

PRI Newsletter #36 - Summer Social, AGM, Tournaments, and more

1. Summer Social

Watch for your invitation to attend Pickleball Regina's **Summer Fun Day**.

- Lakeview Par 3 Courts & Clubhouse
- Sunday, August 11
- Pickleball Fun Games from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
- Beef on a Bun, Salads, Light Beverages to follow
- Adult beverages available for purchase
- Limit of 100 participants
- SignUp Genius invitation to be sent in early July



We have been in regular communication with the City on the Dedicated Courts projects. Their most recent update advises that the Requests for Quotations have closed and they are anticipating that construction will begin on the Mahon court conversion in July (weather permitting). Very exciting!

3. Annual General Meeting

Mark your calendars – Pickleball Regina's Annual General Meeting will be held:

Friday, October 18 6:30 p.m.

City of Regina Fieldhouse, Classroom #1

Please plan to attend to hear a recap of our exciting third year of existence, plans for the next year, to elect your new board of directors and to socialize with friends over light refreshments.

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Two Year Term (October 2019-2021)

It is time for the Nominating Committee of Pickleball Regina (PRI) to receive and consider Expressions of Interest from members, to serve on the organization's Board of Directors. There are 5 positions of director open for nominations, each for a two-year term.

The Nominating Committee will be preparing and recommending a slate of candidates to be presented to the membership at the upcoming AGM for the Director positions.

If you wish to indicate interest, or suggest the name of another member for consideration, please submit your Expression of Interest, along with a short bio, to Noreen Hetherington at pickleballregina@yahoo.com.

Expressions of Interest/Nominations are to be submitted by Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

The proposed slate of candidates will be provided to the membership 30 days in advance of the Annual meeting which will be held in October, 2019. Details of the meeting will be announced at a later time.

Sincerely,

Karen Rust President, Pickleball Regina, Inc.

Please refer to PRI's goals and principles on the next page.

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The **goals** of PRI are as follows:

- a. Develop the sport of Pickleball in the City;
- b. Promote the growth of pickleball as a sport for all ages in the City;
- c. Train pickleball players, coaches and officials;
- d. Offer organized recreational and competitive play;
- e. Ensure opportunities for the continued development of players in an inclusive and sportsmanlike environment;
- f. Support the development of pickleball facilities;
- g. Hold pickleball tournaments;
- h. Seek support from sponsors for pickleball activities.

The **principles** of PRI are as follows:

- a. To support all levels of play;
- b. To support indoor and outdoor play;
- c. To be an umbrella organization for pickleball activities in the City;
- d. To partner with organizations at all levels to build capacity;
- e. To comply with the Act, Pickleball Canada, Pickleball Saskatchewan and Sask Sport Inc.;
- f. To value volunteers;
- g. To include all people in the City interested in playing pickleball.

4. Tournaments

a. Saskatchewan Provincial Tournament, June 8 & 9

- Due to the forecast high winds, low temperatures and chance of showers, the tournament was moved indoors to the Canada Centre West building at Evraz Place. We were ready with 'Plan B' and everything proceeded as planned (with the exception of food services).
- The opening ceremonies with Ralph Goodale, Gene Makowsky and Lori Bresciani brought greetings from the Federal, Provincial and City governments. It was very nice and a great opportunity to showcase the sport of pickleball.
- o 142 players took part with 89 matches on Saturday and 87 on Sunday for a total of 176 matches.
- o 144 medals were presented to the Gold/Silver/Bronze winners of the 24 events.
- o Referees or Scorekeepers were provided for almost every match.
- We received many compliments on the tournament and our fantastic group of volunteers which numbered close to 100!

WELL DONE, PICKLEBALL REGINA!!!

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A limited number of tournament tee shirts are available for sale at cost (\$20). If you would like to purchase one, click HERE.

- b. Paddles on the Prairie Beverley Butt Memorial Tournament, Aug. 24 & 25
 - Registration is available through www.pickleballtournaments.com.
 - Mens and Womens Doubles is full with waitlist spots available.
 - o There are still some spots available in Mixed Doubles.
 - This is going to be another great tournament and hopefully the weather will cooperate so it can be outdoors at Douglas Park as planned.
 - o If you are willing to volunteer to coordinate sponsors/donations, please contact Karen Paisley at paisleyk@gmail.com.
 - o If you know of a business that could be approached for donations to this tournament, sponsorship request letters are available from Karen Paisley.

5. Skill Ratings

The Pickleball Canada website does a good job explaining the various options players have to be rated. HERE is the link to the webpage. Reviewing it will give you an understanding of the various types of ratings. It also points out that "Clubs often experience an increasing skill differential with new players joining and experienced players improving. This presents a challenge for clubs in providing opportunities for players of similar skills to play against each other."

We are facing this challenge in Pickleball Regina and, as is done in many clubs, Pickleball Regina has implemented the policy that players wanting to participate in skill level sessions at the 3.0 and higher level are required to have the appropriate Club or Tournament rating. Open play sessions are available for players who choose not to be rated.

Brooke Siver has come to Regina several times to provide Expert Club Ratings for members. So far, 112 members have obtained an Expert Club Rating from Brooke. We expect Brooke to be in Regina in August or September to conduct more ratings sessions – in preparation for registration for our Fall programs.

Members who have participated in sanctioned tournaments have a calculated tournament rating. They can see this rating (called UTPR) by viewing their Player Profile on www.pickleballtournaments.com If they want this rating reflected on PRI's member records, a screen print needs to be sent to membership@pickleballregina.ca But act fast as pickleballtournaments.com

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considers this access to UTPRs by non-USAPA members to be a bug that will be fixed.

Performance-Based Club Rating is something the Pickleball Regina Board is interested in exploring. There is a video and more information on this program, which is provided by pickleballratings.com, on the Pickleball Canada Ratings webpage. Any member(s) interested in getting involved with this project are asked to contact Karen Rust.

6. Summer Programs

Summer programs are all underway with good participation. There are a few spots still open in most programs for anyone still wanting to join in. For an overview of our summer programs, go to the webpage.

a. Evraz Place

Registration for the 'summer' term is open for indoor play on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Evraz. It will run for the three months of July, August and September. Click <u>HERE</u> to register.

b. Lakeview Par 3 Courts

PRImetime – the Wednesday evening/Saturday morning combined registration is full but there are a few spots still available to sign up for Wednesday evening only play. Click <u>HERE</u> to register.

The **Friday Night Lights** program, which is restricted to Club or Tournament Rated players at the 3.5 or higher skill level, has openings. Play occurs every Friday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. until September 27. Qualified players may signup HERE.

There are spots available in the **SZRB/PRI 55+ Weekday** program. The paper registration form is available on the <u>SZRB webpage</u> (at the bottom).

7. Training

Pickleball Regina is working on some exciting options for training in the Fall. More information to follow.

For the rest of the summer, we offer to our members:

a. **Introduction to Pickleball** - Sessions will be arranged based on demand and are tentatively scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Friday evenings this summer at the Lakeview courts. Please advise anyone you know who is interested in learning to play pickleball, to send an email to training@pickleballregina.ca. There is no charge for the introductory

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lesson for members of Pickleball Regina Inc. Training will follow the IPTPA curriculum.

b. **Ball Machine and Pickleball Rebounder** – this equipment, which can be very valuable in enhancing skills, is available for use at Evraz on the practice court during regularly scheduled hours. Pickleball Regina members will indicate their intention to use the equipment through this Signup.

The pickleball rebounder is a new piece of equipment that was purchased using funds received through the New Horizons for Seniors Program. To see how it can be used, view this <u>video</u>.

There are excellent YouTube videos that provide information on how to use the Pickleball Tutor ball machine and illustrate various drills that you can work on. Here are links to a few:

- Ball Machine Review
- O Simone Jardim: How to Improve Your 3rd Shot Drop
- O Simone Jardim: How to Practice Block Volleys
- Simone Jardim: How to Practice 3rd Shot Drives and 5th Shot Drop

8. Name Badges

With all the new programs and new players, it is really helpful to wear a name badge. If you have one, please wear it. If you don't, Marlene Bast coordinates orders of Pickleball Regina name badges.

To order yours, provide Marlene with the exact spelling of your name along with \$10 cash or cheque (Payable to Pickleball Regina). You may also etransfer the \$10 to Marlene at marlenebast@gmail.com.

The badges are made of white aluminum, 2.75" X 1.25", and attach by a magnet.



We hope you are enjoying the fantastic summer weather!

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