

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

**Info Session To Inform Members Where  
We Are, Tournament Details, and  
Opportunity For Court Play at Blackwell**

Presented by SLPC Executive

06 March 2024

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## What to Expect From this Info Session

### **Proposed Indoor Facility**

- Do the majority of members want us to secure a year round indoor facility.
- The requirements are for us to obtain financial accountability from the members. Our first attempt failed. We currently have 162 positive responses. To date we fall short of the required 200 for financial stability.

### **Pickleball Canada Sanctioned Tournament**

- Details and a call for volunteers

### **Proposed Summer Play – Blackwell Hub**

- Current play at DeGroot's ends 14 March. We are working on an indoor in-house tournament on 23 March.
- Rollout what the future holds April to October.
- Indoor facility fell through. Still working on it.
- Presentation will go over 3 options for play until October/November when we return to DeGroot's.

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## **Interim Executive**

- Interim President – Mike Van Hemmen
- Interim Vice President – John Boomsma
- Directors – Mike Barron, Aldo Adamo, Deanna Sandrin
- IT Director – Dave Mitton
- Treasurer – Crystal Adamo (assisted by a volunteer CPA)

## **Openings**

- Finance/Bookkeeping/Accountant
- Grant Applications
- Fundraiser Committee
- More Volunteers
- We Have Social Committee Volunteers, Skill Development Volunteers, Court Ambassadors

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## Chronological Timeline

- Started Membership Drive - 06 Nov 2023
- Applied To Pickleball Ontario – 16 Nov 2023, Pickleball Ontario Affiliation Approved – 17 Nov 2023
- 365 Interested Players – 06 Dec 2023
- Opened Registration – 08 Dec 2023, Rolled Out Court Booking System
- 116 SLPC Registered Members – 10 Dec 2023
- Started Play @ Club Courts – 11 Dec 2023
- 200 SLPC Registered Members – 14 Dec 2023
- 250 SLPC Registered Members – 31 Dec 2023
- 300 SLPC Registered Members – 18 Jan 2024
- 347 SLPC Registered Members - 27 Feb 2024 (on hold, no play time to offer at present)
- 150 new players that have committed an interest if hours of operation in the evening and weekends are added.
- Less Than 2 Months Old Sent Out Request For New Facility Commitment to SLPC members on 06 Feb 2024.
- **162 Members Committed To New Facility To Date (72 Plays For \$550.00 - approx \$100,000.00 committed)**
- **162 Yes, Only 6 No's from 347 members (would like Yes or No from everyone)**

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## **Thanks**

- Thanks to DeGroot's for our winter play program. Working with DeGroot's to start indoor play earlier next fall.
- Thanks to Michelle Bidner of CIPG for the donation of medical kits and AED Pads
- Thanks to the 347 SLPC members who joined and trusted us with winter indoor play
- Thanks to the Court Ambassadors
- Thanks to the 168 members who have given a response to our endeavour for a year long indoor facility.
- Thanks to those that have shown up tonight

## **Opportunities For Club Support**

- SLPC has some influential members. We are asking how we can harness the potential power in obtaining community support to our endeavours.
- Do you know anyone that can support our growth via land, matching what we raise, grants/fundraising, co-signing, etc. Every little bit helps.

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## **Progress to Date/Where We Are Right Now**

- Stage 1 – Commitment of Interest (367 responses)
- Stage 2 – Pickleball Club Official Status (now 347 registered members)
- Stage 3 – Started play at DeGroot's (11 Dec 2023 until 14 March 2024)

## **Path Forward**

- **Stage 4 – Summer Court Booking (quote from Parks & Rec)**
- **Stage 5 – Obtain Indoor Facility (response required)**

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## **Proposed New Facility To Call Home For Stage 5**

- A Place to call home year round while we review opportunities for Stage 5
- Within City of Sarnia
- 4 Indoor Courts – High Ceiling
- Possibly add 4 Outdoor Courts (if space allows) as interest warrants
- Heated (No A/C)
- Great Acrylic Court Surface
- Washroom/Changeroom (no showers)
- Proposed Kitchen Area – Fridge
- Social Areas

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## Proposed Facility Costs

### Lease

- 2/4 Years (with possible extension to 5 years)
- We Proposed A \$10,000 Lease Plus HST/Heat/Hydro/Water
- Total Building Cost Estimated @ \$13,000/Month = \$156,000/Year
- Need Commitment 12 Months of Year for 2 Years
- Hence The Request For Response Before We Sign Lease (Risk to club)
- **No Commitment On Our Own – Need To Commit As A Group Per Our Constitution (Minimum 175 from current SLPC members plus 25 from new interested players)**
- Plus Improvement Costs - Court Painting, Lighting, Secure Access, Any Renovations, Mesh, Nets, Salix Software, Content Insurance, Cleaning
- Need minimum \$15,000 per month revenue (\$180,000 per year)



# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## Players - Required Response (Yes or No)

- **If interested we have a sign up sheet here tonight and at the desk at DeGroot's or respond by email to vanhemmen\_mike@yahoo.com**
- **If we don't get the required commitment from enough current SLPC members we will contact potential members from the original membership drive list last November whom could only play in the evening to help make up the difference. Then we would go public for an additional membership drive.**
- SLPC will continue to work with the city, DeGroot's for existing club play.
- SLPC will continue with Stage 5 to obtain Indoor Facility.
- Many members are excited about our proposal and we may lose future opportunities if we don't get the required responses. You can help by contacting members you know that have not responded.

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## FAQ's

1. Can we pay monthly? No, we are requiring pre-pay to ensure we have cash flow to pay the lease.
2. When do pay? Not until we have the lease agreed to, will notify by email.
3. How do we pay? By cheque to Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club.
4. Do we pay 2 years upfront? No, we are only asking for the first year pre-pay.
5. Is there a couples/family membership? Not for our first year of operation. Will be reviewed for subsequent years.
6. Is there A/C in the building? No, we have requested an additional garage door for cross ventilation.
7. Court surface? Will be acrylic, requested quote for installation.
8. Court area? High ceilings, clearance around courts approx 5 ft sides, 8 ft ends.
9. Location? Within Sarnia city limits.

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## **SLPC Tournament**

- Canada Pickleball Sanctioned Tournament May 03 – 05
- At Lambton College
- Various Categories – 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0+ in Women's, Men's, and Mixed Divisions
- Open to all players registered to Pickleball Canada
- Anticipate players from across Ontario and USA
- Expect approx 200 players
- **Need many volunteers**

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## Summer Play At Blackwell Hub

- Strangway have advised they will continue to offer their summer outdoor program.
- Strangway have Blackwell Courts Monday, Friday, & Saturday 8:30am to 10:30am, Wednesday 8:30am to 12:30pm.
- Online sign up for Strangway is 19 March, first come, first serve, get in early to get your spot.
- SLPC has applied for Courts from 9am to 1pm 7 days per week and 6pm to 8pm 5 days per week.
- Parks & Rec allocate courts per their policy which is similar to how they allocate ice time to the various associations. We have conflicts for what we asked for versus what Strangway requires the courts.
- The City has offered SLPC the 6 Blackwell Courts for club play as follows:
  - Monday to Friday 6pm to 8pm.
  - Monday, Friday, & Saturday 11:00am to 1:00pm
  - Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:30/9:00am to 12:30/1:00pm.
- We have considered 3 options:
  1. SLPC book the courts offering structured play through Salix in accordance what members will support.
  2. Members play for free on a first come, first serve basis
  3. If Blackwell is real busy Members can book their own courts through the city

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## Details For Blackwell

- Court rental is \$12.25 per hour per court plus GST (\$27.68 for 2 hours per court). If they accept our Insurance.
- Expected cost per member is similar to what we charge at DeGroot's (approx \$6.00 Open Play, \$30 Private Court). Risk - If we don't fill courts we have to pay city anyway. (projected cost is \$50,000)
- **If interested we have a sign up sheet here tonight and at the desk at DeGroot's or respond by email to vanhemmen\_mike@yahoo.com.**
- We are contemplating signup similar to the Strangway Program where you register upfront for the same time each week for the full 20 weeks. Will depend on input.
- Note that in future cancelling play within 24 hrs will not be refunded.
- Are members interested in paying for structured club play at a fee or take your chances of playing for free.
- To play for free we expect a mess at the courts with the number of new players that will go there to play via paddle up process.
- Suggestions for other city courts to go and play for free – Linden Park, Cathcart Park, Baxter Park, Kenwick Park in Bright's Groove. Traditionally these courts are not booked and access is free to all via paddle up.

# Sarnia Lambton Pickleball Club

## **Conclusion**

### **Proposed Indoor Facility**

- We ask that you consider the proposal and continue to support our endeavour by signing Y or N on our commitment sheets today or by email to vanhemmen\_mike@yahoo.com

### **Pickleball Canada Sanctioned Tournament**

- Signup with Mike Barron if you can volunteer to help out with setting up the tournament or at the tournament itself.

### **Proposed Summer Play – Blackwell Hub**

- Are members interested in paying for structured club play at a fee meaning we would pay the City the rate they advertise for Blackwell mid May to end of September and play at DeGroot's mid November to beginning of March (assuming they offer again at same rate). Commit via sign up sheet at DeGroot's or by email to vanhemmen\_mike@yahoo.com

### **SLPC Option Based On Response**

If the majority of members do not respond to the options presented then we the executive do not know what other options to pursue as a club. We will try one last email this week to the members whom have not responded as yet.