

Pickleball Club of Grey Highlands

Presentation
January 2024



Who We Are:

A local pickleball club formed May 2023

A non-profit affiliated with Pickleball
Canada and Pickleball Ontario

Run by a volunteer, elected board

Membership as of Dec. 31st was 103 – 90 adults
and 13 youth. Many are also Osprey player-donors.



Our Mission Statement

Our initiatives include:

- Promoting and developing the game locally
- Delivering programs for all ages (not just seniors!)
- Lobbying for local pickleball and for the improvement of existing facilities as well as development of new courts.



Current Trends in Pickleball

North America's fastest-growing sport
Surveys show explosive growth in Canada
Quadrupled in just 3 years!
Fastest-rising age group is 18-34
Average age is now under 40
Pickleball is now "destination travel"

Canada	# of Players
2020	350,000
2023 (January)	1,370,000



Why So Popular? – 7 Key Factors

1. Healthy recreational activity
2. Social
3. Easy to learn
4. Inexpensive equipment
5. Appeals to all ages
6. Promotes gender equity
7. Small physical footprint



Recreation Master Plan

“The emergence of pickleball has resulted in a demand for courts...”

“There is evidence of demand for indoor field sport activities and pickleball.”

“Paint lines for specific court sports based on interest from organized, community-based sport groups”

“Dedicated court facilities should be considered... There may be future interest in provision of dedicated pickleball facilities. Private lands ... or school board sites should be considered.”



What Public Facilities Currently Exist?

Outdoors:

NO dedicated public pickleball courts
in Grey Highlands

- One temporary court at Memorial Park
- Shared with basketball and skateboarders
- Playing conditions are far from ideal



What Public Facilities Currently Exist?

Indoors:

- 2 courts at Osprey Hall
- 2 courts at Markdale (Centre Grey Rec. Complex multi-purpose room)
 - play must be altered because of physical restrictions
 - safety issues
- 3 courts on arena floor at Centre Grey Rec. Complex
 - summer use only
 - safety issue with smooth concrete



PICKLEBALL
CLUB OF GREY HIGHLANDS

What Are Our Neighbours Doing?

Town of Blue Mountains, Township of Georgian Bluffs, and Town of Meaford all have efforts underway for the addition of pickleball facilities

Town of Blue Mountains:

- Four newly constructed dedicated outdoor courts at Tomahawk Recreation Centre
- Six indoor courts At Beaver Valley Community Centre (reduced to 2 courts during winter)

HOME > THE BLUE MOUNTAINS AND GREY HIGHLANDS

Pickleball players ask TBM for more courts

Council has asked staff to report back on opportunities for expanding the number of courts available to residents

Chris Fell, Local Journalism Initiative reporter
Jan 24, 2023 11:30 AM

COMMUNITY POLL

Participate in our next
What is your gender?

Male
 Female
 Other

Vote Results >

Stock image

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The Town of The Blue Mountains is going to look at opportunities to expand the pickleball facilities it has available to the public.

At its meeting on Jan. 23, council received a deputation from local pickleball enthusiast Lorraine Doherty, who requested that the town consider options to expand available pickleball facilities. The town currently has outdoor pickleball courts at the Tomahawk Recreation Complex, which close during the winter months, and has indoor courts at the Beaver Valley Community Centre.

Doherty said the popularity of pickleball continues to grow and said the biggest

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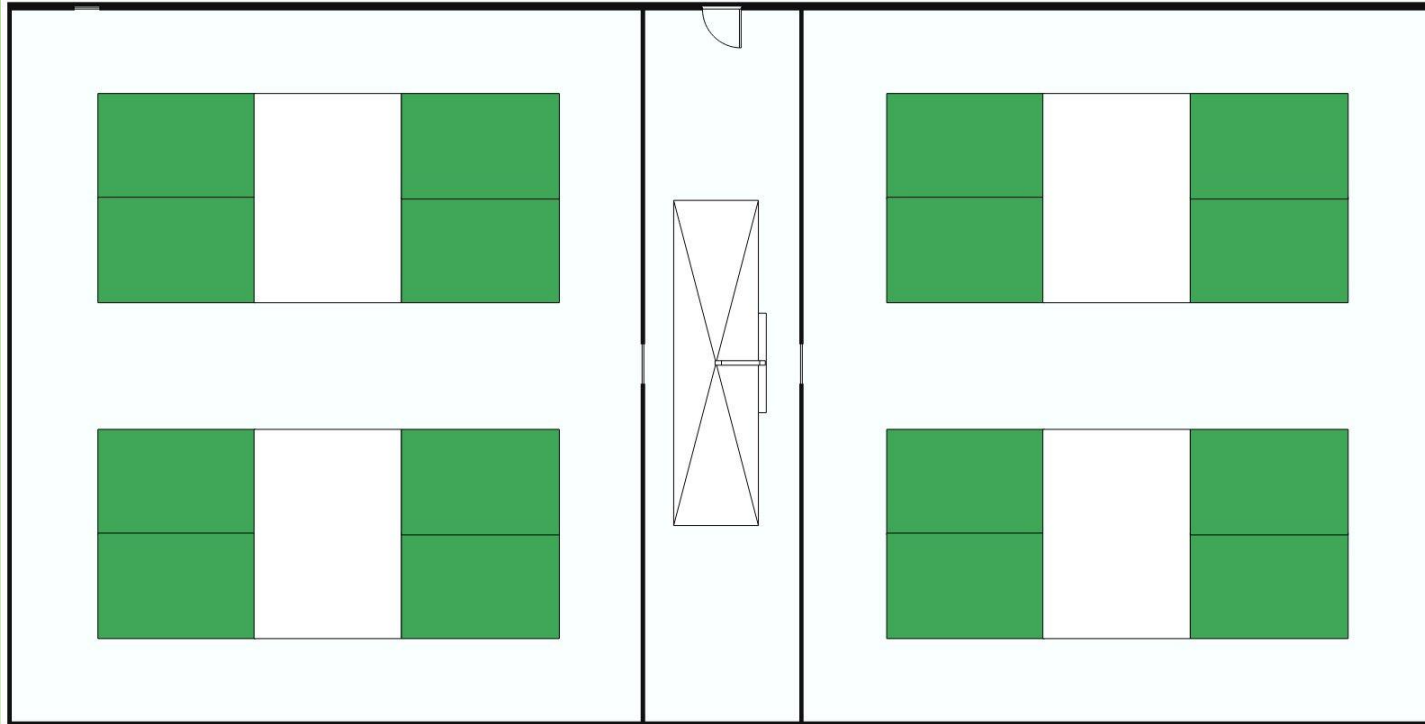
What Are Our Neighbours Doing?

Hanover:

- Converted 2 tennis courts to 6 pickleball courts
- Facility owned by Town but managed by the Hanover Tennis and Pickleball Club



What Outdoor Courts Here Could Look Like:

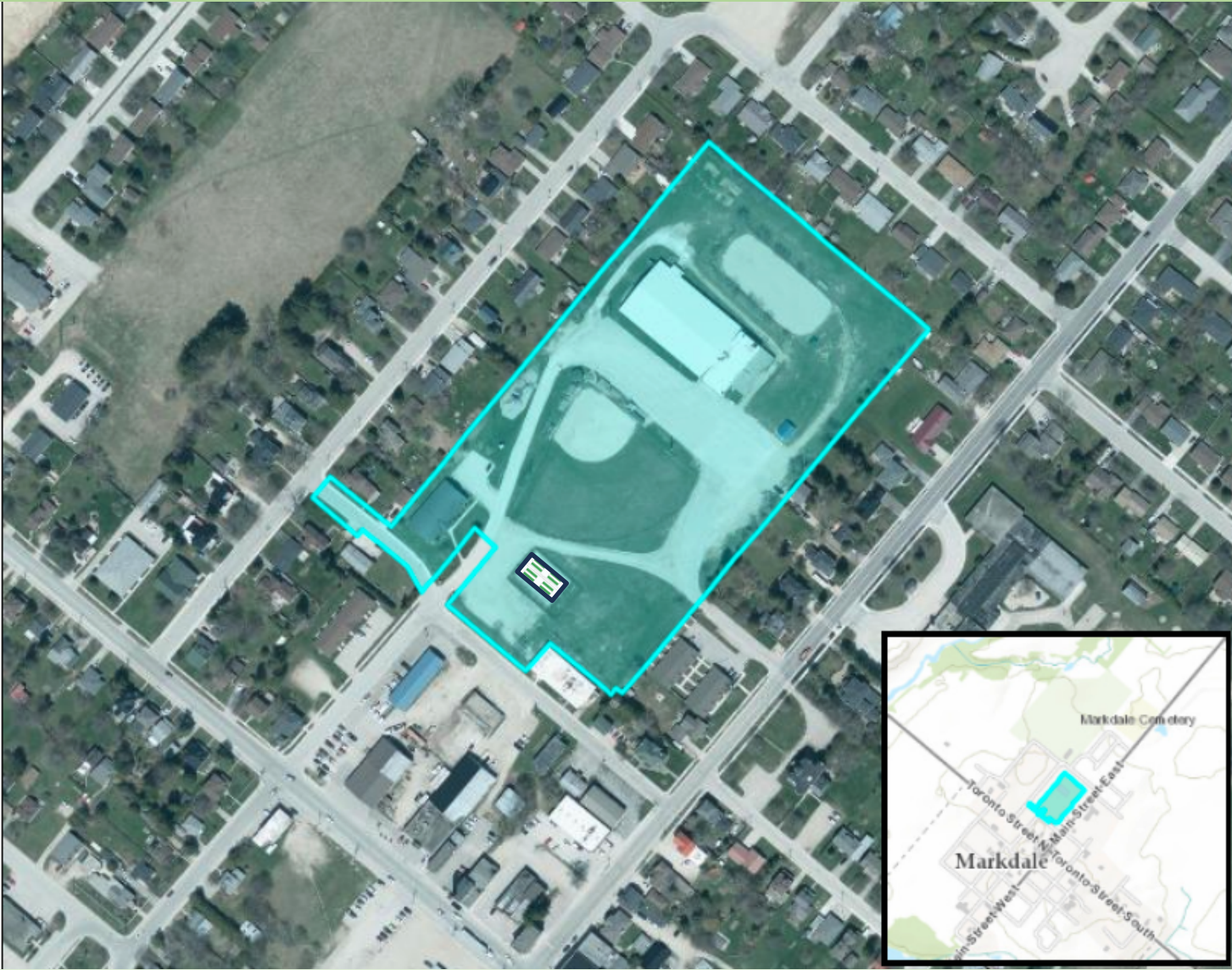


**4 Pickleball Courts
With shaded waiting
and social area.**

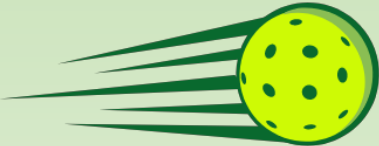


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Identified Possible Locations – Markdale (1)



King Edward Park



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Identified Possible Locations – Markdale (2)

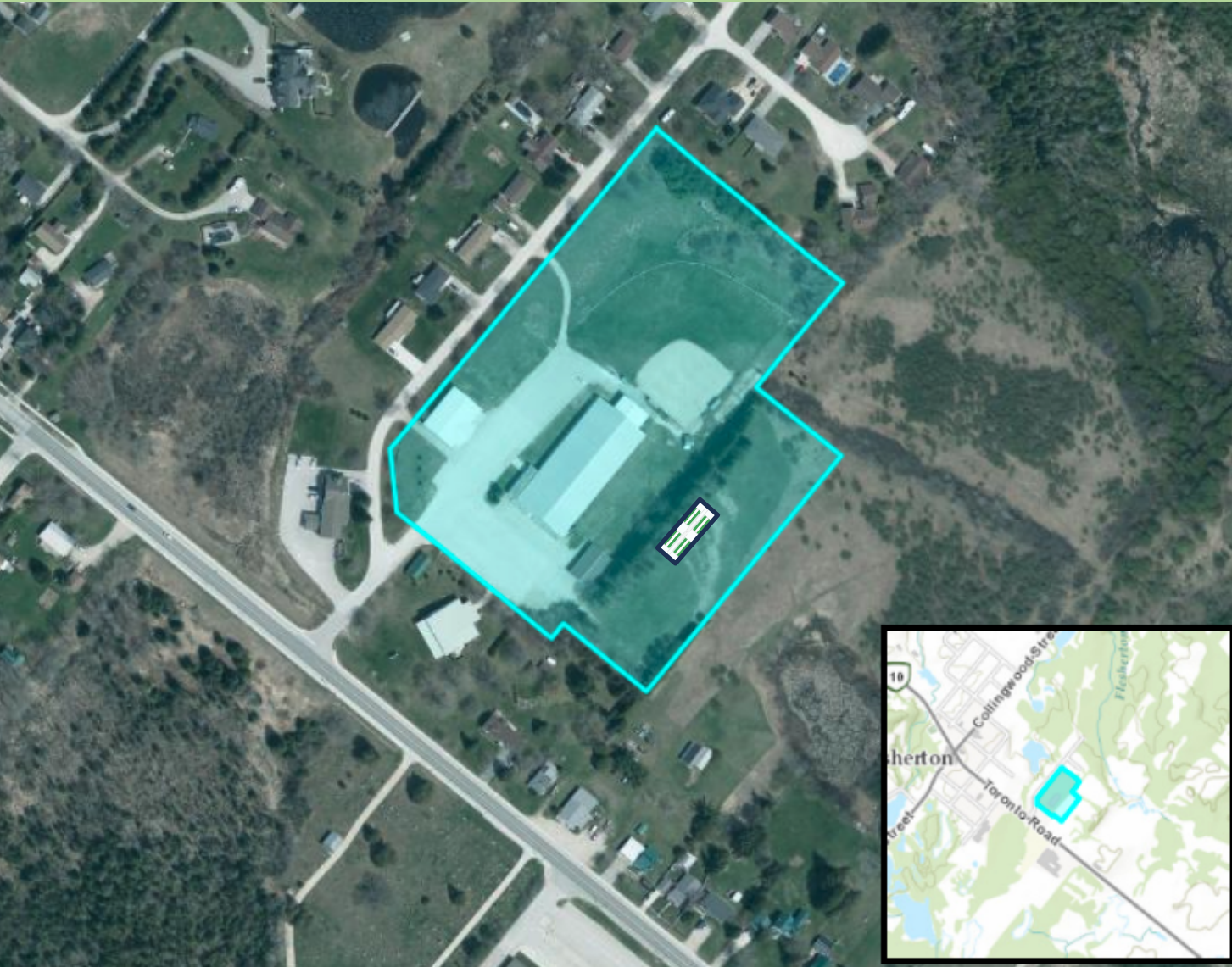


Chapman's Soccer Field



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Identified Possible Locations – Flesherton



Arena Complex



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Thank you



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