



Battlefords Pickleball Club

Newsletter: April 2022

Mandate

The purpose of the Battlefords Pickleball Club is to facilitate the development and promote the growth of pickleball as a fun, healthy sport, and social activity in the Battlefords area.

BPC Board

The Board Members are:

Debbie Iwanchuk, President

Adele Perrett, Secretary

Carol Oke, Treasurer (member participate)

Amy Williams, Director at Large

Rob Squair, Director at Large

Vanitha Moodley, Director at Large

Zelda Marshall, Director at Large

Anne Bernier, Director at Large

Update

The BPC Board continues to assess playing opportunities for our members and look at many alternatives to maximize those times. This takes communication and negotiation with the Field House Management and Staff who are also satisfying requests and demands from other user groups.

The drop-in times that the club is provided with can and will always be pre-empted by rental opportunities secured by other groups. We may or may not have access to Court 2 during the times listed below. We are in the process of securing a white board that will be placed near the courts that will communicate the day's circumstances.

In the interim the current drop-in times provided by the FH are as follows:

Monday – Drop-in time 9:30 – 11:30 AM Social Play; (another group has rented Court 2 on a 12 month basis).

No afternoon drop-in time; does not prevent players/groups from calling to inquire if nets are available for play.

Tuesday No morning drop in time – Nets available for play by phoning ahead to FH front desk staff
(Courts 1/2 rented by BPC for 4 Tuesday AM's up to and including April 12, 2022)
Drop-in time 1:00 – 3:00 PM Competitive Play

Wednesday Drop-in time 9:30 – 11:30 AM Social Play; ; (another group has rented Court 2 on a 12 month basis).

Thursday Drop-in time 9:30 – 11:30 AM Level Play
Drop-in time 1:00 – 3:00 PM Competitive Play

Friday Drop-in time 9:30 – 11:30 AM Level Play
Drop-in time 1:00 – 3:00 PM Level Play

The following descriptions are provided to help you determine the appropriate session for you. Attending the appropriate session creates a fun, challenging and safe play environment.

Social Play

Intended for players wanting to have a fun, social recreational experience. Players are encouraged to develop and use all their skills; however, aggressive overhead smashes and spin shots should be reserved for competitive play. Play should be challenging for players, but not overwhelming.

Competitive Play

Intended for strong, experienced players who have a thorough understanding of pickleball strategies and can consistently use a variety of shots including overheads, fast paced ground strokes, approach shots, volleys, third shot drops, and lobs. Players should be comfortable with aggressive play and have directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand shots.

Level Play

All levels are encouraged to participate. Games should be set up for sameskilllevel play. For example, one net may be used for social play, another net for intermediate play, and a third for advanced play. If there are not enough people in a given level, players are asked to play with other skill levels, and to show courtesy when playing against both weaker and stronger players.

General Pickleball Skill Levels

Many new players are uncertain when they are considered ready for the next higher level of play. This information is provided as a guide and was developed by Pickleball Canada.

The BPC uses general pickleball skill levels versus a formal rating system:

Beginner Pickleball Players – These pickleball players have a very basic understanding of the rules and strategy of pickleball and have some basic shots (such as a serve, return, medium paced drive, and dinks), but have limited consistency and control.

Novice/Intermediate Pickleball Players – These pickleball players have a good understanding of the rules and **strategy** of pickleball and have both forehand and backhand shots (including drop shots, backhand shots, and volleys), which are generally consistent with a moderate number of unforced errors

Advanced Pickleball Players – These pickleball players have a strong understanding of the rules and strategy of pickleball and have great command over all shots on the pickleball court, with a limited number of unforced errors.

BPC continues to experience more players to our drop-in sessions, particularly the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning times. Recently, the FH has rented Court 2 to another user group every Mon. and Wed. morning over the next twelve months; this has resulted in players having to sit out or wait to play. Whenever possible certain nets can be designated for level play (beginners assume a net), as well as games played to 9 points vs 11 points to speed up rotations. These approaches will be left up to the members who attend these drop-in times to implement, as numbers are difficult to predict.

BPC Board encourages members to consider playing at many of the other drop-in or available open times to help minimize the congestion. If members become more flexible about this, wait times should improve.

Another fun Social Pickleball Mixer !!

New Horizons Grant

The New Horizon's grant has increased our visibility throughout the Battlefords with the New Horizon team holding development clinics, socials and extra court rentals for the membership and the general public.

The New Horizon grant team has again organized a Social Mixer for April 30, 2022, 1-4pm. Please check your email for the poster with the details and the registration forms and e-transfer details.

These mass emails are sent to members so please invite friends to try pickleball for themselves. We know they'll love it!

Senior Summer Games (SSFA) – Pickleball June 14-16, Prince Albert, SK

The main objective of the SSFA 55+ games is to promote active living, wellness, and participation of adults 55 years of age and older. There are 15 events planned for the 55+ games of which Pickleball is one event. This year participants will compete in provincial games in Prince Albert, SK (no district playoff competitions are to be held) and participants can qualify for the national games. On a first come first served basis, players registered their names through Amy Williams, volunteer Board Member who assisted our club in submitting names of our members who intend to play within specified levels and age group categories. We wish our nine participating members good luck, good times and a safe positive SSFA experience.

BPC Board

We will have a few Board of Director terms expire in 2022, plus we have two vacancies to fill. We ask all members to please consider volunteering for this role and make your interest known to any Board Member. You can also let us know your interest by emailing battlefordspbclub@gmail.com. Our annual general meeting will be held on May 12th at noon in the curling rink where positions are confirmed.





<https://www.pickleballsaskatchewan.ca>



<https://pickleballcanada.org>

