

# Delta Pickleball Assoc

## June 2022 Newsletter

Greetings fellow picklers:

Your DPA board hopes you are enjoying outdoor play now that the weather has improved (slightly!). We have a few items we believe are of interest to our members.

### **RATINGS:**

We wanted to restate the procedure for obtaining a rating to play in the 4.0+ sessions offered by DPA. You may obtain a rating by any of the following ways:

1. receiving a 4.0+ rating in a sanctioned tournament, or
2. obtaining a 4.0+ rating from a certified rater, outside DPA, or
3. obtaining a 4.0+ rating from another pickleball club (such as Surrey), or
4. obtaining a 4.0+ recommendation from a DPA committee of 4.0+ rated players.

We recognize that before June, DPA did not offer many opportunities to play for those players who are between 3.50 and 4.0. To improve this, DPA has scheduled a weekly DPA round robin session at Cromie Park, on a trial basis, commencing Sunday June 26th, from noon to 2:00pm. Those players who see themselves as 3.75 to 4.25, but are not rated 4.0+ would play in a round robin session against 4.0+ rated players and can find out how they would fit in. We hope this will offer some clarification about where players best fit in. We encourage all those players in the categories above to come out and join in these sessions.

We also see that most players want to play higher level players and we encourage that players throughout the club play occasionally in sessions where they are at the top end of their level. For instance, currently a 3.5 player always signs up for 3.5-4.0 sessions. We believe this player should play occasionally play 3.0-3.5. We currently have overlap in the schedule but some people never participate this way. If everyone wants to play at a higher level then the competitive level doesn't work well. It wasn't long ago that each of us was at a lower level - please try to help each other.

DPA will also be reviewing all player's level ratings who play in competitive round robin play and be providing recommended feedback as to whether we believe this is accurate. The four steps outlined above will be used. This is aimed mostly for players in the 2.0 to 3.75 range who have not played in tournaments or received formal coaching. We have not provided feedback in the past and think feedback and discussion is helpful.

## EYE PROTECTION:

DPA strongly recommends all players wear safety glasses when playing. For those of you who missed the reminder from Pickleball BC, there was another recent incident where a player was hit in the eye, resulting in serious, if not permanent, damage. Eye protection is available thru Amazon, Costco, sporting goods and industrial supply stores.

Why would you spend \$200 on a paddle and replace it when a new model comes out, but not spend less than \$50 to protect your only set of eyes - they cannot be replaced!

## NEGATIVE PUBLICITY:

As you have no doubt heard by now, there was a letter to the Delta Optimist Editor from a teacher at Ladner Elementary alleging she and her 26 students were not permitted to play on the Cromie courts, despite having a permit. There was another group of allegedly DPA members already playing who refused to vacate the courts. The article offers only one side to the situation and DPA is investigating what happened to obtain all of the facts. If it turns out that DPA members were at fault, we are proposing to offer restitution to the school and class by offering to run a round robin tournament on the courts at their convenience. We would ask for volunteers to assist us at that time.

I would remind all of our members to be mindful of our neighbours and to adhere to our Code of Conduct. Thank you for your support of our club, which has now reached 605 members!

On behalf of your DPA board,

Don Tuck, President



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