



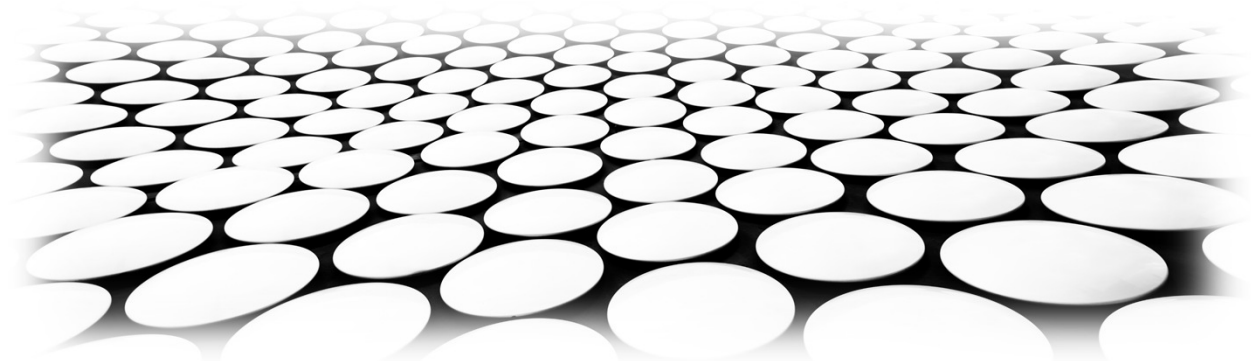
WHISTLER
PICKLEBALL
ASSOCIATION

Resort Municipality of Whistler

Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee Presentation

Garth White, President, Whistler Pickleball Association

February 11th, 2021



AGENDA:

➤ BACKGROUND

- ✓ Pickleball – the sport itself
- ✓ Pickleball in Whistler
- ✓ The Whistler Pickleball Association

➤ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Intro & Improvement Clinics
- ✓ Master Teaching Professional Clinics
- ✓ Whistler Pickleball Week

➤ THE “NEAR” FUTURE

- ✓ Community Sport Development Strategy
- ✓ Introductory Clinics, “Pickleball Week”

➤ FURTHER “DOWN THE ROAD”

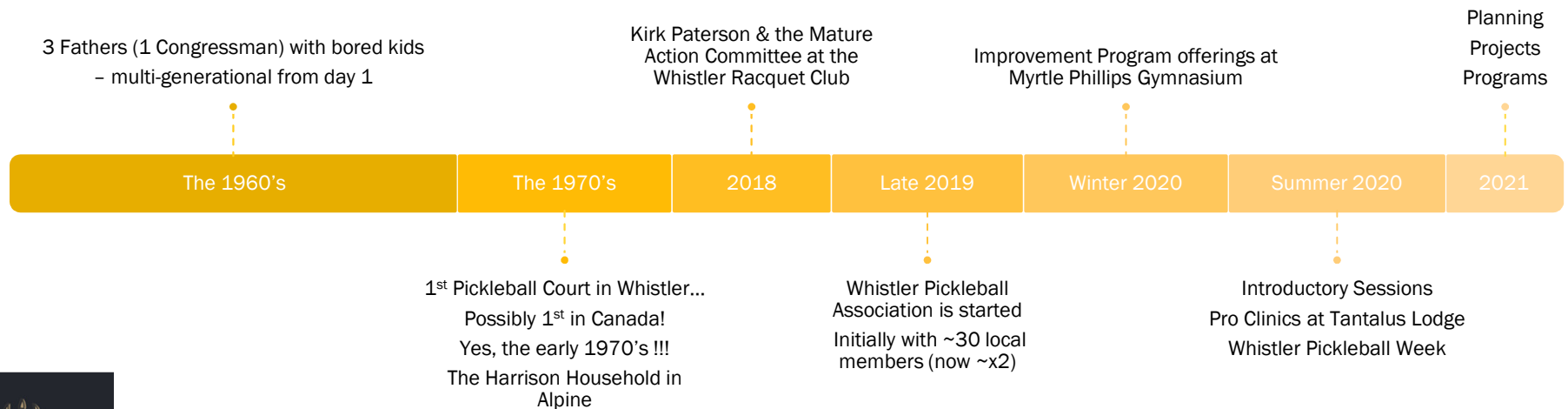
- ✓ Regional Planning for Pickleball
- ✓ Accelerating Multi-generational Growth

➤ PEER COMMUNITY LEARNINGS

- ✓ Fast-tracking for Efficiency

BACKGROUND – PICKLEBALL HIGHLIGHTS AS A VISUAL TIMELINE

~1965 Pickleball is born on Bainbridge Island in Washington





1970'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENTS, STARTING MAY LONG WEEKENDS

Thank-you Google Maps



THE WPA – VISION AND MISSION

VISION

The Whistler Pickleball Association (WPA) aims to support the Whistler community in developing, promoting and growing Pickleball as an inclusive sport throughout the Whistler area

MISSION

The purpose of the Whistler Pickleball association is to facilitate the growth of Pickleball in Whistler and surrounding areas for the enjoyment, health and social engagement for all players by offering organized recreational and competitive play. We endeavor to create opportunities for continued development for all players in a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment.

<http://whistlerpickleball.com/whistler-pickleball-association/>

<https://www.facebook.com/whistlerpickleball/>



Long-time Whistlerites



OUR GUIDING OBJECTIVES

Reference Quality Sport: <https://sportforlife.ca/quality-sport/>

MEMBERSHIP DESIRES COMPILED:

Membership Survey of February 2020 (pre-Covid)

- Affordability – ‘On Par’ with the Lower Mainland
- Accessibility:
 - By Neighbourhoods;
 - Transit
 - Trails
 - Parking
 - By Time;
 - Seasonality
 - Day of Week
 - Time of Day
- Dedicated Facilities
 - Outdoor Courts
 - Indoor / Bubbled
- Intro & Improvement Clinics
- Volunteer Opportunities



WPA “QUALITY SPORT” PROGRAMS

Introductory & Improvement Sessions at Myrtle Phillip Community Centre Gymnasium – Pre-Covid, Winter 2020
example; 4-week, 2-hour weekday evenings – 2 sessions/evening – up to 18 people/session



Improvement “Guest Clinics” with Brook Siver at Tantalus Resort Lodge – August 2020
IPTPA Level 2, Master Teaching Professional
3, 2-hour, 8-person ‘Covid-friendly’ sessions



WHISTLER PICKLEBALL WEEK – BY PROCLAMATION

Coincident with National Pickleball Day

– 2nd Saturday in August – for 9 consecutive days – recurring annually!

- Utilizing all 9 RMOW Courts at 7 different sites
- 18 WPA Members Volunteered as Ambassadors
 - facilitated 9, 1.5-hour Ambassador Training Sessions
- 42, 60-minute Intro Sessions over 7 of the 9 days
 - Modified Return to Play Plan
 - Pre-registration and waivers
 - Deployed up to 3 Ambassadors per session
 - Equipment provided, lent or purchased at cost (~\$15)



- ~ 70 Local Participants
 - Many of whom were family, generational
- Dozens of equipment sales (at cost)



THE NEAR FUTURE...

- ✓ Continued consultation with our Members, the RMOW, neighbouring Associations and other Stakeholders
- ✓ Strategizing / Prioritizing:
 - Advocating for future Facilities/Courts throughout the Sea-to-Sky Corridor
 - Optimizing future locations by facility type, court layout, program offerings, etc.
- ✓ Continuing “Covid-Friendly” *localized* Intro-Clinics
- ✓ Gearing-up for “Whistler Pickleball Week 2021”

FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD FOR THE WPA....

- ❖ Sea-to-Sky Pickleball Master Plan
- ❖ 'Pickleball Week' Expansion – Squamish, Pemberton & Mount Currie
- ❖ Integration into Physical Education Programming
- ❖ Tournaments – Regionals, Provincials, Nationals...



PICKLEBALL COURT COUNTS BY COMMUNITY...

East-southeast – Okanagan

Location	Indoor	Outdoor
■ Kamloops	14	18
■ Kelowna	20	19
■ Lake Country	3	12
■ Vernon	12	12
■ Penticton	2	10

West-southwest – Lower Mainland

Location	Indoor	Outdoor
■ Squamish	5	8
■ North Shore Vancouver	9	6
■ Richmond	9	9
■ Surrey/WR	>14	66
■ Delta	9	14
■ Chilliwack	8	10

Please note, numerical information compiled using Google searches of local PB Associations, Municipalities and...
<https://www.globalpickleball.network/pickleball-courts/courts>



PEER COMMUNITY FACILITY PHOTOS...



Squamish above (2)

Richmond

Vernon

Lake Country

PR



PEER COMMUNITY LEARNINGS

What's worked well?

What hasn't worked so well?

Pitfall avoidance

- Noise – Pickleball is loud – mostly due to court density
- Mixed-use court challenges
- Mixed-use indoor facility challenges
- PB included in Master Plans for “Sports”
- Community Pickleball Associations add value/ streamline growth
- Court Bookings / Rentals



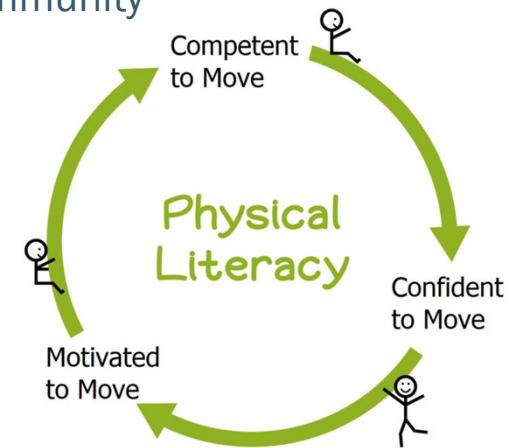
WRAPPING-UP



WHISTLER
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Pickleball in Whistler, Key Points...

- Aligns with our '*Physically Literate*' community
- Multi-generational family fun for all!
- Low cost-to-entry & to stay playing



Whistler Pickleball Association, Key 2021 Objectives...

- Doubling-up on the ~100 Whistlerites introduced to PB in 2020
- Encouraging and Organizing Strategic Partnerships
- Nurturing cost-respective options for PB in the S2S Corridor

THANK-YOU FOR LISTENING...

QUESTIONS WELCOME



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