

MINUTES

Annual General Meeting of the Members of
PICKLEBALL CANADA ORGANIZATION
("Pickleball Canada" or the "Corporation") held
via UberConference on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 3:00
PM (Pacific time).

Board Members:

Bill MacGregor Bryna Kopelow Carolyn Stevens Deanna Hanes France
Emery Jim Parrott Karen Rust Karen Wallace Kirk Jensen Pat Morrison
Robert Hogue Rose Sawatzky Tony Casey Phil Greenwood (Regrets)

General Members:

Dennis Tomkinson	Glen Hudson	David Penkman
Elaine Roy	Joseline Sikorski	Janet Bradshaw
Bev Walker	Garand Jones	Doug Thomson
Brenda Feser	Richard Chambers	Carla Anderson
Ray Keroack	Michael Gauthier	Bruce Eburne
Rhonda Stoner	Dave Harris	Bob Hodgins
Bob Betts	Randy Dove	Dave Best
Ray Basler	Gail Prior	Ted Sherback
Annette Happel	Linda Jeffries	Gerald Theriault
Geoff Orr	Albert Fong	Fiona MacGregor
Sandra Stokes	Janet Martini	Murray Shaw
Peter Milovanovic	Dave Ealey	John Cameron
John Davis	Graeme Leney	Bob Hodgins
Bob Hodgins	Alex Stojkov	Anne Evans
Reg Lakeness	Luc Germain	John Honsberger
Jae Eadie	Marilyn Barrington	Donna Loran
Lorie Cooper	Sara McInnes	Steve Pinney
Alex Stojkov	Mary Madeley	Rod Williams
Ted Sherback	Cara Button	

And 34 others (name not provided and non-members)

a) CALL TO ORDER AND APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY

At 3:00 PM. (Pacific time), (Jim Parrott), (President) of the Corporation, calls the meeting to order.)

President:

"Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Members of Pickleball Canada. We'll start off with the formal business portion of the meeting and upon its completion we will have brief presentations to update Members on a number of important items."

"For the purposes of this meeting, unless I otherwise state, when I refer to Members, I am referring to the members of Pickleball Canada. I also welcome any guests who may be on the call."

"The meeting will now come to order, and I will request Karen Wallace to act as Secretary of the meeting. My name is Jim Parrott, President of Pickleball Canada and I will act as Chair of the Meeting."

"I thank each of you for taking the time to attend today's Meeting. The Board sincerely appreciates your interest in the affairs of Pickleball Canada."

"The only item of business requiring a vote - election of Directors - has already been voted on by Members using the Voting Form and information provided this past week and as part of the AGM material, all communicated to Members via email."

"Each member was entitled to one vote per person."

"During the formal part of the Meeting, any Member with a question on a specific item of business is welcome to ask it at the end of the formal part as all phones will be muted to prevent any background noise. All will be unmuted at the end of the formal session."

"Please note that only Members are entitled to speak in connection with the formal items of business to be dealt with today."

"When asking a question, I request that in order to assist in correctly recording the proceedings, you state your full name and province and territory."

President:

"The notice calling this meeting, items to be acted upon and voting information and access to the voting form were emailed to the members via the Pickleball Canada National System."

"I now table before the Meeting, the Notice of Annual General Meeting of Members and Items to be Acted Upon - the Agenda , the Voting Information Form and the Fiscal 2020 Financial Statement that will be reviewed and discussed later in the Meeting."

b) DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

President:

"Pursuant to the by-laws of Pickleball Canada, a quorum for the transaction of business at this meeting is at least ten (10) persons in attendance, each being a Member."

"There are electronically present at this meeting at least ten registered Members."

"This will be filed with the records of this Meeting."

c) APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEER

President:

“Richard Chambers has acted as Scrutineer for the voting and will act as Scrutineer and Parliamentarian for the meeting.”

d) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President:

“The Agenda was provided with the Notice of Meeting and has been previously tabled.”

Fiona MacGregor moved that discussion about the Coaching Program be added to the agenda. Alex Stojkov seconded the motion.

Deanna Hanes asked for clarification whether the addition to the agenda was for discussion or for a motion – President clarified the addition was for discussion.

Vote held on the motion to amend the agenda, carried.

e) DECLARATION OF ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

President:

“As there are no matters to be voted on at this meeting, no declarations of conflicts of interest are needed.”

President:

"As notice of the Meeting has been given and a quorum is present, I declare the Meeting as regularly called and properly constituted for the transaction of business."

f) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

President:

"The minutes of the last annual meeting of Members held on June 16, 2020 are available for inspection on the website, with the link provided in the Notice of Annual Meeting. We will dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting of Members and adopt them."

g) AUDIT

President:

"It should be noted that the Corporation has not had its statements audited as required by its Bylaws and current Sports Canada funding eligibility. These criteria remain under review by Sports Canada and until the current requirement for an audit is clarified, the high cost of audited statements, estimated to be \$10,000 per year, has been deferred. This could be reduced if Sports Canada reduced the requirement from an Audit to a "Review" engagement."

h) RECEIPT OF THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

President:

"The unaudited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 have been approved by the Board of Directors as required by its Bylaws. I am now sharing these financial statements on my screen. These statements showed that for the 2020 year, there was \$121,100 of Revenue, and \$153,800 of Expenses for a Net Loss of \$32,700 for the year and accumulated Net Assets of \$122,000. This surplus, accumulated over the last ten years, consists of a 50,000 contingency fund and 72,000 in unrestricted funds. The plan to effectively manage the unrestricted funds will be covered in the update after the formal part of the AGM.

Any questions with respect to these statements will be answered at the end of

this formal part of the meeting."

"I direct the Secretary to file, with the minutes of the Meeting, a copy of the December 31, 2020 unaudited financial statements of the Corporation. I shall consider the unaudited financial statements received by the Members as submitted to the Meeting."

i) ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

President:

"It is now in order to proceed with the election of the Directors for the ensuing year; however, I would like to make a few comments before doing so.

The maximum number of Board members is specified in the Bylaws at eighteen (18) of whom thirteen (13) are to be elected by the Members at large and five (5) of whom are to be elected or appointed by their designated Region.

Two Board members are in the second year of their terms, namely Bryna Kopelow and Tony Casey.

The Board is permitted to appoint individuals to the board to fill vacancies that may arise following an AGM and throughout the year. The appointed Directors who have expressed interest in continuing to serve on the Board, and thus on the ballot include Robert Hogue, Kirk Jensen, Jim Parrott, and Rose Sawatzky.

The Nominating Committee established pursuant to our Bylaws is charged with seeking, vetting and nominating appropriate candidates for Board positions. Based on personal contacts and qualified candidates stepping forward, one new candidate on this year's ballot has been nominated, namely Karen Rust, along with 2 Directors who have completed their terms and wish to continue to serve on the Board, namely Bill MacGregor and Karen Wallace.

As previously communicated, Bylaw 4.5 (as posted on our website) fixes a deadline of seven days prior to the AGM by which Members of the Corporation must submit Director nominations to the Corporation prior to any annual meeting of Members

and sets forth the information that a Member must include in the notice to the Corporation. I advise that four such Notices have been received by the Corporation before the deadline, namely Dave Best, Cara Button, Elaine Roy and Ted Sherback, and none after the deadline.

To summarize, the following persons have been nominated for the position of Director of the Corporation to hold office for a period of two years until the second subsequent Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Corporation:

- Dave Best**
- Cara Button**
- Robert Hogue**
- Kirk Jensen**
- Bill MacGregor**
- Elaine Roy**
- Karen Rust**
- Rose Sawatzky**
- Ted Sherback**
- Karen Wallace**
- And for a one-year term Jim Parrott, as a Director in a past president advisor role**

I now turn to Scrutineer Richard Chambers to summarize the voting. Richard Chambers: “193 votes were received, 12 were spoiled, 3 were from individuals whose membership expired and 9 voted twice. Of the 181 valid ballots, all 11 candidates are declared elected.

“As nominations have closed and the voting on this motion has occurred pursuant to the Voting Instructions and all such nominations have been approved pursuant to the voting.”

President:

I want to thank our Scrutineer Richard Chambers in his due diligence in this role, and I hereby declare all nominations voted on elected. I would like to thank the Directors for agreeing to stand for election and for overseeing the affairs of the Corporation.

I would also like to sincerely thank those Directors who are not continuing, namely Carolyn Stevens and Phil Greenwood for their service to Pickleball Canada over their terms as Directors. A special thanks goes to Carolyn Stevens for your many years of service as Treasurer. You have always provided very insightful advice.

The Board of Directors going forward consists of:

Those elected by the Members: Dave Best, Cara Button, Tony Casey, Robert Hogue, Kirk Jensen, Bryna Kopelow, Bill MacGregor, Jim Parrott, Elaine Roy, Karen Rust, Rose Sawatzky, Ted Sherback, and Karen Wallace

Those appointed by their Region: France Emery, Deanna Hanes, and Pat Morrison.

j) CONCLUSION OF MEETING

President:

As there is no further formal business to be brought before the Meeting, I ask that a motion be made to conclude the formal business of Meeting."

Bill McGregor moved to conclude the formal business part of the meeting, Rod Williams seconded.

President:

Any opposed or abstain? Hearing none, carried.

President:

Having concluded the formal business part of the meeting, we will now turn to other business – Coaching Discussion.

Discussion followed regarding Coaching.

Fiona McGregor moved that all negotiations with Tennis Canada regarding coach education be put on hold. Alex Stojkov seconded.

Vote held, motion defeated.

President:

“We now have some brief comments as an update for Members pertaining the last year and to our plans for the next 12 months. If you have any questions, please unmute your phone to ask them. We’re going to limit this section to 30 minutes to complete this meeting in a timely manner so we can hold a scheduled Board meeting.”

If we run out of time, the whole update will be posted on the website.

I will cover 18 topics as a general update on the past year and future plans.

- Funded NSO efforts
 - PCO has been working towards meeting Sport Funding and Accountability Framework (SFAF) criteria set out by Sport Canada, for funding of National Sport Organizations. 3 of 28 criteria remain to be completed:
 - Voice of the Athletes
 - Audited financial statements (as previously discussed),
 - Coaching Certification Program, approved by Coaching Association of Canada (CAC)
 - Sport Canada has recently changed their eligibility for funding criteria, from 28 down to 3:
 - Incorporated entity
 - Meet the definition of a sport
 - Be part of the international sport organization
 - Then there are more criteria that determine the amount of funding, if any, PCO might receive. PCO will be learning more about those criteria as it goes through the application process later this year.

- International Citizen
 - PCO continues to be a member of the International Federation of Pickleball (IFP). We thank Deanna Hanes for her time on the Board of IFP, representing the needs of PCO.
 - And recently joined the World Pickleball Federation. These are competing organizations, and PCO has told each that it will support each organization for the better good of the sport. Time will tell which international organization will emerge as the global leader. PCO wishes there to be only one global entity.

- PCNS

- The Pickleball Canada National System (PCNS) is up and running, with a systematic roll-out across Canada. PCNS consists of Content Management (website), Membership Management, and coming on later is Event Management and other features. All provincial and territorial organizations are on the PCNS, except for Alberta (scheduled for June 1, 2021) and Quebec (planned for summer 2021). The committee, comprised of representatives from each province and Yukon and led by Kirk Jensen, has done a phenomenal job in bringing the PCNS into production. Per Kirk, one by product is that there is increased dialogue between and among all levels, from individuals, clubs, provinces/territories to the National, which is great to see. Also, thanks to Doug Thomson and Garry Wolfe for starting this initiative.

- Ratings/Tournament/League/Ladder

- agreement with Pickleball Brackets
 - PCO is implementing Competition based vs subjective ratings, called Canadian Tournament Player Rating, which will be impacted by play in PCO sanctioned tournaments. More information on the CTPR will be posted on the PCO website.
 - Agreement offers to the PCO membership discounted pricing for tournaments, club ratings, and league and ladder play. More details will follow.
 - I'd like to thank Barry Montgomery for his knowledge in this area and for accepting the chair for this committee.

- Officiating

- Made in Canada program has been rolled out and in the process of implementation, and the IFP rule changes for 2021 have been comprehended. Many thanks to Walter Knecht, his team and Provincial leaders.

- Coaching

- The first two coaching levels have been developed: Community Initiation and Introduction to Competition, due to a Trillium Grant to Pickleball Ontario, on behalf of PCO. PCO is working on a partnership with another National Sports Organization to function as a service provider and to open the door of the Coaching Association of Canada in order for PCO to have an NCCP recognized coaching program.

- Org effectiveness

- PCO is very pleased to announce that it has recruited and hired an

Executive Director (Carla Anderson), to increase our knowledge in how the Canadian Sport industry works, and how PCO's voice as a relatively new sport can be heard. Carla will also be responsible for selected strategic initiatives and various aspects of day-to-day operations. The Human

Resources committee, led by Tony Casey, conducted a very thorough search and selection process.

- Strategic Planning

- PCO's strategic plan covers 2021 – 2023 and has identified 23 key initiatives, focused on Govern, Grow and Develop. Our vision includes becoming an ideal NSO, and being player-centric and official-centric. Running a sports organization takes a lot of effort and budget in order to move our sport forward. Thus, the PCO Board manages its resources in the best interests of the sport and its members. Business relationships are targeted for that purpose. Also planned is a systematic spending down of the cash position. Included in the balance was the membership fee increase of \$5, which was studied closely before implementing. The Strategic Plan driving all of our initiatives is located on the PCO website. Tony Casey has done an excellent job in guiding our organization through this process.

- Enhanced Communications

- PCO has a very active communications group, responsible for Newsletters, social media, press releases, and general communication strategies to keep the membership and general public aware of new and emerging items of interest in our sport. Many thanks to Rhonda Stoner and Linda Jefferies.

- Youth

- Youth is our future, and our Youth group, led in part by Elaine Roy, is setting up actionable plans to assist in the instruction of children, either in schools or clubs, and to grow the youth segment of our membership. Our sport is an excellent way to enhance the physical literacy of children, and adults.

- Insurance

- PCO is one of the few NSOs that offer insurance for its members and clubs and Directors/Officers. This is considered a very valuable benefit for the members and we are thankful to prior administrations for making this a reality, and to Ted Sherback for keeping our policies cutting edge for sports organizations.

- Policies

- PCO is in the process of modifying and updating policies to align with

Safe Sport best practices, and to be Equity-Diversity-Inclusion friendly. The Policy committee, led by Karen Wallace, has done great work in researching best practices along with current legislative requirements.

- EDIB

- In the area of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, we have Bryna Kopelow, who is an expert in this field, leading our EDI initiatives, which are intended to be fused into everything we do. When the pickleball environment is more equitable, diverse and inclusive, everyone will feel a sense of belonging. Thus we/Bryna added a B to the acronym, now EDIB.

- Club Support

- PCO is actively engaging club representatives across Canada to gather best practices for all things club related, from setting up a club organization, to banking, to running programs. Pat Morrison is leading this initiative. Club level and drop-in play are the grass roots of our organization and where most of our members enjoy the sport.

- Translation

- As a sport organization at the national level, we need to serve the whole country and make sure all of our official documents and website content are adequately written in both official languages. To that end, I would like to thank Manon Lussier, Robert Hogue, Isabelle Gauthier, Sandra Cloutier and Karen Rust for their efficient and timely translations into French and corrections to the English versions. Personally J'apprends le français, lentement mais sûrement.

- Membership

- COVID has been upon the world for about a year and a half. Throughout that time, pickleball play has been affected in some manner throughout Canada. Pickleball membership has either held steady or just recently slightly decreased. One could expect more of a decrease, but interestingly enough pickleball has been viewed as a somewhat safer physical and social activity for Canadians, even outdoors in the coldest of winter. While play is either suspended or decreased, the PCO Board and volunteer chairs have been continuing to work at initiatives, so that when some new level of normal emerges we won't be behind, support and initiative wise.

- Current Financial Budget

- The 2021 budget was driven by the strategic planning process, resulting in the following:

- Revenue of 182,000
- Expenses of 193,800
- For a net deficit of 11,600
 - PCO's cash position at the end of 2020 was approx. 122,000, of which 50,000 is restricted as a contingency fund, leaving 72,000 unrestricted. PCO is planning to run at a deficit for a few years to spend down the unrestricted in a systematic and logical fashion. The spend down rate will be monitored regularly and annually during the budget planning process.
 - A big thank you to Carolyn Stevens for keeping track and documenting our finances.

- Ideal NSO

- One of our strategic initiatives is to become an ideal NSO, as described in published papers by Canadian Sport for Life Society. We will strive to maintain an organizational focus that is centric to players, coaches and officials. Another element is developing strategic partnerships and alliances. We are proud to announce that PCO and House of Sport have entered into an agreement whereby PCO now has a presence in their facility, along with numerous other NSOs. The host facility, RA Centre, also announced that they are creating a dedicated pickleball facility within the complex. This is a clear sign that companies, organizations and municipalities are realizing the popularity of our sport and are creating spaces to accommodate our players.

President:

“Any further questions or comments?”

The whole update will be posted on the website.

"Thank you for attending the Meeting."

Meeting ended at 4:51 pm Eastern