

Pickleball Canada News Updates



Latest Updates from
Pickleball Canada

2026 Special General Meeting

On February 26, 2026, Pickleball Canada held a Special General Meeting where members exercised their voting rights to strengthen the organization's governance framework and long-term stability.

All six proposed bylaw amendments were approved with strong support from the membership. These changes mark an important step forward as Pickleball Canada continues to modernize its governance structure and position the organization for sustainable growth.

The approved amendments will benefit members by:

- Reducing annual Board turnover and establishing three-year terms for directors, resulting in approximately one-third of the Board being elected each year and improving continuity and retention of organizational knowledge.
- Amending the election process to recognize the importance of the vetting process conducted by the Nominations Committee.
- Formalizing the role of National Pickleball Advisory Council (NPAC) and establish the NPAC within the Bylaws.

These bylaw amendments further support the NPAC in its role of fostering strong relationships among national, provincial, and territorial pickleball organizations. The amendments will also guide the nominations process for the 2026 Annual General Meeting (AGM), scheduled for June 25, 2026.

Additional details regarding the AGM will be shared in the coming months.

SNACK LOUD, CHEER PROUD!



Fun fact: Neal Brothers is running a huge contest! There has been so much going on in the sporting world; so much to cheer for. What's cheering on your favourite team or athlete without snacks? Head to your local retailer and scan the QR code to enter our Snack Loud, Cheer Proud! contest, where you could win one of many prizes! Here are a few participating retailers:

- Nature's Emporium
- Stongs
- Nature's Fare
- Big Carrot (Danforth)
- Healthy Planet
- TAU
- Highland Farms

Don't see your retailer here? Send us a message on Instagram and we'll connect you with your nearest participating store!

Pickleball Canada is focused on delivering Commitments and Desired Outcomes of the Pickleball Canada Strategic Plan. Below is the summary of what has been accomplished since our last report:

Growth

Membership Benefits

Sanctioned Tournament Subsidy Program

Tournament season is underway and 25 tournaments in January have already been sanctioned. Make sure yours is next!

When you sanction your event, you receive:

- Up to a \$600 subsidy toward tournament expenses
- Listing on the official Sanctioned Tournament Calendar
- Use of the official Sanctioned logo for promotion
- General liability insurance coverage
- Increased participation and national recognition
- Higher DUPR reliability scores for players

Sanction your tournament today to secure your subsidy and be part of Canada's growing, high-quality tournament network.

Want to learn more about this program? Reach out to us at tournaments@pickleballcanada.org



Tournament Director Webinars Series Launched

This January, Pickleball Canada, in partnership with Pickleball.com, launched a new webinar series created specifically to support Tournament Directors across the country.

The first session, held on January 20, featured a live Q&A with one of Pickleball.com's lead team members. The discussion focused on answering common system questions, reviewing recent platform updates, and providing practical guidance to help Tournament Directors manage their events more efficiently. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions directly and gain valuable insight into system tools and best practices.

The next webinar will be held on March 24 at 7:00 PM ET.

Tournament Directors interested in participating in upcoming sessions and future Q&As are encouraged to reach out to info@pickleball.com for more information.



Franklin Sports Signs the World's No. 1 Pickleball Player Anna Leigh Waters to a Long-Term Partnership.



Waters has chosen to compete with new iterations of Franklin's award-winning C45° Carbon Fiber Paddle technology. The multi-thermoformed C45° carbon weave has firmly established itself as the leading technology on the professional circuit. She will be working closely with Franklin Sports to co-design a signature line of products including pickleball paddles, pickleball bags, and pickleball accessories.

Pathways

Program Support

Officiating

Interested in Becoming a Pickleball Canada Referee/Official?

Are you passionate about pickleball and eager to play a key role in the sport's growth? Pickleball Canada is inviting individuals to take the first step toward becoming an accredited Level 1 official. By submitting your expression of interest, you'll be connected with our team and guided through the next steps on the officiating pathway.

[Submit Your Interest Here](#)



Coach Education

Why Align Your Coaching with the NCCP?

Aligning your coaching structure with the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) ensures you meet Canada's recognized national standard for coach education and development.

Administered by the Coaching Association of Canada, the NCCP governs certification across nationally recognized sports, representing the highest benchmark of coaching excellence, professionalism, and ethical practice in the country.

When a club or organization aligns with the NCCP, it's not just about checking a box. It's about joining a unified national movement that places coach education, athlete safety, inclusion, and ethical leadership at the heart of sport development.

For the sport of pickleball, Pickleball Canada recognizes only one official coaching pathway: the NCCP done through the TPA. This ensures consistency in standards, quality of instruction, and alignment with Canada's national sport framework.

If you're ready to elevate your coaching and become part of the nationally recognized system, make sure to find a clinic near you please visit: <https://pickleballcanada.org/coaching/pickleball-coach-education/>





At Nothers, we believe recognition should feel just as meaningful as the achievement itself. From hard-fought rallies to the dedication it takes to grow the game, excellence in pickleball deserves to be celebrated in a way that reflects the grit, hard work, and passion behind every point played.

As the official awards supplier of Pickleball Canada, we're proud to support the community with custom awards designed to honour players, volunteers, and tournament milestones. Pickleball Canada members also receive access to exclusive member benefits, making it even easier to celebrate the moments that matter most.

To learn more about the Pickleball Canada Member Benefit Program, connect with Ruth Harland at ruth@nothers.com or 1-800-265-1554.

Organization

Pickleball Canada's Roll Out Court Unveiling at the Toronto Golf & Travel Show

From Friday, January 30 to February 1, Pickleball Canada was proud to take part in the Toronto Golf & Travel Show!

For the first time, we unveiled our portable roll-out courts, made possible through our partners at Pickleball Management Group and they were a huge hit. The courts looked incredible and created a dynamic, professional space where attendees of all ages could step on court, try pickleball, and learn a few tips from our team.

A special thank you to Pickleball Ontario for helping bring this experience to life, and to our valued partners HearingLife, who hosted a "Pickleball Starter Kit" giveaway, and Club Med, who offered an unforgettable 7-night stay at one of their North American destinations.

We loved introducing so many new faces to the sport and showcasing how exciting and accessible pickleball can be.

