



Meeting of NATIONAL PICKLEBALL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 6:00 PM, ET

Via Video Conference

Discussion Notes

NPAC MEMBERS			
James Gilpin (Yukon)	Regrets	Christian Duchesne (Quebec)	Present
David Snell (British Columbia)	Regrets	Marie Camille Roussel (New Brunswick)	Present
Jill Richard (Alberta)	Regrets	Leonard Lye (Newfoundland and Labrador)	Present
Colin McAllister (Saskatchewan)	Regrets	Donald Johnston (Nova Scotia)	Present
Ted Fardoe (Manitoba)	Present	Doris Dunphy (Prince Edward Island)	Present
Daphne Reid (Ontario)	Regrets	Val Vollmin (PCO)	Present
Ronald Marion (PCO)	Present	Wendy Pattenden (PCO)	Present
Dex Wyse (Saskatchewan)	Present		
PCO STAFF			
Barry Petrachenko			Present
Nuri Kim			Present
Elizabeth Werner			Present

*NOTE: Motions appear in **Bold Italics**, Action Items appear in **Green Font***

Call to Order

V. Vollmin called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm ET. She mentioned that this meeting will have some presentations from different Departments around some initiatives they are doing. Motions are carried.

Governance Review - Wendy Pattenden, Ron Marion

- Governance review team has shared powerpoint beforehand the meeting
- Discussion for today is Framing the PCO compliance issue - This has been presented in the previous meeting in November
- Wendy Pattenden prepared two questions for the panel to answer their thoughts and input. All the members answered through the poll and results will be passed to the government review team
 - Question 1: What are the top 3 most important topics that will be the future mandate for NPAC (How can we ensure effective two-way communication and discussions?)
 - Input 1: Hector Campbell highlighted the importance of having pickleball-specific policies and practices
 - Wendy ended this discussion noting the need to determine the future direction of these meetings and how to structure them going forward
 - Question 2: Do we have your support to move forward with the proposed amendment change to the bylaws rendering officers and directors of PTSOs ineligible to be elected as Directors of Canada? (Are you in support of reducing the board to 12 members and eliminating the regional director position?)
 - The results were fairly balanced
 - Input 1: Christian expresses Quebec's position against eliminating provincial board members from the PCO board, as it could impact expertise
 - Input 2: Marie-Camille and others agree, arguing that regional realities differ across Canada, the number 12 is approvable but regional representatives are needed.
 - Input 3: Don agrees with the previous comments. He suggests keeping the current 17-member board structure instead of reducing it to 12, as articles allow changing that number.
 - Input 4: Doris also thinks the regional representative is needed in the Atlantic area.
 - Input 4: Ted proposes maintaining regional directors if their removal would diminish regional representation.
 - Wendy summarizes and suggests that 12 as a board member and 5 as a regional representative.
- The group explores alternative mechanisms like a council or committee for regional input, but stresses it must have decision-making power.
- Barry explains that diversity, including regional representation, is a Sport Canada requirement that the nominating committee would need to ensure for the board composition.

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- Wendy and Ron will return to their governance committee to discuss the feedback received and potential options and give an update.

Insurance update

- Elizabeth Werner gave a presentation outlining the renewal of Pickleball Canada's insurance program. This presentation material has been sent out to the members before the meeting.
- Neil Hogg discussing the introduction of two coverage projects for 2025 for PTSO Directors and officers
- Working with several carriers to develop a more comprehensive directors and officers policy, which would include PTSO and potentially club level coverage.
- This project is in its early stages, with underwriting application forms and financial statements needed from interested parties.
- Similar project for cyber liability, with quotes coming in from interested markets
- These projects aim to provide better coverage at a lower cost by leveraging the collective power of the group
- Don raised a concern about the lack of insurance coverage for medical personnel at sanctioned tournaments, which led to some doctors not participating in Nationals last year.
- Neil clarified that medical professionals are usually covered by their own professional liability insurance, and it's not within the scope of Pickleball Canada's insurance program to provide this coverage
- Barry suggested that an insurance bulletin could be issued to clarify the situation

Tournament Sanctioning

- Currently Pickleball Bracket had a significant change and had some Technology issues.
- Pickleball Canada is aware of the problem and working with Pickleball Brackets.
- Barry Peteachenko presented a new subsidy program for provincial and sanctioned tournaments with the goal of enhancing events and strengthening relationships with provinces. The memo has been sent out before the meeting

Nationals

- Barry announced the new concepts coming to nationals soon: Youth, Para, Province competition
- Ted introduced a plan for a new provincial team competition at the national championships. It still the first draft stage, the details could be changed
- Marie -Camile came up with concerns regarding the financial aspect that the provincial organization doesn't have enough funding for this competition.
- Pickleball Canada acknowledges these concerns and aims to work with provinces to make it viable long-term.
- A decision and communication will go out by end of January
- Pickleball Canada will launch an ambassador program utilizing social media ambassadors across the country to increase outreach.

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Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm ET.

Next meeting: TBD

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