The fastest growing sport in North America

Le sport qui affiche la croissance la plus rapide en Amerique du Nord

www.pickleballcanada.org



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### President's Message by Val Vollmin

How time flies! Spring will soon be here and our snowbirds will be heading back north and another season of outdoor pickleball will begin.

Our Drive to 5000 continues and we are currently over 4500 active members! This is one of the requirements that Pickleball Canada must meet to become a National Sport Organization and it appears that we will accomplish this before the end of 2017.

Pickleball Canada is pleased to welcome Linda Cork from Ontario as our newest Board member. She will also serve as our new HR/Volunteer Development Committee Chair.

We are also pleased to welcome Karen Wallace from Saskatchewan who has accepted the position of Policy Chair.

The number of tournaments in Canada is increasing at a rapid rate. If you would like to see some great pickleball, join us for the Pickleball Canada Nationals Tournament in Kelowna. It will be held July 7-9, 2017.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support of Pickleball Canada!









### Message du president, Val Vollmin

Le temps passe vite lors qu'on s'amuse. Le printemps arrive à grand pas et les "snowbirds" se préparent à rentrer chez eux pour profiter d'une autre saison de Pickleball extérieure et ce, à travers le pays.

Nous approchons rapidement notre objectif de 5000 membres avec 4500 membres actifs inscrit avec Pickleball Canada. 5000 membres est un seuil important pour nous car c'est un des critères que nous devons rencontrer pour être reconnu comme un organisme de Sport National. Nous y parviendrons sûrement d'ici quelques mois!

C'est avec grand plaisir que Pickleball Canada souhaite la bienvenuà Linda Cork (originaire d'Ontario). Linda a accepté de faire parti du comité exécutif et elle sera aussi responsable des resources humaines ainsi que du comité des bénévoles.

Nous souhaitons aussi la bienvenu à Karen Wallace (de Saskatchewan) qui a accepté la position de Responsable des Politiques.

Le nombre de tournois augmente sans cesse à travers le Canada. Si vous avez le goût d'assister à des matchs de Pickleball de bon calibre, n'hésitez pas de vous joindre à nous à Kelowna pour le Tournoi National de Pickleball du Canada. Ce tournoi aura lieu du 7 au 9 juillet 2017.

Merci à vous tous pour votre appui constant pour Pickleball Canada

### **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

**Linda Cork**, HR/Volunteer Development Committee Chair humanresources@pickleballcanada.org

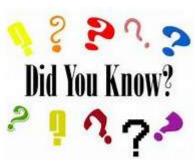
**Directors at Large** 

Alan Thompson, Robin Grant

**Chair Positions** 

**Chuck MacDonald**, Tournament Chair **Les Franke**, Ratings Chair

Karen Wallace, Policy Chair



### Pickleball continues to grow rapidly in Canada and the USA!

One must only look at the inaugural US Open Championship in Naples Florida in 2016, to see that this sport is making great strides. With over 1000 people from around the world competing in the five-day tournament, it was the largest Pickleball tournament ever, with almost 12,000 spectators, bringing approximately \$2.5 million in revenue to the local community. While the USAPA Nationals in Arizona had 36 U.S. states represented, 2 Canadian provinces, resulting in a whopping 850 paid players!

For those unfamiliar with the game, it is played on either an indoor or outdoor surface and uses a modified tennis net. The court is 40 feet long by 20 feet across, so players get quite a workout chasing the ball across the court. Due to the smaller court size, players have to be quick, and reflexes are as important as power in this fast-paced game.

Players serve cross court much like they would in tennis, but underhand. Single or double teams play by the "two-bounce rule," letting the ball bounce once before returning the serve and then again by the team that served. After the two volleys, players can hit the ball out of the air. The space between the net and a line running parallel is called the "kitchen," which players are not allowed to cross into to avoid spiking the ball at the other team. They can hit the ball in this non-volley zone only if the ball bounces in it first. The first team to 11 wins, but they must win by two points.

Typically, those who have played racquet sports enjoy this game. The camaraderie and the friendliness is seen by

Continued on page 3

### **Provincial Ambassadors**

AB – Brenda Feser:

PCOprovincialambassadorAB@gmail.com

BC - Walter Knecht: walterknecht@shaw.ca

MB – Brian Shippam: brian@shippam.com and George Rodrigue: gdrodrigue@gmail.com

NB - Jake Grandy: jake.grandy@yahoo.com

NS - Frank Rossiter: fjrossiter@ns.sympatico.ca

ON—Dave Hall twoboomers@yahoo.com

**SK – Carol Martens-Clappison:** 

carolsarahmartens@sasktel.net

**PEI – Bruce Fitchett:** bruceandrobin54@eastlink.ca

**QC – Claude Gauthier:** claudeetlyne@yahoo.com

players, no matter where they play. Most players are out to have a good time, and a fun workout. However, there is advanced play, appealing to more competitive players. Many of these players utilize the "dink shot" — playing the short game, a strategy of moving your opponents around the court to create an opportunity for a player to score a point. There is a lot of strategy to this game. Patience is key.

Not only do Pickleballers have a close-knit community, they stay active in the face of health issues, including surgery. Pickleball – is a healthy addiction to many. Some clubs offer spots in their schedules for beginners and those suffering mild injuries or are in rehab after surgery. Typical of the caring and supportive community this sport produces.

Getting back to the growth of this sport. The American Sports Builders Association (ASBA), estimates the number of players to reach 8 million by 2018 in the US alone. In a recent interview for Tennis Industry Magazine, builders from ASBA noted not only the increase in Pickleball, but the move to change existing facilities (tennis courts) to include Pickleball lines and/or have courts purpose-built for Pickleball only. The current trend in the US is to take two tennis courts and turn them into six Pickleball courts due to the increasing rise of empty tennis courts. Pickleball players across Canada are lobbying their cities to follow suit.

USAPA and Pickleball Canada (PC) promote its sport at the grassroots level, utilizing a Pickleball Ambassador program. Pickleball Ambassadors are volunteers who work to promote the sport of Pickleball and their national organization in the local area they have applied to represent. The main prerequisite is a love of the sport and the desire to share the sport with others. The ASBA noted that Ambassadors can be a good resource to those who are considering putting in Pickleball courts. There are certain line guidelines including colour considerations that are important for facilities to use.

We are often asked how did Pickleball get its name. Former Washington state Congressman Joel Pritchard is credited with inventing the sport on Bainbridge Island near Seattle. The name of the sport is derived from the Pritchard family dog, who would chase the ball and run off with it, according to an interview with Barney McCallum via usapa.org. "The ball would go rolling off someplace and Pickles would pick it up and bring it back; at least that's the legend," added Bob Sproull.

The sport originally grew in Canada mostly in BC and Ontario where snowbirds were first introduced to the sport in winter destinations like Arizona and Florida. Five founding members formed Pickleball Canada in 2009. The object of the association was to increase awareness for Pickleball across Canada through demos, radio, TV interviews and a monthly newsletter. Membership grew through 2009 and into 2010 to 300 members across Canada.

In 2014, the game began to gain momentum. The past three years, Pickleball Canada saw a huge increase in number of players across Canada. The numbers below are an estimate of how many players we have in Canada. Pickleball is indeed the fastest growing sport in Canada.

Contributed by Valerie Van Spengen Communications Chair, Pickleball Canada









Province	2014	2015	2016
ВС	6,970	9,565	15,000
ON	5,385	6,045	20,000
AB	665	1,845	10,000
МВ	245	625	1,000
SK	270	770	600
NB	105	370	800
NS	290	530	800
QC	120	120	8,200
PEI	80	60	200
NL		80	100
NT			40
Total			56,700

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

### ARIZONA JOURNÉE FRANCOPHONE 2017

Pickleball Québec organise depuis 3 années une journée francophone en Floride et le tout est toujours un succès; cette année Pickleball Québec, via le DGA Daniel GIngras, a organisé en plus une première rencontre francophone en Arizona (tout le monde était bienvenue, sachant que le tout se déroulerait en français), le 11 février où pus de 50 personnes se sont présentées dans un climat de plaisir; le tout fut suivi d'un souper au restaurant. La première réunion pour l'Arizona francophone et il est souhaité que le tout se répète lors des années à venir.

**Daniel Gingras** 

Directeur général adjoint

#### 2017 ARIZONA FRANCOPHONE DAY

For the last 3 years, Pickleball Québec has organized in Florida the Florida Pickleball Francophone day and each year has been a success. This year Pickleball Québec via the ADG Daniel Glngras organized on the 11th of February for the first time, the Arizona Francophone day (everyone was welcomed to come and play, knowing that everything was to take place in French); over 50 persons were present and had great pleasure in playing our sport; the activity was followed by a supper. This was the first Arizona Francophone day and it is hoped that this will continue for years to come.













#### PICKLEBALL HAS JOURNEYED TO THE YUKON!

ElderActive Recreation Association hosted the first Yukon Pickleball tournament on January 28th at the Canada Games Centre in Whitehorse. Sixteen 55+ participants competed in a mix and match format with the focus on having fun and melding skill levels together.

Pickleball is new to Yukon, and our numbers are increasing. We play on a portion of the flexihall in winter and add the outdoor hockey rinks in the summer. Many of our players travel to points south in the winter, so have experienced proper courts and the growing enthusiasm from the senior crowd.

If any Pickleball players from other jurisdictions find themselves in Whitehorse, do drop in and share your knowledge with us.

Contributed by Bev Buckway



#### 1st place winners:

Bruce Richards and Christina McKay accepting their pickles from Draw Master Terry Markley.











Check out all the great information in the latest Pickleball Magazine! <a href="https://joom.ag/yd1W">https://joom.ag/yd1W</a>





### New Outdoor Dedicated Courts! North Vancouver, BC

After a couple struggles, North Shore Pickleball (NSPB) is pleased to report that their dedicated outdoor pickleball courts are on track for an April 8, 2017 opening date.

NSPB received permission from the City of North Vancouver early December 2016 to convert one underutilized tennis court into as many as four pickleball courts. With all funding coming from NSPB sources, use of the facility

granted by the City, the development of these four dedicated courts is a major achievement for NSPB. Some of the remedial work will be staged into place - we have had a long winter and people are really ready to play.

We are looking forward to a place where we can all play together. As our plans for the opening day party develop you will be invited - to not only join us for that day but to come play pickleball outdoor with us anytime.

Walter Knecht

President

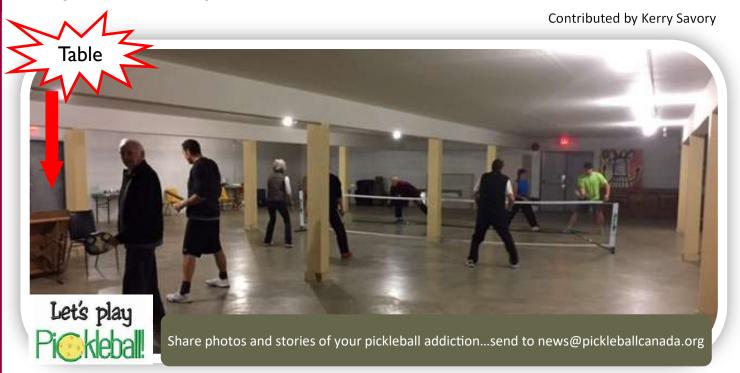
North Shore Pickleball

p.s. We are hoping the skies stay as blue as in the picture and that there will be less of the white stuff!



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

This is what happens when enthusiastic Pickleball players arrive at a hall only to find it was accidentally overbooked! Instead of leaving and coming back an hour later (because we probably would have gone to the pub and that could have turned bad!) we opted for a basement warm up. A simple flip of the table and voila—a net, and no lobbing down there, it was all good fun!



### Midland Area Pickleball Club Hosting ParticipACTION

I just joined the PCO and wish to introduce our club, The Midland Area Pickleball Club (MAP). The Club will be hosting a 150 ParticipACTION Tournament in celebration of Canada's 150th! Midland Ontario is in the Heart of Georgian Bay and our pickleball growth is on fire. In our four municipalities of 53,000, we have had over 200 in 2016 on any of our 11 indoor courts or 14 outdoor courts. Midland has become a pickleball destination attracting visitors and new residents. If you are in the area and want to play, check out our website! www.midlandareapickleballclub.ca

Garry Morehouse
MAP Community Relations Director





# CANADA 15 (AND A 15)

### 150 Years of History, one day at a time!

Rediscover Canadian history from Confederation to today with the Library and Archives Canada (LAC) heritage collection. Throughout 2017, discover the today-in-history vignette highlighting a significant event that shaped our society.

Join the conversation!

Visit Canada.ca/OnThisDay to read the March stories!

http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1468262573081



Make the most of your Canada 150!



Team North America (All North Americans who register)



BAINBRIDGE CUP September 15

SPAIN 2017

Team Europe Europeans who register)

Date: Friday, Sept. 15, 2017 Tournament: Age/Skill B sed 19+, 50+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+
Format: Team Competition: North America vs Europa, Events: Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles
N. American & European Teams: Teams will be formed by "ALL" players that register for the event
Matches: All participants will play multiple matches
Participants: All ages and skill levels welcome
All Nationalities Welcome: A "Rest of the World Team" will also participate
Rules: IFP sanctioning rules will apply

2

# 3RD ANNUAL IN ERNATIONAL PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT 2017 SPANISH PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION September 16 and 17, 2017

Hosted by the Spanish Picklel Associa



### TOURNAMENT III

September 16 - 17, 2017



Sanctioned Event

Date: Let and Sun., Sept. 16 - 17, 2017 <u>Tournament</u>: Age/Skill-Based 19+, 50+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+ <u>Events</u>: Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles <u>Participants</u>: All Skill Levels Welcome <u>Format</u>: Round Robin Pool Play followed by Double-Elimination Playoffs

Matches: All participants will play a minimum of 4 matches / event Rules: IFP sanctioning rules will apply



### FREE PRO CLINICS. REGISTRATION, LODGING AND SIGHTSEEING DETAILS

PRO CLINICS Sept. 13 & 14

Marcin Rozpedski Free Clinics with the World's # 1 and other Pros



### REGISTER NOW

(click here)

Tournament Registration is open at www.pickleballtournaments.com

MORE INFO:

Pickleball Spain: www.pickleballspain.org

IFP: www.ipickleball.org

Hotels (info) & Sightseeing (info)

Email: internationals@pickleballspain.org



Équipe Amérique du Nord

(tous les joueurs de l'amérique du nord qui s'Insrivent)



BAINBRIDGE CUP

15 septembre

quipe Europe
(tou) les européens qui s'inscrivent)



Date: vendredi le 15 sept. 2017 Tournoi: âge et niveau 19+, 50+, 50+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+

Format: compétition d'équipes, Amérique du nord ve Europe Événements: hommes, dames, doublesmixtes Équipes d'Amérique du nord et d'Europe Les équipes seront formées de tous les joueurs qui s'y inscrivent Parties: tous les participants joueurs plusieurs parties

Espagne 2017/

Participants: joueurs de tous les âges et de (o) s les niveaux sont les bienvenues

<u>Toutes les nationalités sont bienvenues</u> ne équipe des autres endroits au monde y participera <u>Règlement</u>: les règlements sanctionnées par le FIP seront en vigueur

2

3È TOUR INTERNATIONAL DE PICKLEBALL, 2017 ACCIATION ESPAGNOLE DE PICKLEBALL

16 et 17 septembre 2017

Vos hôtes : l'Association Espagnole de Pickleball



TOURNAMENT III

16 et 17 septembre 2017



<u>Date</u>: sampli et dimanche les 16 et 17 sept. <u>Tournoi</u>: âge et niveau de jeu, 19+, 50+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+ Évén (1): hommes, dames, doubles-mixtes, tous les niveaux de joueurs

round robin suivi des éliminatoires par le système de double-élimination

es: tous les joueurs joueront un minimum de 4 parties par événement

eglement: les règlements sanctionnées par le FIP seront en vigueur

### CLINIQUES OFFERTES GRATUITEMENT PAR DES PROFESSIONNELS

PRO CLINICS 13 et 14 sept.

Marcin Rozpedski Cliniques gratuites par le #1 mondial ainsi que par d'autre professionnels



MAINTENANT

(cliquez ici)

Inscriptions au tournoi sur le site suivant www.pickleballtournaments.com

PLUS D'INFORMATIONS l'Association: www.pickleballspain.org

FIP: www.ipickleball.org
HOTELS & VISITES TOURISTIQUES

Email: internationals@pickleballspain.org

### The Inaugural IFP Bainbridge Cup: Team Competition on a Global Stage Madrid, Spain, September 15, 16 & 17, 2017

The IFP Bainbridge Cup is the first event of its kind - an Intercontinental Pickleball Team Competition with players from around the world teaming up to compete for the prestigious Bainbridge Cup trophy. This will be the inaugural event of the International Federation of Pickleball (IFP).

**CUP FORMAT** The Bainbridge Cup will feature two Teams: North America and Europe. A third team (a "Rest of the World" Team) is also expected to participate. "The Bainbridge Cup is a Team competition, thus individuals don't play for medals", explains IFP President Mike Hess. "Participants will join with other players from their respective continent to form a Team and to compete for a Team award - the Bainbridge Cup trophy."

Matches will be played in a Round Robin format with pools consisting of players of similar age and skill level. All participants will play multiple matches throughout the day in Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles. The Cup will be awarded to the Team that

earns the most points (i.e., wins the most matches) throughout the event. The winning Team will then defend its title in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Bainbridge Cup in 2018. The Bainbridge Cup is an IFP-Sanctioned event and will follow official IFP rules.

## 10% Discount for Canadians 10% remise pour les Canadiens

**ALL SKILL LEVELS AND AGES WELCOME** "The philosophy of the Bainbridge Cup is consistent with the philosophy of Pickleball — to include everyone who wants to participate, from the elite to the amateur level players" says Hess. In addition, the Cup is an official Super Senior Association event (<a href="www.ssipa-pb.org">www.ssipa-pb.org</a>) which means it plans to include age groups ranging from 19+ to 80+. Players from over 15 countries around the world are expected to participate.

**WORLD-CLASS PICKLEBALL CLINICS** Free pickleball clinics will be offered at the Cup on September 13 & 14, 2017. Clinics will be led by North American Team Captain Marcin Rozpedski, the world's reigning pickleball singles champion, along with several other world-class players including Simone Jardim, Jennifer Lucore, Robert and Jodi Elliott, Alice Tym and Steve Wong to name a few.

**DATES: 2 EVENTS OVER 3 DAYS OF COMPETITION – SEPTEMBER 15, 16 & 17, 2017** The Bainbridge Cup will be held on Friday, September 15, 2017 on outdoor courts in Madrid, Spain. Immediately following the Cup at the same location will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Pickleball Tournament hosted by the Spanish Pickleball Association, held on September 16 and 17, thereby providing three full days of competition.

**REGISTRATION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** Tournament registration is already open at PickleballTournaments.com (click <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>). For more information you can also visit the IFP webpage at <a href="https://example.com/www.ipickleball.org">www.ipickleball.org</a>. For information about tourist activities around the event click <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.



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www.pickleballcanada.org



### 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

TOMOX0

One Year \$12.00 Three Years \$32.00 Five Years \$50.00

Club group rates are available with a 20 members minimum.

Contact:

membership@
pickleballcanada.org

Website
Matthew Giancola
webmaster@pickleballcanada.org



### Need an experts advice? By Mona Burnett

"I've lost my serve!" How many of you have heard this before? It is actually very common and extremely frustrating. Here's some helpful advice to get over this hurdle.

Remember that the serve is the shot that "starts" the point. Your goal is just to get that ball over the net, as deep as possible and into the diagonal service area. It does not have to be hit hard, or hit with spin or any other advantage shot that players may attempt. Go back to the very basics until a recurring level of *consistency* has been reached. Then, and only then, should you add "stuff" to your serve.

Almost all players have a routine that they go through before they serve. If you find that you are struggling with your serve, go back to the basics and exaggerate the steps in your routine. Make sure that your shoulders are square to your target. Once your body is in position, then all you have to do is go through the motions of serving. Use a pendulum motion to serve and be sure to keep your head down and watch the paddle hit the ball. Once you have started your motion, there is no benefit to peeking -- it is what it is and now you just have to deal with what your opponents give back to you.

Once you have achieved an acceptable level of consistency with your serve, this is when you can start to change the pace of the ball, move the ball around the court and possibly add spin. Just remember that adding spin adds another layer of risk to keeping the ball in the court. Also, remember that any serve that is in the court and in play is better than a hard hit, or a spinning ball that lands outside the court. There is no pickleball -- the point is over – when the serve is hit out of the court. *Consistency* is key and serving should not cause you any anxiety whatsoever.

Mona

### DRILLS & SKILLS tip of the month on Third Shot Drop with Mark Renneson

### The 3rd Shot

You serve. Your opponents return and rush the net. Now what? It depends who you ask. Lower level players typically use this as a chance to smack the ball hard at the net team. This works well only if they are weak volleyers. However, the stronger players usually play a more subtle shot. A slower shot that we will call the *third shot drop*. This shot is slow and low. It is designed to land in the kitchen and prevent the net team from volleying. The *third shot drop* itself doesn't usually win the point but it can be useful in taking away the net team's advantage. Because the net team is receiving a low ball that lands in the kitchen, they have to hit it upwards. And since they are hitting upwards, they must hit it slowly (a fast ball would fly long). The third shot in a rally is incredibly important (so important I named a company after it!). By using the inherently slow *third shot drop*, the returning team is able to move from a defensive position to a neutral or offensive one. And that's pretty great.

Contributed by Robert Thompson Boyd

http://www.traildailytimes.ca/breaking news/415150414.html



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

#### **UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS**

Check out <u>Pickleballtournaments.com</u>
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.