



THE INSIDER

Newsletter # 58
January 2021

1. Health Orders Extended

In case you haven't heard, the Saskatchewan Health Orders have been extended to January 29. They specifically state that "All team/group sports, activities, games, competitions, recitals, practices, etc. are suspended, including amateur and recreational leagues for all age groups. Examples include hockey, curling, racquet sports, cheerleading, dance practices in group setting, etc."

Anyone in contravention of these guidelines could be fined and should be aware that any insurance provided by Pickleball Canada is not in effect.

2. Pickleball Canada- Membership Fee Changes

Pickleball Canada will be adjusting its annual membership dues from \$5.00 to \$10.00 effective on or before April 1, 2021. This will bring the total annual fee for membership in Pickleball Canada/Saskatchewan/Regina to \$20.00

An in-depth review of expenses and initiatives to both manage rapid growth and to continue to prioritize and improve the advancement of pickleball at the national level has resulted in this decision. Rising costs of insurance for members is a major contributor to the need to adjust the fees.

Pickleball Canada is a growing concern; membership is now in excess of 22,000 and climbing! While play is temporarily suspended, the planning and development of programs continues for insurance coverage, officiating, coaching, National System [event management, membership management, content management (website)], ratings, club support for leagues and ladders, youth, recreation, discounts and sponsorships.

3. Pickleball Canada National System - Launch!

Pickleball Canada has been developing a fully integrated system for pickleball clubs across Canada. The Pickleball Canada National System (PCNS) will bring together many of the independent systems now being used into one single

integrated system. Modules include membership, rating brackets, scheduling, websites and tournament play/results across the country.

Saskatchewan will be one of the first provinces to implement the membership and website modules starting in late February or March 2021.

As part of the new PCNS, all memberships will be changed to expire on December 31st of each year. During 2021 your renewal reminder email will still come at the start of the month of your current expiry date, but your renewal will only extend your membership until December 31st.

Going forward, all members will renew during December for January 1st of the following year. New members (or late renewals) can be done at any time throughout the year; however the membership will still expire on December 31st.

Pickleball Canada is considering providing 13-15 month memberships to any new member joining October 1st or later. New members joining on or after October 1st will receive a membership until December 31st of the following year.

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

Please review and update your profile on www.pickleballcanada.org with current information – including **birthdate, gender and emergency contact** information. Contact membership@pickleballregina.ca if you have questions or need assistance.

4. Expanding Play- Community Association Agreements

PRI and the Albert Park Community Association have entered into an agreement to provide outdoor “Introduction to Pickleball” lessons at the Realtor’s Park courts in south Regina starting June 2, 2021. We believe this is a model for other areas in Regina. If you are interested in providing leadership to exploring this model with your community association, please contact [Karen Rust](#) for details.

5. Pickleball Canada Appointment

We are proud to announce that our Past President, Karen Rust, has been appointed Prairies Director to the Board of Pickleball Canada by Pickleball Alberta, Pickleball Saskatchewan and Pickleball Manitoba. Karen thanks Janet Bradshaw, President of Pickleball Sask., Rose Sawatzky President of Pickleball Man., and Kirk Jensen, President of Pickleball Alta board for their support. There are many important initiatives underway at the national level that Karen looks forward to helping to advance. Congratulations Karen!



6. 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, including changes affecting tournament play, see the IFP Rulebook and Changes documents on the Pickleball Canada [website](#).

All rule changes are effective January 25, 2021.

7. Mark your Calendars- 2021 Tournaments:

a) Saskatchewan Provincial Championship

Saskatoon Pickleball Inc. will host 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.

Watch for the registration (without payment) starting on April 5th with a final decision set for June 1, 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 10 - 15, 2021**

Your 2020 - 2021 Board of Directors,

President – Reg Lakness

Vice-President – Allan Carpentier

Treasurer - Murray Cook

Secretary – Shelley Serle

Past President - Karen Rust

Directors at Large - Barry Thuen, Leslie Kingston, Donna Loran, Randy Dove, Lonnie Dynna and Georgia Hearn

Contact us at: pickleballreginainc@gmail.com

Learn, Play, And Grow Together!