

Delta Pickleball Assoc. Member Newsletters

Delta Pickleball November 24, 2020 Newsletter

Fellow Picklers,

This newsletter is to update Delta Pickleball Assoc. (DPA) members on what is happening with pickleball in Delta and our latest information on outdoor court bookings during Covid 19. Our primary goal is to keep our members safe while enjoying our great sport. This is a very challenging time for all British Columbians and we want to be sure we are doing all we can to keep each other healthy.

COURT VENUES:

Club Times: We now have dedicated DPA times for Cromie, Memorial, Chalmers, and Dennison thru to December 20. We will not have any time slots over the Christmas break, but will be applying for times starting in January, subject to the City of Delta Parks.

New Cromie Courts: Although construction has been completed on the new courts at Cromie Park, due to weather, the painting is incomplete and won't be finished before the spring of 2021. Therefore, they will not be available for pickleball play until that time. However, the old Cromie courts are still available and permits have been obtained.

Evening Play: DPA, in collaboration with Delta Parks, has requested permission of Delta School Board to allow us to play pickleball in the evenings at covered areas at three Delta elementary schools: Port Guichon in Ladner, South Park in Tsawwassen, and Heath in North Delta. This will give DPA members who work during the day the opportunity to play outdoors in the evenings. Play would probably commence at 4:00PM and end at 8:00PM. Details are yet to be worked out and we will keep you informed as to progress.

THE PUBLIC AND COURTESY:

Non-DPA pickleball players are often confused and uncertain when they appear at our venues and want to play pickleball. We ask all DPA members to treat public players with kindness and respect, even if it is not reciprocated. If non-DPA players are playing during your DPA booked time, please gently inform them that you have booked the court(s) and direct them to the public court(s) located at each venue. This will go a long way to maintaining good relationships with non-DPA players and avoid complaints to the City.

WEEKEND PLAY:

Weekends at our venues are our busiest times for bookings. Over half of our DPA members work during the week and, at this time of year, cannot play weekdays. For those of us who are retired, we respectfully ask that you refrain from booking times on weekends and holidays to allow our working DPA members the opportunity to play.

COVID SAFETY:

As our Covid numbers continue to rise, and risks increase, DPA strongly urges members to continue to follow our Covid 19 protocols, ESPECIALLY wearing masks and practicing social distancing at all times when not playing. We have received numerous complaints from the public concerning players standing too close together near the sidelines. We ask that you don't arrive early for your DPA booked times and you leave the area promptly after your session has concluded. Where possible, please enter and exit the courts from opposite sides.

COURT BOOKING SYSTEMS:

We are currently assessing the use of Play Time Scheduler (PTS), Power User Version, at Memorial but running into administrative issues. For the near future, we will continue to use Sign Up Genius (SUG) for Chalmers, Cromie, and Dennison. Names are required for all players so we can maintain our Contact Tracing mandate. Bookings are restricted at all facilities to:

- yourself and a maximum of 5 other guest DPA members.
- guest players first and last names to be included at time of booking - names listed as TBA are not permitted.
- maximum of 4 bookings per week per member
- maximum of once per day per member
- maximum of 7 days in advance.
- '4/week' doesn't apply to short term weekday bookings made within 12 hours of play time
- if there are others waiting, please do not use public times before or after your session.
- starting November 27, bookings for more than 5 guests or guests without names, will be removed without further notice.

SIGN UP GENIUS

For those still having problems using this system, we have put together a few 'helpful hints'. Just [click on this link](#) to review. Issues with not being able to

modify/cancel a booking are usually caused when you make a booking without logging in first.

The DPA Board wants to assure you that we are following all provincial Covid 19 protocols and we will continue to do so. Together, we can be safe and still enjoy the greatest sport in the world (apologies to all you misguided golfers)...

On behalf of the DPA Board, Don Tuck, President

Delta Pickleball September 25, 2020 Newsletter

This has been a very challenging year for everybody on and off the courts. Thank you to all members for your continued support and work to stay safe on the courts.

The Delta Pickleball Association (DPA) has seen many gains. Our new membership numbers are growing - we are currently at 365 members, slightly up from last years 358. This includes 145 new members. DPA is now either the 4th or 5th largest club in BC.

The City of Delta's new courts are nearing completion - the Cromie addition is coming along quickly while the Dennison and Chalmers courts have taken longer than expected. This is out of control of DPA. We have to be very thankful to the City of Delta and residents of the city for their continued support of pickleball. The investment by the City of Delta into this sport has benefited our members tremendously. If you get a chance, please reach out and thank them for their efforts. In order to achieve having "World Class Pickleball Facilities" we need to continue to encourage the City to help keep up with the increasing demand.

DPA have also had some conversations with the city to help us play outside over the winter. The City is going to work with us to possibly install temporary lights to some venues and consider our use of elementary school undercover areas.

As we send this newsletter out, DPA's court use permits from the city are soon to be expiring until next spring, assuming things go well with the control of COVID 19. The school board and schools have asked to use the courts periodically and if they receive permits, we must respect those times. This

information will be updated on the DPA website as well as at the individual courts.

This being said, we do want people to continue to play and be active. We ask players to continue to do this safely, remembering we all have a part to play in keeping COVID 19 in check. Remember to organize your play with COVID 19 safety protocols high in your mind. Keep in mind that these restrictions are in place for now but not forever.

Please abide by all Delta court regulations. Continue to sanitize between games, stay 6 feet away on sidelines (even wear a mask), ensure you keep a record of who attends your sessions for possible contact tracing, and ensure you partner with members of your 'trusted circle' if you want to play doubles. Respect other players' comfort levels, and stay away from courts when not feeling well.

With the end of the outdoor season approaching, DPA was not able to do as many things we wanted to do and to play the way we wanted to play. Events like tournaments were not allowed. COVID-19 forced DPA and everyone playing pickleball to do it differently from before. We may not have liked the restrictions but we did get to play the best sport on earth. We will have to keep working at this until there is a vaccine or some other drastic change in the progression of this pandemic.

The association however, did have a successful season of lessons and would like to thank Dave, Linda and Isaac for providing lessons and clinics to many players - new and experienced. We are very fortunate to have a number of qualified instructors in our association that have dedicated many hours to the skill development of our keen and eager players. At this point, scheduled lessons are over for the season. If sufficient interest still exists, weather cooperates, and times line up, we will still try to set up one or two more. If you are interested, please email your contact information, current play level, and dates/times when you are available to lessons@deltapickleball.org.

There will be some opportunities to play indoors this fall and winter. Remember this is outside the scope of DPA. Please be very respectful of the facilities and their safety protocols. South Delta Baptist church is looking at opening up, but plans have not yet been finalized. When we have information we will post it on our website. The City of Delta website <https://deltareg.ca/Start/Start.asp> has started some indoor gym times that are

now open to register. Please read the descriptions carefully, as it will be very different from previous years.

The directors of the DPA have had to struggle with many issues. COVID-19 has kept us very busy adjusting to rules and adhering to restrictions. But we need to play with strict regulation in order to maintain our insurance as a pickleball association .

The DPA executive and volunteers do this in their own time. You may see a delay in response if you reach out to us but we do want to hear from you. It is important to us that lines of communication are kept respectfully open.

We will be working over the winter to help make the 2021 playing season a great one. One big issue is holding an AGM. With over 350 members we cannot hold a traditional AGM while adhering to COVID-19 provincial health guidelines. Currently we are looking at holding one very early in 2021, when safe.

We are looking forward to many interesting options for next year that we could not do this year. The City's new courts will all be completed and open. There is also an enhanced version of Play Time Scheduler coming out which we are considering using. It should make booking courts much easier.

Our scheduling committee has many programs in the plans such as Round Robins, King of the Court, Partner Play, and Skills and Drills sessions. We will continue to offer free lessons to members and have plans to introduce the use of ball machines at the practice and lesson sessions.

We are working with the city to add windscreens to some courts. Some locations will not be conducive to screens because of security issues or the inability for the existing fencing to withstand the added wind force.

Please remember, the courts belong to the city and we are very lucky to get permits to play on them. We are not a private club. At the courts we need to maintain safety, so remember if you see something unsafe please report it to city # posted at courts or via the Talk Delta App.

We cannot do all we want without help from other volunteers. A survey will be sent out with next year's sign-up. Spend a couple of minutes to fill it out as this will allow us to provide the wants and needs of you, the members. If you

have traveled and played pickleball elsewhere and have seen fun and exciting things please feel free to reach out and share your experiences.

Don Tuck, President
On behalf of the DPA Executive

Delta Pickleball August 7, 2020 Newsletter

We are several weeks into playing doubles Pickleball in Delta and judging from the news and Dr. Bonnie Henry's observations, COVID-19 is here to stay for the foreseeable future. We will not be returning to formats we enjoyed prior to the COVID-19 crisis. This means the protocols developed by PickleballBC and endorsed by DPA need to be followed on public and DPA court times in Delta as they are the reason the City of Delta permitted Pickleball to reopen.

On behalf of the DPA board, I'd like to congratulate our members who are observing our protocols and following provincial health guidelines. That being said, DPA needs your help. In keeping with PickleballBC and DPA protocols and BC's Phase 3 Restart Plan, we are aware many of you are playing doubles in small 'Trusted Circles' with trusted partners. However, there are some DPA members who would like to join or form a 'Trusted Circle' but are unsure of how to go about it. To that end, here is a [link to our DPA survey](#) that we would like all members to complete to identify what 'Trusted Circles' currently exist and which players still need a 'Trusted Circle'.

This is a very short survey and will help the DPA board assist you in creating your own 'Trusted Circle', if you want one, and to let us know how many people would like our assistance. Please take a couple of minutes and fill it out. We also request that if you are the 'Captain' of an already existing 'Trusted Circle' you also complete the survey.

The new courts at Dennison Park are near completion and we are told they should be ready within the next 2 weeks. Unfortunately, the new courts at Chalmers Park in North Delta are further behind and will now not be ready until late August or early September. It's unfortunate but the City of Delta is at the mercy of the contractor.

In an effort to make scheduling DPA times on the courts simpler, beginning August 13th, we will test using [PlayTimeScheduler](#), ONLY to book court times

at Cromie Park, to see if this is easier for our members while still allowing us to meet our COVID-19 tracking responsibilities. Memorial Park and all Lessons will still be booked through [Sign Up Genius](#). Please note, you MUST sign up in advance so we can contact trace, if necessary.

As we celebrate National Pickleball Day on August 8th, let's remember to be kind and be patient in these trying times. As Dr. Henry recently stated, "Play safe to be safe"

As always, we welcome your suggestions/comments to improve our club.

Happy pickling and stay safe...

On behalf of your DPA board, Don

Delta Pickleball April 17, 2020 Newsletter

1. COVID-19: On behalf of your DPA Board, I'd like to thank you for following the BC government's guidelines regarding social distancing and not gathering in groups. We all miss our pickleball but we need to help keep each other safe and healthy. Let's continue our good work.

2. New Courts Construction:

Although Covid-19 has halted construction at both the Dennison and Chalmers venues, there was good progress at both sites prior to the shutdown. We feel it won't take long to complete court construction once the go ahead is given. Prior to the shutdown of Delta parks, DPA submitted court reservation requests for Dennison, Chalmers and Memorial Parks to the City of Delta. Once the parks are up and running again, we will advise you of the new schedules for each venue.

3. AGM:

Normally at this time of year, DPA holds its Annual General Meeting prior to our first tournament. Following provincial guidelines, we will not hold our AGM until it is safe to do so. We will advise you on our website as to the new date.

4. Membership Renewals:

By now, most of you will have received a notice from PickleBall BC asking you to renew your membership for 2020-2021. With decreased tax revenues due to Covid-19, Delta may not be able to be as generous to us as they have been in the past. Therefore, DPA may be asked to do more financially and we are sincerely requesting that you renew your membership with us. As you know, a portion of your DPA membership fee goes to renewing your membership in

both PickleBall BC and Pickleball Canada. [Click here for membership renewal.](#)

We hope you are all staying healthy and enjoying special times with your families. We look forward to resuming our great game in the very near future. Thank you for your support.

On behalf of your DPA Board, Don Tuck President

Delta Pickleball October 2019 Newsletter

Below is a summary of our club's activities during the spring and summer and what's ahead as we approach the fall and winter seasons:

1. Membership - We began our club in May of 2017 with a mere 20 members - and as of today, we are pleased to announce our membership is over 350 and still climbing. Thanks to all of you who joined our club and please continue to encourage friends and family to join us.
2. New court construction - The new dedicated Pickleball courts at Chalmers Park in North Delta and Dennison Park in Tsawwassen are currently under construction. We are hopeful they will be ready by May of 2020. This is only the beginning, as more courts are slated to be built at Pebble Hill Park in Tsawwassen and Cromie Park in Ladner.
3. Court scheduling - In anticipation of the new court construction, a subcommittee of your DPA Board was formed, under the leadership of subcommittee chair Donna Stensrud, to consider how to schedule DPA times on the new courts. The subcommittee hopes to complete its work by early in 2020 and will report to the membership its recommendations.
4. Fall/winter Pickleball - In recognition of the phenomenal growth of our great sport, Delta Parks has offered more indoor Pickleball times in Delta, including evening times. We've included a summary on the left column, but please consult the DPA website for the latest information on times/days/locations. We will continue to play outdoors as weather permits. Some of us were playing outside in February!
5. Tournament - Our very successful outdoor season was capped off by a tournament in September with a different format: partner play. Tournament Director Frank Sawatsky organized teams at the 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0 levels, including mixed doubles. We were treated to great

Pickleball play and even greater sportsmanship. Congratulations to all who participated! The medalists were:

- Men's Doubles 4.0: Peter Darvill and Sean McNamara
- Men's Doubles 3.5: Isaac St Cyr and Paul Wong
- Women's Doubles: Linda Graham and Nancy Prentice
- Mixed Doubles 4.0: Kristina and Sean McNamara
- Mixed Doubles 3.5: Sally Skinner and Howard Keller
- Mixed Doubles 3.0: Patty Hoffman and Paul Wong

We have set up a member survey form to solicit feedback on how we are doing, what you would like to see, and general member information. Hopefully this information will enable us to better schedule the new outdoor times and provide the services you want from our organization – please [click on this link](#) to complete this short five minute survey.

Check out our website deltapickleball.org for local Pickleball indoor facility locations and charges. Also, we have recently added a calendar feature with all local court dates, times and locations. It can be viewed as a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule, or even printed off.

For outdoor play, many of our members have joined the free Pickleball scheduler program www.PlaytimeScheduler.com. Most popular outdoor Delta courts are already shown. To register, all you need to enter is your location (Delta), name, email address, playing level, and what days/times you are usually available. You can originate a session, or join an existing one – very easy and intuitive to use. At this time, it will only notify you by email, but you can trick their system into sending you text messages instead by changing your email address to your cell number and carrier, as follows (without the square brackets):

- Bell, Solo Mobile or President's Choice: [10-digit phone number]@txt.bell.ca
- Rogers: [10-digit phone number]@pcs.rogers.com
- Telus: [10-digit phone number]@msg.telus.com
- Fido: [10-digit phone number]@fido.ca
- Koodo Mobile: [10-digit phone number]@msg.koodomobile.com
- Virgin Mobile: [10-digit phone number]@vmobile.ca

That's all for now...we'll update as needed. Have a great indoor season!

On behalf of your DPA board, Don Tuck, President