

Victoria Regional Pickleball Association

Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 3:15 p.m.

Via Zoom

In Attendance

Connie McCann, President
Beverly De Haitre, VP, Director
Joanne Rykers, Treasurer
Damaris Brix, Secretary

Judy Langford, Director
Jules van Rosebrook, Director
Lindsey Stene, Director

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 2023 board meeting were approved as presented.

Financial Report

Joanne reviewed the financial report as of February 26, 2023

- Island Savings balance \$23,192.19
- PayPal balance \$451.46
- Petty Cash balance \$100.35
- Trackie (PCO) balance \$410.00

Joanne wondered if was necessary to maintain a petty cash fund. Judy explained that in her experience it is worthwhile to have for reimbursing small amounts to individuals who have purchased items on behave of VRPA. Joanne is getting some treasurer related notifications sent to her personal email, rather than the treasurer email.

Membership Report

We have 496 paid up members.

There are 104 past members who have not renewed for 2023. Connie will send them an email encouraging them to renew.

Damaris showed a video of the Christmas tournament. Bev will put it on the Facebook page.

Programs

Lindsey reported that switching to Sign-Up Genius for program registration has been a success. There were no negative comments from our members. People just need

to be aware that the software requires one to scroll down the page and hit “sign up now” to finalize the registration. People that completed the practice session had no problems enrolling.

Lindsey would like to do a survey of members on what they would like offered, what they like about the VRPA, possibly why they did not renew, etc. Connie will connect her to a contact in another Pickleball club who has done such a survey. Once the survey is drafted, Connie will send it out to members.

Website

Jules displayed the draft website using the template from PCO. The board would need to come up with a mission statement, but for now he included one based on Delta Pickleball Club’s wording. Connie had previously sent an email to all members asking for help with our website, but got no volunteers. She is considering approaching a member who has expertise in this area. One difficulty is that anyone working on the website needs access to the PCO membership site. Lindsey and Bev offered to help Jules with getting the website up and running until someone else can be found to take it on. Thank you to Jules for the great job he has done in getting this underway.

Tournament Director and Event Coordinator

Judy reported that 5 members responded to Connie’s email seeking a volunteer for a Tournament Director. We are pleased to announce that Jeff Hodgson will be TD and Cathy Wong will be event coordinator for the June 9-11 tournament.

The topic of sponsorship was discussed. None of last year’s sponsors have come forward. Connie said it will be unacceptable to run the tournament at a loss, and if no sponsors can be found then entry fees will have to be raised. It is \$4,000 just for the rental at Pearkes. If anyone has ideas for a potential sponsor, please let Connie know. Joanne suggested that a committee for fundraising and long term support for tournaments be set up. Connie will email out an update on this. Thank you to Judy for vetting the applicants.

DUPR

Connie reported that she had a zoom meeting with Nicholas from DUPR. She was told that VRPA is not ready yet to use DUPR for player ratings within our membership. She advised that Pickleball Brackets and DUPR have merged.

Saanich Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee report

Bev reported on this meeting that she, Connie and Judy attended. Although she and Judy were discouraged, Connie felt it was a positive meeting. The committee has

now been educated about Pickleball and moving forward will have a better understanding of what is needed. When Fowler Park comes to the table, the committee will know of Pickleball's interest in the site.

President's Report

Connie will be meeting with Lana Popham, MLA, on Mar 16. Lana is Minister for Sport & Tourism, and is a Pickleball player herself. Connie plans to talk to her about possible funding for Fowler Park, Pickleball rolls for a tournament at Save on Foods Memorial Centre, and about laying the groundwork for other funding for Pickleball. Thank you to Dave Metcalfe and Malcolm Macaulay for setting up the meeting.

Broadwell Airdomes contacted Connie and gave her quotes for covered play areas.

Regional Pickleball Strategy

The City of Victoria, Esquimalt, Saanich and Oak Bay have put out an RFP to develop a regional pickleball strategy. Connie was able to get ahold of the RFP. VRPA is not listed as one of the stakeholders.

Volunteer Recognition

PBC is recognizing volunteers. Connie will be nominating Trish Main, Al Thomson, Heather Hood, and Jan Bergen. Please send Connie any other names for recognition.

Youth Programs

Connie will be connecting with Nancy M regarding the offering of a Pickleball workshop for teachers on the upcoming province-wide pro-d day. Teachers would learn the game and be given lesson plans. Heather Hood's application for a \$500 matching grant from Pickleball BC and VRPA to buy paddles for the middle schools has been approved.

City of Victoria Lessons

Pickleball lessons at Central Park in the summer for both adults and juniors. We would provide the paddles and balls, and our certified coaches would be available for the coaching. VRPA would get 50% of the profits from the program. This program would lay the groundwork for the future when Topaz Park courts are built. Beverly suggested that Connie check with Selkirk for a donation of paddles for the lessons.

Level II Coaching Course in Parksville

Connie will notify our coaches of this opportunity to get their level II certification.

Cordova Bay Community Club

Connie sent the CBCC a letter expressing interest in sharing space in their proposed new 8 court facility.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 21st at 3:15 p.m. at Judy's house

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.