

Delta Pickleball Assoc.

# August 2021 Newsletter

August 22, 2021



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Greetings fellow DPA picklers:

This newsletter has items of interest to our DPA membership and also serves as **official notice of our upcoming DPA Annual General Meeting, Tuesday, September 21, 2021 @ 7:00pm.**

## General News:

1. The outdoor schedules at all our venues are scheduled to continue through to approximately October 11, 2021 and permits have been obtained from Delta Parks. There will be a new September schedule at Cromie that will include 2 sessions of level play per level, for all levels. We encourage members to join in and meet other players at their level.
2. On Thursday, November 11, 2021, pickleball play will not be available at Memorial Park in the morning so as to not interfere with Memorial Day activities.
3. The DPA board has authorized the purchase of a pickleball machine to help with player development. However, the machine will not be purchased unless we secure a minimum of three volunteers (one each for Ladner, Tsawwassen, North Delta) who will agree to be trained how to use it, maintain it, and store it. Once we have commitments from volunteers, we can proceed with the purchase.
4. Look for court schedule changes in September. Lessons have now wrapped up for the season.
5. For those who do not yet have our free yellow DPA shoe tags, they will be available at the new two mini-tournaments (August 23 & 30) plus check out the NEWS section of our website for additional times and locations.

6. DPA needs volunteers and directors to grow and be successful. Please consider how you might be able to serve the club.
  - a. Communication/Social Media
  - b. Equipment/Facilities
  - c. Tournaments
  - d. Sponsorships
  - e. Player Development
  - f. Special session coordinators (coordinate Ladders, Round Robins, etc)
  - g. Court hosts
7. And a reminder - you may only be trying to be helpful, but please - **no unsolicited advice to other players!**

### **Recreational vs Competitive Play:**

Many members choose to play '**recreational**' play, especially beginner and intermediate players. But about 1/3 of our members are advanced (3.5 +) players who sometimes want to play **competitive** games with players of similar ability. We have added **competitive** play sessions and Round Robins to accommodate this.

Most **competitive** players are self rated correctly, but some are not sure where they fit. We are working on an interim level rating method for those who want to play in **competitive** Round Robin play and find there is a difference of opinion as to their level. If this happens, a group of experienced players from different areas will provide their input as to a person's correct level. This is not ideal and hopefully will only be done until we can use the long term solution of either rating from sanctioned tournament play or paying a professional to do the rating. If there is still a difference of opinion, then we can try other methods. Our intent is to allow similar level members playing together so they can enjoy their play. We are aiming to schedule multiple **competitive** Round Robin play times each week for every group that wants it (e.g. 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+). Unfortunately some people believe they can't get better unless they play higher ranked players. But if everyone thinks this way, then we won't have any successful play times. For instance if A wants to play with B (higher level) but B only wants to play with C (higher yet level), and so on; this doesn't work.

### **Elections:**

At our September 21, 2021 AGM, we will be electing a new DPA Board of ten Directors for 2021-2022. At present, seven of the current directors have allowed their names to stand for reelection: Doug Barham, Alan Holmgren, Florence MacDonald-Bain, Teresa Phillips, George Pierce, Dave Sowerby, and Don Tuck. Any DPA member in good standing may nominate him/herself or another DPA member. Please ask the person first, before nominating him or her. **We require at least seven days notice before the AGM.**

### **Annual General Meeting:**

At the AGM, in addition to the normal items, we will be voting on a new set of by-laws we feel will better suit the needs of DPA. The motions for these changes require a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority to pass. A special thank you goes out to Ron Graham who spent considerable hours drafting the by-law changes.

Attached to the newsletter is a copy of the old by-laws, the proposed new by-laws, and a summary of the proposed changes. A copy of the AGM Agenda is also included for your information. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom, therefore **we require your advanced notice of your intention** to attend so an email link can be sent to you and also allow us to verify a quorum. **Please reply to this email with YES if you can join in.**

Remember - this is your club - the executive appreciates your constructive comments and suggestions. Hope to see many of you there...

On behalf of the DPA Board,

Don Tuck

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