



THE INSIDER

Newsletter # 57
December 2020

1. Pickleball Regina Winter Programs- We're Ready!!

The Program Committee has arranged options for indoor play this Winter for the months of January through April. ***Whenever the provincial health authorities approve our return to play, Pickleball Regina will be ready.***

When play can continue, a Sign Up Genius invitation will be issued for the Winter term. Members who volunteered with Pickleball Regina programs in 2019 and 2020 will be given first chance to sign up. After registration has been offered to the volunteer group, registration will be open to all Pickleball Regina members.

All training initiatives are also on hold until permission is given for return to play.

Disclaimer: *Pickleball Regina cannot guarantee that play will commence or continue with the ongoing pandemic. Expectations for safe play may also change during a programming period based on guidelines advanced by provincial health authorities.*

2. Membership Growth Continues

Even with the interruption of play, PRI continues to show outstanding growth in our membership. As of December 2020, we now have 912 current members, an increase of 16% over last year. For an organization that started in 2017, this is incredible growth, thank you!!

3. New Integrated Membership System

Pickleball Canada has been developing a fully integrated system for pickleball clubs across Canada. This will bring together many of the independent systems now being used into one more integrated system. Modules include membership, rating brackets, scheduling, websites and tournament play/results across the country. Current expectations are that the membership and website modules will roll out in early 2021. Pickleball Regina expects that the new integration will reduce volunteer time to manage all the systems now in place.

4. New Pickleball Rule Changes for 2021

New rule changes are being introduced for 2021. Most will affect how the referees manage tournament play. Here are the key changes that impact all players:

1. Service lets have been eliminated. If the served ball clips the net and falls in the correct service box, the ball is “live” and play continues.
2. There is a new, Provisional, rule regarding Drop Serves. Servers may drop the ball (without propelling it or tossing or hitting it upward) and hit the ball after the ball bounces on the playing surface. The server’s release of the ball must be visible to the referee and the receiver. *The restrictions on upward motion and angle of the paddle no longer apply.* This rule was primarily intended to accommodate physically handicapped individuals but is an option for all players.
3. The entire score must be called before the ball is served.
4. The server’s partner may call the score if the server is unable to call the score with sufficient volume. In this case, the person calling the score shall not change during the game.
5. If the server or referee calls the wrong score, any player may stop play before the “Third Shot” occurs to ask for a correction.
6. Players should not call a ball “out” unless they can clearly see a space between the line and the ball as it hits the ground.
7. “Out” line calls should be promptly signalled by voice and/or hand signal, whereas formerly voice signals were always required.

For complete explanations, see the IFP Rulebook and Changes documents. The USAPA has made these documents and a new 'alternate' rulebook available on their [Officiating](#) website. Pickleball Canada will post the same documents in French and English once the French translations are complete. In the meantime, anyone can access the USAPA materials. All rule changes are effective January 25, 2021. Let's hope we'll be playing again by then!

5. Renew Your Membership:

Keeping your membership up to date keeps your Sport Accident insurance in force plus provides opportunity to receive invitations to register for organized play and training opportunities.

Also review and update your profile on www.pickleballcanada.org with current information - especially **emergency contact** information. Contact membership@pickleballregina.ca if you have questions or need assistance.

7. Mark your Calendars- 2021 Tournaments:

a) Saskatchewan Provincial Championship

Saskatoon Pickleball Inc. has been awarded the hosting of the 2021 Pickleball Saskatchewan Provincial Tournament. The dates are **June 5 - 6, 2021**.

b) Western Canadian Regional Championship

The inaugural Western Canadian Regional Pickleball Championship has been rescheduled to **July 23 - 25, 2021** at The International Trade Centre, Regina, SK. Many of our sponsors have shown incredible support by continuing their commitment to the tournament in 2021.

c) Canadian National Championship

The Red Deer Pickleball Club is excited and proud to host the Pickleball Canada National Championship 2021. The dates are **August 11th - 15, 2021**

Happy New Year!

2021 will be an exciting year for Pickleball Regina with the likelihood of a safe return to play, new training opportunities, hosting both fun and competitive tournaments and re-engaging with good friends. On behalf of Pickleball Regina, have a HAPPY NEW YEAR! See you on the courts!



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Contact us at: pickleballreginainc@gmail.com

Learn, Play, And Grow Together!