



# THE INSIDER

Learn, Play, And Grow Together

Newsletter # 79  
April 2023

## Summer Outdoor Programming

Pickleball Regina has received City permits for outdoor play at Douglas Park and Mahon Courts. Details for the many times and programs are being finalized. Play at Douglas Park is planned for May 1<sup>st</sup>, weather permitting. Mahon start date will be announced at a later time. The City of Regina has confirmed it will be upgrading the posts at Mahon so windscreens can be placed back at the courts this season. Timelines for this work is to be confirmed once a contractor is confirmed. We appreciate the support from the Arcola East Community Association in assisting PRI in working with the City of Regina so we can enjoy outdoor play for the summer months.

The Programming Committee welcomes your suggestions for programs so we can make the summer sessions meet your interests.

## Future Court Development - Douglas Park

We have received updates about the new court facility being constructed at Douglas Park to replace the current courts. Drawings for the twelve-court phase are being finalized for the new courts, to be located northwest of the current court location. At this point, final approvals are pending with construction to follow. The new courts may be available late this summer, however may not open until spring 2024.



## Pickleball Regina Membership

To play in organized programs sponsored by both PRI and QCPH, participants are required to have a current PCO/PSI/PRI membership. This is a continuation of our journey for both organizations to work together for the benefit of pickleball in the Regina region.

With summer just around the corner, please remind any non-members to join (or renew) to be included in upcoming announcements for both indoor and outdoor organized summer play and tournaments. New or expired members can join/renew at [pickleballregina.ca](http://pickleballregina.ca)

## **Pickleball No-Slam in Demand**

We have started a new program called “No-Slam” for our members. The idea behind this program is to take some of the fear out of the hard-hitting game for new and experienced players by giving them the tools to learn to control the ball better.

The program is offered three times/week and it has been a great success with many new players joining to learn about the softer, control part of the game and many experienced players have found it helpful to slow the game down and work on their control.

Special thanks to Ray Greenwood and Murray Bennett, both certified coaches that run and coach the program. They move from court to court and will stop play to give immediate coaching to the players on all aspects of the game.

Your feedback has been highly encouraging, and with 8 – 20 players attending regularly, this new program is a huge success in keeping people playing and improving their skills, and most of all, their confidence!

If you are interested to learn more and join this program, sign up on GPN or let us know at [training@pickleballregina.ca](mailto:training@pickleballregina.ca)

## **Playmate Ball Machine – It’s Up to You!**

With the support of grant funding, Pickleball Regina was able to purchase the Playmate Ball Machine you see at QCPH being used most days by our members. This is a deluxe piece of equipment that most clubs can’t afford and would love to have. We thank Dave Trembley and others for their support to help maintain, clean and keep this machine functioning since its arrival.

While PRI expected to have expenses to maintain the machine, with the replacement of chargers, the remote controllers and balls, the costs to the club reached about \$1,500 over the past year.

What’s disappointing is the continual disappearance of the pickleballs being provided to operate the machine. Weekly ball replacement continues to be an issue with up to 25 balls a week being removed, far more than expected through wear and breakage.

No one is making accusations; however, members are reminded that the balls placed in the machine are for the machine, not for personal use for other programs.

PRI is looking at ways to reduce the costs including suggestions to introduce a rental charge or requiring members to buy and use their own balls. Damage to the machine or the remotes may be charged back to the renter.

So, “it’s up to you” to decide how to self-manage and police the use and care of this equipment. The ball machine is available as a key asset that sets PRI aside from other pickleball clubs. Members are expected to take good care when using this club asset.

## Sign Up - Coaching Certification Clinics!

Level 1 and Level 2 National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) clinics are scheduled in Regina this spring at the Queen City Pickleball Hub. Level 1 is full with a waitlist available. Level 2 has space available and is for members already certified as Level 1 coaches.

Dates:

Level 1 - May 13; a one-day course (with a minimum of 8 participants).

Level 2 - May 11 and 12; a two-day course (with a minimum of 8 participants).

Participants of these clinics will be reimbursed \$150 subsidy from Pickleball Saskatchewan and up to \$150 from Pickleball Regina once a certificate of completion is submitted.

Selkirk Sport is now a partner with pickleball coach education so participants will receive a paddle valued at \$330.00.

Click [here](#) to access the Pickleball Coach Education Webpage and access further information on both clinics.

## Want to Referee?

Refereeing is a very rewarding opportunity to give back to the sport of pickleball and have a front-row seat for tournament games!

Members interested in becoming a Pickleball Canada accredited referee are encouraged to review the [Officiating Program](#) webpage. Training via Zoom will be provided followed by in-person, on court practice sessions with experienced referees as mentors. Completion of the 'classroom' Zoom training and required tests are prerequisites for entering the on-court mentoring sessions. Providing proof of Visual Acuity is a condition of final accreditation. To register your interest in becoming an accredited referee or with questions, please contact [Karen Rust](#)

## 2023 Pickleball Canada National Championship

Planning is continuing for the 2023 National Championship coming to Regina in August, 2023 as we have less than 150 days until the tournament starts.



With between 400-700 athletes this event will showcase pickleball for Canada. Open registration starts May 15, 2023. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

We need YOU!! Many volunteers will be needed and there will be a wide variety of opportunities. Watch for an invite from Sign Up Genius which will be out shortly – please sign up to indicate your *Expression of Interest*. Specific shifts will be identified and commitments requested closer to the tournament.

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has been working to get things in place for the event including:

- Tournament details on [pickleballbrackets.com](http://pickleballbrackets.com)
- Registration
- Court configuration
- Host hotels (Atlas and Residence Inn)
- Sponsorship
- Agreements with PCO, REAL and QCPH
- Budget finalization

### **Future Tournaments:**

**April 29-30, 2023**, Picklefest 2023 is at the Queen City Pickleball Hub. Join us and watch 32 of the best pickleball pros throughout the nation battle it out over the course of this action-packed weekend! For tickets go to: [queencitypickleballhub.com](http://queencitypickleballhub.com).

**June 9-11, 2023**, Pickleball Saskatchewan Provincial Championship, hosted by Saskatoon Pickleball Inc. with play at the Warman Home Centre Communiplex. Click [HERE](#) for details.

**July 7-9, 2023**, Pickleball Canada Western Regional Championship, hosted by Medicine Hat Pickleball Club, Medicine Hat, AB. Click [HERE](#) for details.

**August 23-27, 2023**, Pickleball Canada National Championship, hosted by Pickleball Regina Inc. at the Viterra International Trade Centre and Queen City Pickleball Hub. Registration opens May 15th. Click [HERE](#) for details.

### **Meet your 2022 – 2023 Board of Directors**

President – Randy Dove

Vice-President – Steven Sagal

Treasurer – Joyce Rieder

Secretary – Colin McAllister

Past President – Reg Lakness

Directors – Donna Loran, Georgia Hearn, Murray Bennett, Marilyn Picard, Ray Greenwood

#### **Questions or comments:**

Let us know at [admin@pickleballregina.ca](mailto:admin@pickleballregina.ca)

***“We gratefully acknowledge the support of our sponsors and funders!  
We could not succeed without their continued investment and ongoing support.”***

