

#### SEASON KICK OFF

We have been welcomed by an early summer with plenty of warm weather and as a result, Kerry Park outdoor courts have been packed with Pickleball enthusiasts. Our two Round Robin events have been well-received with avid pickleball members sharing laughs and lots of action thanks to our wonderful coordinators **Michael**Peiffer and **Maggie and Roy Wanbon**. Our thanks to you for helping us off to a great start to our 2023 season. Our plan is to continue **Round Robin play on**Tuesday mornings and move on to **Lightning Tournaments** and **Ladders** during our Thursday reserved court time.

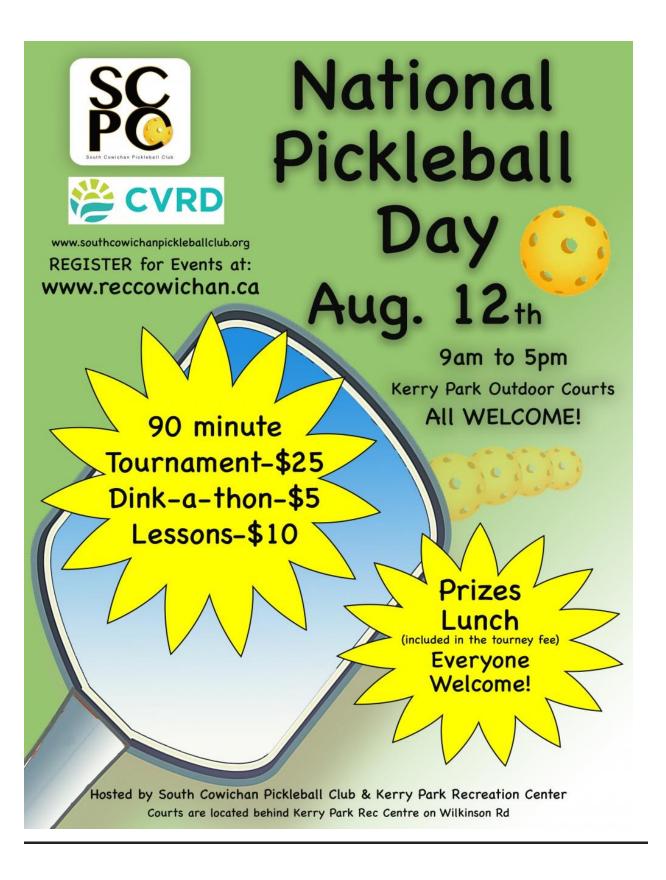
**Intermediate pickleball lessons** are now in progress with Scott Carruthers on Wednesday evenings. These lessons consist of 2 small groups, paid by individual members, to work on a variety of skills and court strategies.

Another big thank you to **Harold Borges**, **Lynne Phillips**, and **Ray Kocher** who have been helping to raise our skill levels by contributing their time to **Skills & Drills** practice **4:30 pm - 5: 30pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays**.



# SAVE THE DATE! NATIONAL PICKLEBALL DAY - AUGUST 12

South Cowichan Pickleball Club is teaming up with Kerry Park Recreation to celebrate **National Pickleball Day** on **Saturday, August 12**. This is a wonderful way to share and to celebrate our favorite recreational activity. We have several activities planned: Dink-a-Thon, 90 Minute Tournament and Pickleball Lessons for beginner and intermediate players. Kerry Park has included the information in their Summer Recreation Guide (page 61). If you are interested, registration is **NOW OPEN**. All registrations for the above activities are completed through online registration: <a href="https://www.reccowichan.ca">www.reccowichan.ca</a>



## PICKLEBALL BC VOTE

As a member of Pickleball BC and Pickleball Canada you will have received information regarding by-laws proposed by Pickleball Canada. "Pickleball BC is urging members to act by informing themselves, attending the town hall and special general meeting, and voting NO to the proposed bylaw amendments, and say YES to protecting the voice and interests of BC and other Provincial organizations...The voting will be done online from Thursday May 25th 8 p.m. ET till Sunday May 28th midnight ET. We will provide you further details on the voting process." (quoted from Pickleball BC Notice)

## LIGHTNING TOURNAMENTS

Our **Lightning Tournaments**, also known as **90-minute tournaments**, allow our members to meet, compete, and share a few laughs. Our membership survey showed a high interest in more competitive activities such as ladders and tournaments. We are planning a series of **Lightning Tournaments** which will be scheduled on the **first Thursday of each month**. You will register as a mixed team of **2**. The 4 club-reserved courts will accommodate 8 mixed teams per session. Our **June 1st tournament** is scheduled for **10 am -noon**. **July, August, and September** tournaments will run from **8-10 am**, an earlier start adjusting to expected higher temperatures.

# Why a Lightning Tournament?

- Tournaments wrap up in exactly 90 minutes—every single time.
- Pickleball "ratings numbers" (which are notoriously subjective) are not required for the proper functioning of these competitions.
- These events automatically sort competing teams according to their skill-levels.
- Each of the 8 teams enjoy 90 minutes of continuous play.
- Doubles teammates never "split up" during the competition.
- These events do not require the reporting of scores to a drawmaster.
- Participants never cool-down between games because breaks are only minutes long.

## How does it work?

- The rally point system is used to score all games.
- Games are **not** won by reaching the "cap" score (a score of 15 in the rally point system or a score of 11 in the traditional hand-out system)
- Games are timed and those games are won only when the 10-minute buzzer rings.
- When the buzzer sounds, there is no need to record game scores or to report to a drawmaster.
- At the buzzer, the team with the most points moves toward **court #1** while the team with the least points moves in the opposite direction toward **court #4**.

 Teams do not need to win by two points; these are win-by-one-point events. If the score is tied when the buzzer sounds, the team that scored the last point will move up.

## **HOW DO I REGISTER?**

Go to our website: southcowichanpickleball.org

Click on **EVENTS** --click on **TOURNAMENTS** -click on **Lightning Tournament**—click on **Register---** Read instructions for how to enter a team of 2. An email confirming your registration will be sent. If the session is full, you will receive a message that you have been added to the Event Waitlist until an opening occurs. If an opening occurs, you will receive an email and your acceptance will be time limited.

This is a **members** only event with no registration fee. **Paddles Ready...Let's Go!!!!** 

Tournament Date	Registration	Opens (8 am)	Registration	Closes (6 pm)
Thurs. June 1 (10-no	oon)	Tues. May 23		Wed. May 31
Thurs. July 6 (8-10 a	m)	Tues. June 26		Wed. July 5
Thurs. Aug. 3 (8-10 a	am)	Tues. July 25		Wed. Aug. 2
Thurs. Sept. 7 (8-10	am)	Tues. Aug. 29		Wed. Sept. 6

# **LADDERS**

Pickleball ladders provide an organized way to have players matched mostly with others of similar skill levels, while still mixing things up so you don't always play with the same people. Your ranking on a ladder is based mainly upon your winning percentage (essentially, the ratio of points won to total points possible). This format of play is suitable for all skill levels, but the spirit of play may be a bit more "competitive" as players vie to move up the ladder. We are only running short 3-week ladders each month. Knowing your scores and where you finished in one ladder will help to establish your placement on future ladders.

## How does our 3-week ladder work?

Each week, players will be placed on pre-assigned courts in groups of 5 for a mini Round Robin. Court 1 is the top of the ladder and Court 4 the bottom. With 5 players assigned to a court, a bye will be built into the Round Robin play. All players will play 4 doubles games with the other 4 players on their court, keeping track of their scores on a score sheet. Games are played to 15 points with **no two-point difference**.

At the end of the day, the score sheets are submitted to the coordinator, who will calculate the ladder standings based on the day's results. The following week, players will be assigned to each court based on the new ladder standings with the top player from week one moving "up a court" and the bottom player "down a court". Because Court 1 can only move down, and Court 4 can only move up, those courts will only lose and gain one player.

There are lots of calculations involved in keeping track of ladder play, but the bottom line is that you just need to sign up, show up, play on your assigned court and write down your scores. The coordinator will take care of the rest.

# **HOW DO I REGISTER?**

Go to our website: southcowichanpickleball.org

Click on EVENTS—click on LADDERS—click on REGISTER

This is a **members** only event with no registration fee. **You are committing to 3 consecutive Thursday dates.** 

LADDER Date Closes 6pm	Registration Opens 8am	Registration
Thurs. June 8, 15, 22 (10-noon) 6	Tues. May 30	Tues. June
Thurs. July 13, 20, 27 (8-10 a.m.) 11	Tues. July 4	Tues. July
Thurs. Aug. 10, 17, 24 (8-10 a.m.) 8	Tues. Aug. 1	Tues. Aug.
Thurs. Sept. 14, 21, 28 (8-10 a.m. 12	Tues. Sept. 5	Tues. Sept.

# SUMMARY OF "WHAT'S UP"

**Round Robins:** continues Tuesday mornings

**Lightning Tournaments:** first Thursday of June, July, August, September

**Ladder Tournaments:** Thursdays ---week 2, 3, & 4 June to September

Open Play: Mixed Doubles Saturdays June 28-August 26

Men's/Women's Play Wednesdays June 28-August 30

(read on for details)

# **New Court Time Reservations**

SCPC is excited to add two new court times to accommodate Mixed Doubles Play and Men's/Women's Play.

- Mixed Doubles (4 courts): Saturdays 9-11 a.m. starting June 3-August 26
- Men's/Women's Play (4 courts): Wednesdays 6-8 p.m. starting June 28-August 30. We will start with 2 courts each. If there is enough interest, we could reserve 4 courts on a different day with one evening for men's play and the other evening for women's play.



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