

## WELCOME TO PICKLEBALL AT THE COMOX COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Comox Community Centre offers a variety of pickleball sessions for beginner to advanced players as well everyone welcome times. Rankings are based on the International Federation of Pickleball - [www.ipickleball.org](http://www.ipickleball.org)

### BEGINNING PLAYERS ~ 2.5 players and lower; Step One:

- 40 years and up.
- Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM normally 4 courts.  
You are encouraged to take advantage of this time to learn the basics of the game (scoring, serve, ground strokes and volley) and to meet other beginning players. Informal instruction is provided most Tuesdays and Thursdays and equipment is available.
- Bench system: first 2 players in line. EACH chooses a partner from those *sitting* on the bench.
- Score keeping: rally/electric scoring; see explanation further down in this document. At 11:45 AM if there are fewer than 8 players on the bench you have the option of normal scoring or stay with electric scoring.
- Player Development: once all courts are set up; 1 court will be designated as a training court for 15 mins. This will allow for skill development.

### INTERMEDIATE PLAY ~ 2.5 and up, Step Two:

- 40 years and up.
- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 1:00 to 3:00 PM.  
This time is for players consistent in serving, returning and volleying and knowing the rules of the game.
- Bench system: Due to the ever increasing numbers of players at this level the bench system works as the following: Gold and Silver system. Note: *At the start everyone gets to play before the gold and silver system is put in place.* There will be two benches a gold and silver. When a game ends the winners go to the end of gold bench the others to the end of the silver. There will be a Baton (wooden paddle) that will be held by the bench that is due to go on next. Once a court opens; the side with the Baton will go on the court. The baton will be passed to the other bench. The first 2 players in line; EACH chooses a partner from those *sitting* on their bench. Gold only picks gold and silver only picks silver. Once there are 8 or fewer on both benches both groups and baton is on the gold side both benches combine. The first 2 players EACH chooses a partner from those *sitting* on the bench.
- Score keeping: rally/electric scoring; see explanation further down in this document. At 1:15 PM if there are fewer than 8 players on the bench you have the option of normal scoring or stay with electric scoring.

### ADVANCED PLAYERS ~ 3.5 and up, Step Three:

- 19 years and up.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:15 to 3:00 PM.
- Advanced players should have dependable strokes and with directional and control, aggressive net play, show teamwork in doubles and use of the short game (dink and drop shot) as part of the game strategy. Players who feel they are ready to play at an advanced level are invited to come out to evaluate their own skill level to determine if they are competitive at this level.
- Bench system: and scoring is decided by the group during their play time.

### EVERYONE WELCOME PLAY:

- 14 years and up.
- Mondays 7:30-9:30pm 2 courts only, Saturday 1:00 to 3:00 4 courts.
- Bench system: first 2 players in line EACH chooses a partner from those *sitting* on the bench.  
Score keeping: rally/electric scoring; see explanation further down in this document. At 15 mins pass the scheduled start time, if there are fewer than 8 players on the bench you have the option of normal scoring or stay with electric scoring.
- Additional times maybe be offered; contact the Community Centre for more information.

### SCORING:

Rally/ Electric Scoring: In this method a point is scored whether your team is serving or receiving. The side that wins the rally wins the point. The first team to 15 points is the winner.

Normal Scoring: In this method a point is scored only when the serving team wins the rally. The first team to 11 points is the winner.

### PAYING AND PLAYING:

- The Community Centre is closed on statutory holidays. From time to time pickleball sessions are cancelled to accommodate special events.
- Sessions admissions are limited; generally sessions max 32 with 4 courts and max 16 with 2 courts.
- Admissions go on sale 30 minutes before each session, one per person; once the limit is reached no more admissions are sold. If the list is full and you arrive late you can check to see if anyone has left and the numbers are below the max.

For information on the Comox Valley pickleball community visit [www.cvpickleball.ca](http://www.cvpickleball.ca)

- Printable schedule of venues and playtime, Updates, Playing tips, Coming events, Cancellations, Link to International Federation of Pickleball rankings
- Newsletter: You must be a member of the Comox Valley Pickleball Association to receive this newsletter. Membership is \$10.00 for the calendar year and may be purchased from any board member (listed on the website).

### QUESTIONS or CONCERNS:

- Contact the Comox Community Centre at 250-339-2255 or visit [www.comox.ca](http://www.comox.ca) regarding drop-in schedules and admission rates.
- Contact a member of the board or drop in during playtimes to discuss the CV Pickleball Association, game play, strategies and skills.

Comox Community Centre  
1855 Noel Ave  
Comox, BC  
250-339-2255  
[info@comox.ca](mailto:info@comox.ca)  
[www.comox.ca/recreation](http://www.comox.ca/recreation)

