

May 2024 Newsletter



Presidents Message

Hi everyone, it has been a great start to our spring season with the weather cooperating and the courts throughout the valley being fully utilized. There is lots going on for the CVPA as we start the new outdoor season. We just completed the 7th Annual Comox Valley Indoor Pickleball Tournament at the Base this past weekend. By all accounts it was once again a great success. We had a record number of participants coming from all over Vancouver Island and the mainland. This is the CVPAs major fundraiser for the year which we would never be able to pull off without the effort of dozens of volunteers.

The Facilities Committee is currently working with the players at Martin Park and the City of Courtenay to look at repairing the cracks. Stay tuned for updates on that. Also we have some improvements coming at the Rotary Highland Courts which have been approved by the Township of Comox. They will be installing a misting pole and fountain in May and expecting to complete the paving of the path around the court in June.

The board has approved an outdoor Club tournament (CVPA members only) to be held in August at the Rotary Highland courts. Additional information will be coming out as we nail down dates, format, etc.

Training and clinics are starting up. Joe is once again running his Sunday beginner classes and Tuesday's Skills and Drills. Further information is available on the website and at the Rotary Highland outside Shadow Box (Bulletin Board on the shed).

Other lessons have been difficult to organize compared to previous years as the courts are so busy and we don't want to remove actual play times by reserving them for lessons. Our solution appears to be booking the Comox Valley Sports Centre (back parking lot entrance) Ice Surface #2 (six indoor courts) and holding clinics there. We have it currently booked for four separate sessions and those times and clinic descriptions will be available shortly on the website. Sign up will be through the paypal system on the CVPA website. There will be a small charge for these clinics to cover the cost of Ice Surface rental.

Enjoy your pickleball and spending time with your friends on the courts.

Have a great May.

[Upcoming Events](#)

Summer Fun Play Day

Back by popular demand!! The club will be hosting a fun and somewhat crazy playday at the end of June. The tentative date is Saturday, **June 29th at the Rotary Highland courts**. There will be some “alternate” courts that will likely challenge your idea of pickleball and hopefully offer all of some smirks, squeaks and giggles.

Fun prizes, some delicious snacks and possibly other unexpected surprises to make the event out of the ordinary and lots of fun.

Keep your eye on the Facebook Page and the Club website for further information about registration, times of play, fees and other information.

If you are interested in being part of the organization team, or just helping out in some way, please contact me at kolmatycki@shaw.ca

Strathcona Gardens Indoor Doubles Pickleball Tournament – June 1 & 2 2024

Cost: \$60.00 registration fee per pair.

Location: Strathcona Gardens
Recreation Complex.

Rod Brind 'Amour Arena floor.

225 S Dogwood, V9W 8C8,

Campbell River, B.C.

NOTE a 4.0 women's category has been added



To register, call 250-830-6777 or visit the link below:

<https://www.strathconagardens.com/all-programs/arena-programs/pickleball/>

[Comox Valley 7th Annual Indoor Pickleball Tournament](#)

The 7th Annual Comox Valley Indoor Pickleball Tournament held on May 4th and 5th was a resounding success.

With a record number of players in attendance there was some great pickleball played and lots of competitive fun to be had by everyone. Our CVPA members did very well winning multiple medals (see the link below for results) and the emails continued to come in from players saying what a great event it was, always mentioning the amazing food that our volunteer crew put together.



The tournament is the CVPA's largest fundraiser of the year and thanks to the many hours put in by our volunteers we once again reached our financial target. - Rod Hamilton CVPA President

Tournament results can be found on the CVPA website here: [CVPA Tournament Results](#)

All the tournament photos can be found here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/cvpickleball/albums/72177720316770596/>

CVPA Tournament continued...

Thank you to Kerry Dawson of Kerry [Dawson Photography](#) for spending the weekend capturing all the action.

I would like to take this time to sincerely thank everyone who helped in the kitchen, during our May tournament at the Comox Air Base Recreation Centre. Everyone was amazing and we received many compliments on the nutritious and delicious food and excellent service the athletes received. A very huge thank you to all of you who very generously provided baked goodies and other nutritious treats.

Submitted by Social Director aka Director of Happiness & Well Being -Jane Kolmatycki

[Inter-club Play Coordinator](#)

CVPA has an Inter-Club play coordinator Chantal Rousseau and she will help coordinate play between other pickleball clubs. Chantal can be reached at roussec678@gmail.com

[Powell River Invitation for a Play Day!](#)

When: Sunday May 26th

Where: Oceanview Education Centre

Gym – 4 courts

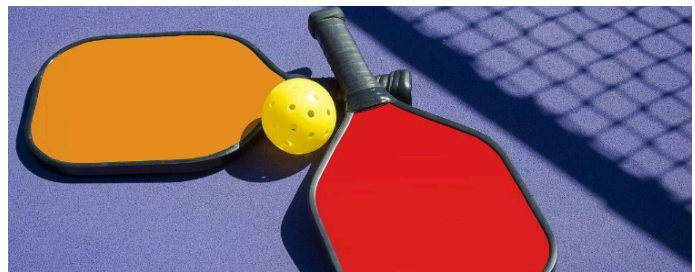
Time: Leave on the **9:55am** ferry. Powell River will arrange transportation from the ferry to the venue and return for the 5:00pm ferry.

Cost: Your foot passenger cost of the ferry

Level: 3.0-3.5 suggested

Maximum 16 players

Registration before May 19th @ pickleballcanada.org



Facilities Subcommittee Report

Looking Ahead: a dedicated “hub” facility

To borrow an old saying: “The best time to build a dedicated indoor and outdoor pickleball “hub” facility might have been 10 years ago, but the second best time is NOW.” Your CVPA facilities sub-committee is exploring the possibility of bringing just such a facility to the Comox Valley.

This passionate group of 16 has been hard at work, meeting every two weeks, since March. We are focussed on location, design, fundraising, and putting it all together in a business case that will win your support, and the support of the wider community. If Vernon and Chilliwack can do it, so can we!

What can you do? If you have experience in construction, engineering or architecture we need you! You do not have to join the committee, unless you want to – you can simply be an advisor. Contact co-chair Marie Landry if you can help: marielandry25@gmail.com

If you can help in any other way, or have a great idea or some helpful input, email co-chair Laura Ford: lmford393@gmail.com

Membership Report

Currently the CVPA membership (as of 10 May, 2024) - 585 with the breakdown of: males - 290 and females - 295. The CVPA thanks you for your support and recognition of the accomplishments of previous board members and the efforts of the current board to improve play for all pickleball players in the valley. To become a member register here. <https://secure.pickleballcanada.org/club/comox-valley-pickleball-association/1059/>

Play Times/Locations

<https://cvpickleball.ca/outdoor-play-times/>

<https://cvpickleball.ca/playtimes/>

Play Schedule Report

As most of you already know, the CVPA board is asking players to choose one level of play and stick to that choice for outdoor play. The reasons for this are many but mainly it is requested as a show of respect for all members. The courts at all our venues are at capacity and beyond, so in order to accommodate as many players as possible this step is necessary. If you wish to play more than your chosen level, you will have to organize your own play outside these club play times.

Also please note that these Suggested Play Times (SPT's) are organized and run by CVPA volunteers and are available because of the work done by the CVPA. Therefore - all players playing during these SPT's MUST be CVPA members. If you are not a member then you are considered a member of the public and therefore unable to participate in our SPT's.

To become a member register here:

<https://secure.pickleballcanada.org/club/comox-valley-pickleball-association/1059/>

If you have any questions on this please feel free to contact the CVPA at cvpa2015@gmail.com

Name Tags

Each year the CVPA submits an order for anyone wishing a name tag. Given that we are mostly a senior group, having a name tag is helpful! (I know I can't remember a name longer than 15 seconds so a name tag is less embarrassing than yelling "Hey You!")!!!

An order will be placed around the end of June so if you would like a name tag (and save the rest of us from admitting memory issues!) please let the "name tag lady" from your group know by the middle of June. The cost remains at \$15.00 (cash only) for this year.

Cumberland - Deb Houston
Martin Park - Darlene Nelson
Comox - Int A - Glenny Whelan
 - Int B - Sandra Gray
- Advanced - Susan Hawley

Coaching Tips

Drive vs Drop

There is always lots of discussion and opinion about whether to Drive the 3rd shot or use a 3rd shot Drop. The short answer is “it depends” on the return of serve and the skill level of the player.

When someone starts playing pickleball, the Drive is always easier, the 3rd shot drop is harder to master. So, what ends up happening is players tend to Drive the 3rd shot, not because it is the correct choice but because they can't effectively execute the 3rd shot drop. But this reasoning does not answer the question, which shot is best? The player simply drives because it's what they can do.

The point then becomes, you need to drill until you can do both shots equally as well so that you can select what is the best choice under each circumstance. Assuming you can hit a 3rd shot drive and a 3rd shot drop efficiently, here are some general rules:

If you Drive, it is to set up a 5th shot drop. “Drive to Drop”. Drive the 3rd ball in order to get a short ball back in return, then drop the 5th ball and get your team to the kitchen line.

All low return of serves from your opponent should be a Drop even if the ball is short. Do not Drive a ball that is in your Red Zone (below your knees). Your paddle trajectory will be upwards and the ball will go long.

The job of the serving team is to get both players to the kitchen line. A drive does not do this, a good 3rd shot Drop always does.

Keep drilling.....you need an effective 3rd shot drop in your arsenal of shots.

Paul Deeton

Earlier this month, our Pickleball community lost a true friend and mentor, Paul Deeton. Paul passed away on May 7th, and most of you will remember him as the energetic gentleman who, with Jenny Kennedy, coordinated the Intermediate A player group of the CVPA.

Although Paul has not played Pickleball for a few years, he still attended the Intermediate A group every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings all year long, keeping the group running smoothly in a Round Robin format, offering support and pointers to new and not so new players alike. He was always ready with a comment that kept us laughing or in some cases “shut us up”.

Paul was a true leader, who each week tirelessly posted the round robin, set up nets in the Lacrosse Box, kept us supplied with balls, squeegeed water from the courts in wet weather, and entertained us with an endless supply of knowledge and full doses of sarcasm.



The week prior to Paul’s passing Jenny Kennedy and Jane Kotmatycki visited Paul and presented him with a large basket of goodies and a card from CVPA offering the support of the entire organization to Paul during his health struggles. Both Paul, and his wife Iris, were very surprised and appreciative of the club’s gift and support.

During our visit Paul insisted on making sure Jenny would be ordering the best balls from the right place at the correct price for the Intermediate A group that both he and Jenny have coordinated over the last several years. Paul spent time going over the merits of the balls with her and explaining how to do the ordering! For years Paul contributed to the skill development, personal growth, and general enjoyment of so many of us who play this game. He will be greatly missed.

Comox Valley Pickleball Association Sponsors/Advertisers

The CVPA has partnered with Pickleball Paddles Canada as a CVPA sponsor. Check out their website and use code COMOX for 10% off your order.

<https://pickleballpaddlescanada.ca/>



PICKELBALL at SEA

Nov 15 -7 night Mexican Riviera Cruise

Flights from Comox

Pickleball Courts reserved on 3 sea days

Call Square 1 Travel for full details

250 334-0355 square1travel@telus.net



[Klahanie & Company - Pickleball Paddle Sales & Rentals](#)

Our mission is to be the go-to *courtside* paddle supplier for Comox Valley pickleball enthusiasts.

We aim to enhance the local pickleball experience by representing top-quality Canadian paddles for purchase, convenient rental, and "try before you buy" options.



Visit our website at <https://picklepaddles.ca/>

Contact Leanne at kleannewebster@gmail.com

Visit the Comox Valley Pickleball Association websites and social media

Comox Valley Pickleball Association Website

<https://cvpickleball.ca/>

Comox Valley Pickleball Association

<https://www.facebook.com/cvpickleball.ca>

Comox Valley Pickleball Discussion Forum

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/741799624629434>

Email

cvpa2015@gmail.com