail.com)

### Merrie Lee, Membership

[ardmer@hotmail.com](mailto:ardmer@hotmail.com)

### Ellen Dale, Ambassador Committee Chair

[ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org)

### Directors at Large

Claude Gauthier

Garth Matthews

Carol Martens-Clappison

Alan Thompson

### Additional Staff:

Matthew Giancola,

Website and Newsletter Editor

[news@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:news@pickleballcanada.org)



## Provincial Ambassadors

**AB - TBA**

**BC - Mike Carter** [mike.carter108@gmail.com](mailto:mike.carter108@gmail.com)

**SK - Carol Martens-Clappison** [carolsarahmartens@sasktel.net](mailto:carolsarahmartens@sasktel.net)

**MB - Brian Shippam** [brian@shippam.com](mailto:brian@shippam.com)

**ON - Dave Hall** [twoboomers@yahoo.ca](mailto:twoboomers@yahoo.ca)

**QC - Claude Gauthier** [claudetlyne@yahoo.ca](mailto:claudetlyne@yahoo.ca)

**NB - Raymond Doiron** [info@pickleballnb.ca](mailto:info@pickleballnb.ca)

**PEI - Garth Matthews** [g.matthews@hotmail.com](mailto:g.matthews@hotmail.com)

**NS - TBA**

## Rules Corner

### Question:

Some clothing is distracting. What kind of clothing is the permitted?

### Answer:

2.F.1.Color. Clothing may be of any colour.

2.F.2. Safety/Distracton. A player may be required to change wet, extremely loose-fitting, or otherwise distracting garments.

Players who feel that the colour of the opponents clothing is distracting, should first bring their concerns to the referee and if they aren't satisfied with the response, bring their concerns to the attention of the tournament director. The tournament director then must make that determination. Since there is no clear regulation, the eventual decision might not necessarily satisfy your complaint.

I will be writing the rules chairperson from the IFP and asking for some clarification.

Colin Caldwell

You have received this email because you are or were a member of Pickleball Canada. If you no longer want to receive this newsletter from Pickleball Canada, please reply and request that your name be deleted from the mailing list. 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](mailto:news@pickleballcanada.org) by the first of the publication month.