



Pickleball Canada

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



May 2014

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Kintec - A new sponsor for the Nationals

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President's Message - Dave Shepherd

I am very sorry to let you know that I have resigned as the President of PCO due to an unexpected health issue



that prevents me from carrying on the duties and responsibilities. I thank you very much for your generous friendship and support because I have thoroughly enjoyed the last two years of serving as the President of PCO.

Under the terms of our Constitution and Bylaws, Shirley Shepherd has been appointed by the Board to assume the position of President until the next AGM in 2014.

During the past year, we have accomplished a great deal. We have held the 2nd National Championship which was a great success. We have introduced a sanctioning program and a tournament points program, both of them in infancy but with strong benefits for the future. We have also introduced a Club Membership program that welcomed many clubs/groups to join PCO as affiliated clubs and groups.

The 3rd Pickleball Canada National Open Championship will be held in Abbotsford, B.C. on July 4 - July 6, 2014. For tournament registration info: www.pickleballcanada.org Please register early!

Club Memberships has been a great success this year. We have had a total of 8 Club/Group Memberships and many more to come. Our membership number has reached 1,000+ and it continues to increase steadily.

Last year PCO had 4 sanctioned tournaments. This year we will have about 7 to 10 sanctioned tournaments. Many PCO sanctioned tournaments offer a \$5.00 discount from the registration fees to our members. PCO sanctioned tournaments include liability insurance for PCO members and tournament points will be awarded to the medal winners who are PCO members.

There are lots of good things happening as we move forward and your input is always welcome. Membership in Pickleball Canada is very affordable. Please join today!



Top PCO Tournament Point Earners

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



This month PCO wishes to recognize Kathy Parkes (no profile available) and Denis Zhekhovskiy from the Lower Mainland of British Columbia. Kathy plays in Abbotsford and accumulated 2000 tournament points in 2013. Denis accumulated 1600 tournament points in 2013 in Canada and has been rated a 5.0 player by USAPA.

Denis Zhekhovskiy, 2012 Canadian National Champion in OPEN Mixed Doubles, and a 5.0 USAPA rated player.

My name is Denis. My parents and I moved from Russia to Vancouver, Canada, almost 10 years ago. Coming here was an exciting, yet very difficult event for our entire family. Every day was full of various events and new experiences because I found myself in a completely different environment with different culture. The education system in school appeared very strange and confusing. In addition to that, I could hardly speak and understand English; for a very long time I thought that people speak way too fast here =). But, as time went on, I slowly got used to the new life in Canada, and things have started to get better. I graduated high school with a full International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma and began my post-secondary education in Sauder, UBC (University of British Columbia) - one of the most prestigious



business schools in the country. And this May, I have graduated from it with dual specialization in finance and logistics.

Hoooooraaaaay!!!

Now getting back to pickleball... 8 years ago, my mom found out about it and got really involved in the sport; soon she introduced pickleball to my dad and I, and all of us fell in love with it! But for a very long time I considered pickleball not much more than a very fun physical activity. Only about 3-4 years ago, with emergence of some better players and of the first pickleball tournaments in Canada, I started playing it more competitively. My mom,

Luba, who already had extensive coaching experience, decided to teach me, and despite her busy work schedule, dedicated a lot of time coaching and helping me improve. I spent at least a few hours on the court almost every day practicing with her, and, in the end it did yield its results. After winning several local tournaments and, in 2012, winning the 4.5 Mixed division at SeaTac,

both my mom and I were awarded the highest (5.0) player rating by USAPA. Later that year, we won Open Mixed Doubles at the first Canadian Nationals. Playing the game at a competitive level added a lot more fun to it and made me much more enthusiastic about pickleball. Since then, pickleball became a huge part of the life of my family, and we have planned most of our family vacations and getaways around this game, trying to visit different places across Canada and the United States where we can play. Even now, as a recent graduate from university, if I won't be able to find a job in Vancouver, I will be searching for it in a city that has a pickleball community in it.

In conclusion, I would like to say that

pickleball is a game that everyone can play and enjoy. And it is really easy to learn! During my time in university, I have been working as a sports instructor in the local community sports centre, coaching both pickleball and badminton, and helped people to make their first steps into the pickleball world and seeing them starting to play the game, falling in love with it as I once did, is truly an amazing feeling! Also, having played across many places in both Canada and the USA, I was really happy to experience the welcoming environment created by the people who play this sport. The warm atmosphere created by those people is one of the things that make this sport stand out, and I am really proud to be able to represent it.

Upcoming Tournaments



The Amsterdam International Tournament, May 16-18, 2014

See November 2013 newsletter for details

The Walnut Grove Classic by Fraser Valley Pickleball

Where: Walnut Grove community Centre, BC

Address: 8889 Walnut Grove Drive

Langley, BC V1M 2N7

When: May 16, 17 2014

Current IFP rules apply. PCO Sanctioned (Tier 4)

Events will be:

Mixed Doubles on Friday, May 16 starting at 4:30 p.m. - Round Robin, followed by single elimination playoffs

**Men's and Women's Doubles on Saturday, May 17 starting at 9:00 a.m. - Round Robin, followed by single elimination playoffs
www.fraservalleypickleball.org**



2014 Sea Tac Spring Open Doubles Skill

Sea Tac Community Centre, Sea Tac, Washington

Saturday, May 17 thru Sunday, May 18

Deadline: May 15, 2014 **To register:** pickleballtournaments.com

Okanagan Falls Fun Tournament

Tier 4 PCO Sanctioned tournament.

At Okanagan Falls Community Center & Kaleden Hall, BC

Saturday May 24th & Sunday 25th Mens, Ladies and Mixed Categories for
Levels 2.0 – 3.5

See www.okfalls.net for details and to download a registration form

London Pickleball Club

2nd Annual Tournament May 31-June 1, 2014

May 31, 2014 Mixed Doubles

June 1, 2014 Men's & Women's Doubles

North London Optimist Community Centre, London, Ontario

No registration until March 2014. Contact Ken Twilley

pickleballlondon@gmail.com

4th Annual 2014 Saanich Recreational Pickleball Tournament

June 13-15, 2014 at G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre, 3100 Tillicum Road,
Victoria, BC.

Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, 65+ Mixed Doubles
and Men and Women's Singles.

Current IFP rules.

Check out more at victoriapickleball.blogspot.ca.

Register at www.saanich.ca or 250-475-5400

The Bill Franzman Annual Co-Ed Round Robin Tournament

Saturday, June 14, 2014

Mount Boucherie School Gymnasium 2751 Cameron Road, West
Kelowna. Registration forms and full details will be available soon.

Pickleball Canada National Open Championship

July 4 - 6, 2014 at Abbotsford Recreation Centre

Abbotsford, B.C.

21 events including Men's, Women's Singles,
Doubles and Mixed Doubles and Junior Doubles.

Current IFP rules apply. PCO Sanctioned (Tier 1)

For tournament registration info: www.pickleballcanada.org





COME CAMP AT CLUB SHUSWAP .

2 day pickleball tourney in Salmon Arm July 12 & 13 th. RV sites are available near the clubhouse.

Contact Linda Brown for further information uffdamay@telus.net

For further detail and registration information check out the April edition of the PCO newsletter



2014 Alberta Open Pickleball Championships

July 18-20 - Oakridge Community Association, Calgary, AB. PCO Sanctioned and IFP Rules

Men's doubles, Women's doubles, Mixed doubles all skill levels and Open events. Cost \$45/person for first division and \$20 for each additional division.

Entry deadline is July 4th with an early bird draw if registered by June 18, 2014 For more info and to register 2014ABOpenPB@gmail.com



2nd Annual 3.5+ Outdoor Pickleball Tournament

Paddlewheel Park, Vernon, BC

July 26, 2014 10:00 - 3:00 (approx)

7 games, 7 partners, 1 play-off game

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

The countdown begins! May 17th marks 117 days to go to the 2014 BC Senior Games, August 27-30th in Langley, BC

Upcoming BC Senior Games

Pickleball is Featured



Langley 2014
BC Seniors Games
Everyone Wins!

Check it out at:

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

The countdown begins! May 17th marks 100 days to go to the 2014 Canada 55+ Games, August 27-30th in Strathcona County, Alberta.



PRESENTING SPONSOR **Coca-Cola**

<http://www.canada55plusgames.com>



Pickleball Around the World



PACK YOUR PADDLE. SPAIN IS WAITING...

Introducing the Madrid & Central Spain Pickleball Tour

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

We invite you to immerse yourself in the passion, beauty and magic of Spain on a unique 10-day escorted adventure. You'll experience a behind-the-scenes look into Spain's rich history and culture combined with a chance to play pickleball almost every day of the tour. We'll be based in the vibrant capital of MADRID, home to the Royal Palace and the Prado Museum. We'll venture off on day-trips to three fascinating cities that are all UNESCO World Heritage Sites: TOLEDO, known as the "city of the three cultures"; SEGOVIA with its gothic cathedral and Roman aqueduct; and SAN LORENZO DE EL ESCORIAL with its 16th century royal monastery.

Plenty of Pickleball

We'll begin most of our mornings with a few hours of pickleball in which you'll have unique opportunities to play against and

interact with Spanish pickleball players.

Viva Pickleball Coaches

We'll have a pickleball expert on each tour conducting strategy and technique clinics, adapting to the level of players on the tour. Our coaches are passionate about teaching the game and experienced in giving clinics and demos throughout the country. Our coaches are: [Chris Thomas](#) (Sept 3-12, 2014 Tour) and [Timothy Nelson](#) (Sept 18-27, 2014 Tour).

Who's Invited?

Players of all levels are welcome! So are non-playing spouses, partners and friends, as the tour offers a wide range of excursions and activities that non-pickleball-playing travelers will thoroughly enjoy.

Space Is Limited

Each tour is limited to only 35 travelers to ensure you get to know and interact with everyone on the trip.

Watch "Viva Spain Pickleball Tour" Video

<http://vivapbtours.com/watch-video>

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Pickleball News Coast to Coast

News from the Association Quebecoise de Pickleball

Claude Gauthier, Provincial Ambassador for Pickleball Canada, has put a lot of time and energy into showcasing pickleball provincially and nationally. He has published a fine provincial newsletter for May which can be accessed at:

www.associationquebecoisedepickleball.com

Nationally, Claude has approached Participaction, a Canadian organization that supports the view of every day active living. They have agreed to write an article about AQP for their web site and introduce pickleball on their Twitter site. A great link will be created with AQP at:

www.participaction.com

On the homefront Claude has linked up with pickleball instructor, Mr. Real Lalonde, from the City of Granby.

Mr. Lalonde was trained by Mr. Dennis Forbes and Mr. Mark Friedenberg, top ranking players and instructors from the USA. Real plays with a group of 40 players in Granby who get together 4 times each week.

Claude would also like to announce that starting May 25, every Sunday until September 28th, Camping Lac des Pins will offer introductory pickleball. Paddles and balls will be available for new players to purchase. Good Pickleball!

Having Fun! Summertime!

Submitted by Claude Gauthier, President AQP and Pickleball Ambassador, PCO

ONE WAY TO TRY AND KEEP ALL LEVELS OF PLAY HAPPY

CHALLENGES

At our Whitby @ Brooklin Pickleball League, we started what we call "Challenges" to help with the common situation of dealing with different levels of play in our League. We've been doing this successfully for 3 years and have shared it with other clubs. It basically allows players to pick their partners and opponents for 2 non-consecutive 15 min games during the



timeframe of your session. During your 15 minutes on the Challenge court, it is your choice if you play as many games to 11 as you can in that timeframe; play games to 15; or just keep playing and keeping score until the time runs out. Our sessions are 2 3/4 hour long, so we have general play on all 3 courts for the first hour, and then the Challenges start at the 2nd hour on one court for the remainder of the time. You must be on time for your Challenge; no one can sub for you in your Challenge; and you can't leave a game that you are playing to go and play your scheduled Challenge. This means that (continued on next page)

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sometimes, you need to take your paddle out of the regular rotation and wait for your Challenge; thus, you could possibly miss 1 game of regular play while waiting. However, the fun and challenge of playing with people of your own ability or higher outweighs this short delay in your continuous play. If no one signs up for a Challenge for a particular time, that court becomes free for the regular rotation. Trust me! This will rarely happen since all levels can set up their own games and compete in fairly matched games. It's the "early bird catches the worm" philosophy re: signing up for the Challenges. People get there earlier to sign up; you get to start

on time; and they can help you with setup! Bonus!

For more information, please contact caroldoughty1@yahoo.com or phone 905. 668. 2301.

Submitted by Carol Doughty, Convenor for Whitby @ Brooklin and Kingsway Ladders



**Canadian Suppliers to
the greatest game with
the strangest name!**

Grant Brittain
604-768-8657
pickleballinternational.com

Planning a Trip to Sunny Alberta?

Why not take in the 2nd Annual Alberta Open Pickleball Championships in Calgary, July 18-20th, 2014. Bev Walker and Kevin Doucet, on behalf of the Calgary Pickleball Club, extend an invitation to pickleball players of all skill levels to register. They have been working hard to organize this popular event, which also includes a BBQ social on Saturday night, brought back by popular demand. This tournament is a skill based, Pickleball Canada sanctioned event and will follow IFP rules. Games will be played at the beautiful Oakridge Community Association. You can even win a Steve Wong 'Signature' paddle and matching ball cap if you enter the early bird registration draw by June 18, 2014. Bev and Ken hope to 'see you on the courts' for loads of fun and healthy competition!

Check out the Upcoming Tournaments page for details.

Please re-new or join PICKLEBALL CANADA

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



Pay with Pay Pal
Check the Web Site

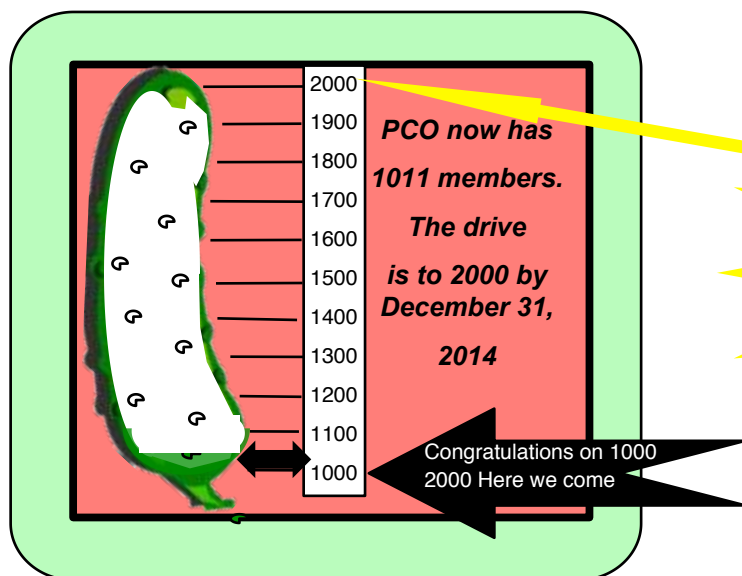
PICKLEBALL CANADA ORGANIZATION
10823 – 82 AVENUE, EDMONTON, ALBERTA, T6E 2B2

MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR PICKLEBALL CANADA
New/re-new membership rates are:
One year \$12.00
Three years \$32.00
Five years \$50.00



Pay with Pay Pal
Check the Web Site

Club Group Rates available (20 members min.), contact: president@pickleballcanada.org



NEW GOAL
*2000 Members by
December 31,
2014*

Your Board Of Directors

Dave Shepherd, President-email:

president@pickleballcanada.org

Garth Merkeley, VP & Ambassadors - email:

gmerkeley@shaw.ca

Shirley Shepherd, Secretary - email:

shirleyshepherd@shaw.ca

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psimon@staff.ednet.ns.ca

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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

Que - Claude Gauthier claudetlyne@yahoo.ca

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

Question: Team A hits the ball over the net. The ball lands and

spins back over the net back to team A's side before either of the Team B players hits the ball. Who gets the point - Team A or Team B.

Answer: Team A gets the point.

Know the rules and become a better player!

