



THE INSIDER

Newsletter # 68
January 2022

Learn, Play, And Grow Together

1. Play with COVID-19

We are reminding you of the PRI policy to follow the guidelines from the Saskatchewan Health Authority and the provincial government related to COVID. We have increased sanitization efforts at PRI programs and remind you that off court masking is required at all PRI events.

While play is continuing, we would ask you to be careful, take personal responsibility for your actions by self-monitoring and if not feeling well, to stay away from play until you are feeling better. If you have concerns, get tested, and be vigilant for the following 5-7 days to be sure you are not contagious.

With the widespread of the Omicron variant, everyone is also encouraged to get vaccinated, including the booster shot to work to protect yourself and other members you have contact with during play.

Pickleball Regina continues to monitor the changing direction of the provincial guidelines and will work to keep you informed as direction evolves over the coming days. If added precautions are needed to continue play, the Board will consider additional safeguards to help keep you safe.

In the meantime, stay safe, play safe and please be respectful of the current protocols and other members' interests to continue to play.

2. PRI – Ratings Update

At the 2021 Annual General Meeting, members approved a motion asking PRI to consider additional processes for placing new members in appropriate skill groups. The motion was focused on developing a method to respond to members requests for a fast-track way rather than asking them to start at an entry level and work their way through the levels over time.

The Ratings Committee continues to work through the various approaches to respond to the needs of members to recognize skills and provide opportunities to play at levels that are a match to your interests. More communication will be provided as the PRI Board works through this process.

For members interested primarily in recreational play, skills ratings will occur **February 5, 2022** focused on members looking for Club ratings at the 3.0 and 3.5 level. This one-day session is limited to 24 participants to ensure all registered members can complete the process. The games phase will occur at a later date. Skill-based ratings will be planned on a regular cycle in conjunction with the Programming schedule, with three skill-based ratings sessions during the year.

Members with a ranking through ladder play (Pickleball Brackets) are encouraged to continue with ladder play to build their rating in competitive play.

3. Membership Renewals

With the implementation of the new Pickleball Canada National System (PCNS) earlier this year, all memberships now run January 1 – December 31. If you have not renewed for 2022, please renew your membership [today](#) to continue to be a member in good standing and be eligible to register for the Winter programs and many activities sponsored by PRI over the coming year.

Annual membership fees continue to be \$5.00 for PRI, plus \$5.00 for Pickleball Saskatchewan and \$10.00 for Pickleball Canada. You can also join additional clubs and only pay the additional club's fee (and additional Provincial fee, if club is outside Saskatchewan).

If you know someone who did not receive the newsletter it could be that their membership has expired or that they do not have the "opt in to emails" box checked. They can log in to www.pickleballcanada.org and view their profile information.

If you have questions or would like a direct renewal link sent to you, please contact membership@pickleballregina.ca.

4. Winter Programming – We’re Listening

Over the past few weeks, you have been providing feedback that PRI needs to consider options for how members can pay to play at the QCPH. We have been listening and have reached a different agreement with the QCPH to provide more flexibility for members.

For all winter programs, weekly Sign Up Genius has been re-introduced so that you can sign up each week you expect to play. This matters so that PRI and the QCPH can better plan the number of courts needed for each program each week.

Please click [HERE](#) or login to Sign up Genius and register if you are interested in enrolling in any of the PRI programs. Visit the [PRI website to view the revised schedule](#). For easy access, download the “Sign Up Genius” app to your phone or log in at www.signupgenius.com on your computer. Note that you do not need to wait for an email link, if there is a timeline, you can just log in to SUG and refresh your screen at the given time to sign up.

As part of the weekly signup genius, a spare list has been created for each session. If you are interested in being on the spare list, please sign up and include your name and phone number. If you are registered for a program and unable to attend for the upcoming weeks’ session(s), we are asking that you plan for those times that you will be absent and try to contact a spare to replace you. This allows for full utilization of courts.

For clarification, please remember that court fees are separate from the PRI “overhead fee”. A registered member signed up in a PRI session pays the "overhead fee" at time of registration for the full program.

5. 2022 Rule Changes

Rule changes have been made effective January 1, 2022. These have been approved by the International Federation of Pickleball and are applicable to all PRI sanctioned events. Click [HERE](#) for details.

6. Youth Pickleball League (YPL)

With the huge demand, PRI has started a session for 10–14-year-olds, on a weekly basis, between January 12-February 16th at the Queen City Pickleball Hub. Another session planned for February 23-March 23, 2022. In addition, a session for 7–9-year-olds may be piloted between March 16-30, 2022. Please contact [Georgia Hearn](#), Project Lead for more details.

7. PRI – New Director

At the December 2021 Board meeting, Steven Sagal was appointed to fill the vacant one-year term as a director at large. Steven is an avid member with ideas, skills and enthusiasm to assist PRI in pursuing our mandate to develop pickleball for Regina. Please join with the Board in welcoming Steven to the PRI Board of Directors.

8. Want to Volunteer – We Need YOU!

PRI will need many volunteers to help as we prepare to host the Pickleball Canada Western Regional Championships in Regina in July 2022. The Host Committee is compiling various roles and needs so that members can volunteer in areas of most interest to you. Please watch for details.

For members that are working towards certification as referees, and want some on-court practice time, the QCPH Prairie Polar Pickleball Playdown on January 27-31, 2022 is the place for you. Let us know about your interest to support our partner at this important tournament as we gear up for tournaments in 2022.

The Board is also looking for a person to assist as a secretary for the various Board meetings. This role involves keeping the meeting minutes from the monthly Board meetings.

For any of these volunteer opportunities, click [HERE](#) to let us know about your skills and interests.

9. Playmate Rebounder Tutor Machine

As part of your PRI membership, you have access to book and use the Playmate ball machine at the QCPH. There is a sign-up sheet near the entrance and members are encouraged to sign up, get some introductory training before using the equipment. To ensure as many members have access, we are asking you to book for one-hour sessions for each time you reserve the equipment.

10. Mark your Calendars- 2022 Tournaments

a) Pickleball Saskatchewan Provincial Championship

Pickleball Saskatchewan has partnered with the Queen City Pickleball Hub to host the “Provincials” on April 29-May 1, 2022. Watch for details.

b) Pickleball Canada National Championship

The “Nationals” are planned for Kingston on June 20-26, 2022. Click [HERE](#) for details.

c) Pickleball Canada Western Regional Championship

The Pickleball Canada Western Regional Championship has been scheduled to **July 22 - 24, 2022** at The International Trade Centre, Regina, SK. For more information, click [Here](#)

Meet your 2021 - 2022 Board of Directors

President – Reg Lakness

Vice-President – Randy Dove

Treasurer – Joyce Rieder

A/Secretary – Randy Dove

Directors at Large – Al Carpentier, Donna Loran, Lonnie Dynna, Georgia Hearn, Murray Bennett, Marilyn Picard and Steven Sagal

Questions or comments:

Let us know at pickleballreginainc@gmail.com

**“We gratefully acknowledge the support of Sask Lotteries
We could not succeed without their continued investment and ongoing
support.**

