

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

<http://pickleballcanada.org>



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January
2017



President's Message by Val Vollmin

Wow, what a great start for 2017! I would like to thank the 2500 people who took the time to participate in our Strategic Planning Survey. I would also like to thank the 200 people who have volunteered to work for Pickleball Canada. Your responses will be used to provide Pickleball Canada with the directions that our members want us to go, the priorities we should set, and provided us with a mandate to move forward. If you have not yet submitted a survey we encourage you to do so at:

<http://regdu232.poll daddy.com/s/pickleball-canada-strategic-plan-survey>

or for the French language survey at:

<http://regdu232.poll daddy.com/s/pickleball-canada-strategic-plan-sondage>

The direction that pickleball players from across Canada (9 provinces & 2 territories) have chosen is that Pickleball Canada should "define roles and who is responsible for each program both national or provincial". In addition, that the programs should be "shared between the National level (Pickleball Canada) and the Provincial Organizations with standards set by Pickleball Canada and provinces administering the program.

Our immediate priority is to select 3 new positions; a Human Resources/Volunteer Coordinator, a Policy Chair, and a Chair of Inter-Provincial Relations. Simultaneously we will be setting the work plans for 2017, assigning the volunteers to the committees and completing the tasks necessary to receive funding as a National Sport Organization.

Pickleball Canada knows that this will take some time and will not happen overnight, but we have made good strides over the last year and expects that 2017 will be a year of great progress in meeting our goal of becoming a National Sport Organization.



Quel beau départ pour l'année 2017!!!! Un gros merci aux 2500 membres qui ont répondu au sondage et aux 200+ membres qui ont offert leur service en tant que bénévole. Le sondage a accompli 2 objectifs: nos priorités sont établies et vous nous avez donné un mandat d'aller de l'avance. Si vous n'avez pas encore complété le sondage, nous vous encourageons de le faire le plutôt possible. À peine 5 minutes de votre temps et le tour est joué. Vous n'avez qu'à cliquer sur le lien:

<http://regdu232.poll daddy.com/s/pickleball-canada-strategic-plan-sondage>

Les résultats du sondage (réponses provenant de 9 provinces et 2 territoires) nous démontrent clairement que Pickleball Canada se doit de définir clairement le rôle et les respon-

a continué pg 2

présidente de Pickleball Canada by Val Vollmin

sabilités pour chaque programme (national/provincial). En plus, nous avons maintenant une très bonne idée de quels programmes relèvent des organismes provinciaux; le tout, en respectant les standards établis par Pickleball Canada en s'assurant de la gestion par les organismes provinciaux.

Notre priorité immédiate est de créer et combler 3 nouveaux postes:

- un co-ordinateur des Bénévoles et Ressources Humaines
- un responsable des politiques
- un responsable des Relations Inter-Provinciales.

Nous établirons à la fois nos plans de travail pour 2017 tout en assignant nos bénévoles aux différents comités pour arriver à notre objectif ultime qui est de rencontrer tous les critères pour bénéficier de subventions qui sont accordées à un Organisme National de Sport.

Pickleball Canada reconnaît que nous avons un gros défi devant nous pour l'année 2017. Nous avons fait un bon bout du trajet en 2016 et nous efforts tout au long de 2017 sont ciblés sur l'obtention du status d' Organisme de Sport National.

PICKLEBALL IN NELSON, B.C. – in the News!

Nelson, a small community of just over 10,000 in south central B.C. is half way between Kelowna and Calgary Robert Boyd, PCO Area Ambassador for the West Kootenay area, submitted this link to an article about pickleball published in the Nelson Daily News.

<http://thenelsondaily.com/news/great-new-sport-takes-over-nelson-%E2%80%94-pickleball-43286#.WEXYVqLx4kg>

Thanks for getting the word out about our great sport.... 44/150 on the **Participation 150 Play List!!!!**



Happy New Year!

From 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

Reg Dumont, Strategic Planning Chair

strategicplanning@pickleballcanada.org

Valerie Van Spengen, Communications Chair

CommunicationsChair@pickleballcanada.org

Directors at Large

Jim Scorgie, Alan Thompson, Robin Grant

Chair Positions

Chuck MacDonald, Tournament Chair

Les Franke, Ratings Chair

Provincial Ambassadors

BIG THANKS

- AB – Brenda Feser:** PCOprovincialambassadorAB@gmail.com
BC – Walter Knecht: walterknecht@shaw.ca
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



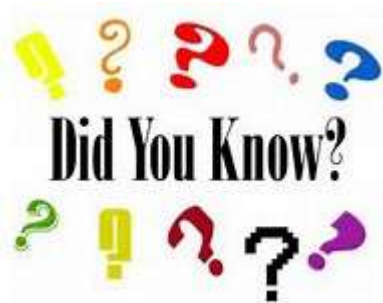
PickleBall Canada — We want to hear from you!

If you have not completed the survey, please click on the link below.

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Effective January 1, 2017, all players who wish to play in a PCO sanctioned tournament, must be PCO members.

If you have any questions regarding sanctioning your tournament please send an email to our tournament chair, Chuck MacDonald at:

tournaments@pickleballcanada.org

PCO welcomes all pickleball submissions.

Please send your text with a maximum of 400 words by the first day of the publication month to Newsletter Editor. If sending images or photos to include with your article, please use a file size of no less than 300 dpi.

Wanda Cassidy at news@pickleballcanada.org

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Member #5000

Dominique Bassi

Grand Manan Pickleball Club

of the Federation of Pickleball Inc. of New Brunswick

We currently have 5000 registered PCO members!

Our drive now, is for **5000 ACTIVE MEMBERS!!!**



2017 Lexus South Point Winter Classic Indoor Pickleball Tournament Edmonton Alberta



The Edmonton Pickleball Club hosted 170 players for their second annual Indoor Winter Classic Tournament January 6 – 8, 2017, at the St. Xavier Sports Centre.

The inaugural tournament last year was only one day with 40 players competing.

Players from about 30 clubs & communities in Alberta competed with some players from British Columbia and Saskatchewan in what we believe was the biggest indoor winter tournament in Alberta.

Tournament results are available at pickleballtournaments.com. Kudos to the tournament committee Michel Lamoureux, Doug Thomson, Mike Cooper, Leslie Srogen and many others.

A huge thanks to our important sponsors – Lexus South Point Dealership, Age Friendly Edmonton, Jack's Man Cave, Pizza 73, Manta World Sport, Christenson Group of Companies, Artistic Landscaping plus six other smaller sponsors listed on the tournament program.



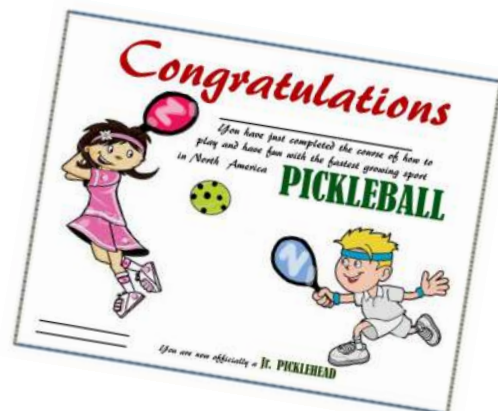
KIDS PICKLEBALL - making a difference!

In our last issue we recognized there is a growing group of youth in Pickleball that we are proud to be getting articles about. Our latest comes from The St. Thomas Pickleball Club, in St. Thomas, Ontario. Thanks Dave!

This was the second year in a row that our club has been involved with teaching pickleball to kids as part of the local Salvation Army summer camp program. !This was a lot of fun and very rewarding.

The photos are of our kids and the certificate that was awarded to them at the end of camp. In addition we have instructed physical education classes at two local high schools and facilitated a family pickleball evening for parents and kids at a local elementary school. Two of those schools purchased paddles for use in gym classes! Yea Pickleball, keep our kids moving.

Submitted by Dave Hall



might as well face it... "you're addicted to PICKLEBALL"



Let's play
Pickleball!

Share photos and stories of your pickleball addiction...send to news@pickleballcanada.org

Sharing Good News - Need a reason to join PCO?

It's always wonderful to receive kudos!

Recently, PCO president, Val Vollmin was in receipt of an email from Al Sehn, President of the Rocky Pickleball Group in Alberta. Val has been working tirelessly the past 15 months for PCO and has too often heard "What's in it for me?", when discussions turn to membership in PCO.

How refreshing to receive this email outlining the growth of yet another pickleball club and recognizing one of the very important benefits of PCO membership.... Insurance!!

Mr. Sehn outlined the growth of the Rocky Pickleball Group with its 20 members: from January '16 in a mini-sized gym with one badminton court in a seniors' centre with a low ceiling, to 3 outdoor tennis courts with Pickleball lines added, then into an Elementary School with 3 badminton courts and to most recently "working on permission to move our pickleball practices to a large school with 5 badminton courts". Sound familiar?

He then went on to express his pleasure at learning of the PCO Liability Insurance Plan:

"All has been good news except now, we have been asked to get Liability Insurance with minimal funds available!!!! Impossible??? No, not with Pickleball Alberta and Pickleball Canada Organizations close at hand (so we've learned). Your offer is very reasonably priced and we can afford it. Cheers! We are on our way!"

Ratings, Ratings, Ratings! Think you're a 4.0—check out PCO's Skill Level Requirements!! Submitted by Nikki Franke

Every year it becomes more and more difficult to achieve the next level in tournaments.

The Skill Level Requirements have to be updated annually to reflect this. The Pickleball Canada Ratings Chair, Les Franke, updated Pickleball Canada Organizations Skill Level Requirements in 2016.

These requirements are even more stringent than the current IFP Guidelines which have not been updated since 2012. If you rely upon the current IFP Skill Level Requirements you will be seriously behind the curve and self-rated players are probably more likely to assess themselves higher than they actually are.

The criteria listed in the PCO Skill Level Requirements may be used by players who wish to self-rate realistically. They can also help you identify which skills you need to acquire to achieve the next level. Pickleball Coaches should also use these Skill Level Requirements to teach skills specific to each level.

These updated Skill Level Requirements can be found posted on the Pickleball Canada Organization Website under the tab How to Play Pickleball and PCO Skill Level Requirements."



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Membership Information

PICKLEBALL CANADA

Membership and Renewal

To renew or join follow the
steps outlined on the PCO
website:

www.pickleballcanada.org

or:

Please print and complete the
forms that are available on
the PCO website and mail with
your payment to:

PICKLEBALL CANADA

P.O. Box 537

Eckville, AB

TOMOXO

One Year \$12.00

Three Years \$32.00

Website

Matthew Giancola

webmaster@pickleballcanada.org



Need an experts advice? By Mona Burnett

Serve & Service Return

Let's take a look at the beginning of every point. The first two shots at the beginning of every point, the serve and the service return, have rules attached to them so basically the point really starts at the **third shot!**

The serve must be served underhand, is hit diagonally from one side to the other and the ball must bounce before it can be returned. The serve has three rules that you **must** follow— 1) must be an upward motion, 2) the ball must be struck below the waistline and 3) the paddle face must be below the wrist at the point of contact. In addition to the rules for striking the ball, there are rules for where you must deliver your serve. Draw an imaginary line from the sideline back to the fence...you must strike the ball behind the baseline and inside that imaginary line. These rules are in place in order to create a level playing field for all players. Remember that the serve is the shot that “starts” the point so reducing unforced errors in this area is of utmost importance. Your goal should be to serve the ball as deep as possible, and of course, always over the net and in the court. It is a real rally killer when we miss a serve *but*, we are human will make mistake serving once in a while.

The service return has one very important rule....the **ball must bounce** before you strike it. That is why the serving team has both of their players at the baseline during the serve. You want the service return to be as deep as possible and in most instances, playing the middle of the court will be to your advantage. Why? By hitting the return deep to the middle, it causes confusion between players! It will force the players to communicate and we all know how badly that backhand person wants to get in there and hit the ball! Also, if the ball is mishit, it will probably still stay in the court. If you try to isolate a player (for example when you are playing mixed doubles) and then mishit the ball, the chances of putting the ball outside of the court are greatly increased. To create the visual for where you want your service return to go, stand at the “T” at the baseline and draw a line parallel to the centre line three feet to the left, three feet to the right and three feet tall, then join the two sides at the top of the three feet and you will see that you have created an imaginary box deep in the middle of the court.

That is your target!!

Now you are at the third shot and this is where the fun begins!!!

I hope this works for you!!!

Bye for now,

Mona



DRILLS & SKILLS tip of the month on the Pickleball Channel

Improve Your Drop Shot with this Easy Drill

Most players have been told they need to learn the third shot drop, but it's often much easier said than done. Here's a simple drill from Steve Paranto, veteran 5.0 player and instructor, which can help you improve your game and make you a better player. If you invest in this drill, your game can reach a whole new level, so watch this video now!

<http://www.pickleballchannel.com/Quick-Tip-2-Net-Drill-Steve-Paranto>

Send your favorite drills & strategy info/links to Ellen Dale at ambassadorchair@pickleballcanada.org



UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

Check out Pickleballtournaments.com

For past/present/future sanctioned tournaments

You have received this newsletter because you are a member of Pickleball Canada. If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, please reply to news@pickleballcanada.org and request your name be removed from the mailing list.