

February 2024 newsletter

AGM: Please mark your calendar and plan to attend our AGM on Tuesday, March 12, from 5-6 pm. The meeting will be held in boardroom 2 at Sport Yukon, 4061 4 Ave, Whitehorse. You will also be able to access the meeting via zoom. (Details to follow). In addition to presenting various reports, (treasurer's, president's, instructor coordinator's), we will be asking members to join the board. Our board currently has five very dedicated and hard-working members. But we need more. Our association is growing. We can have up to 12 board members. Ideally our board should be representative of our membership. In other words, we would like more women and more novice/intermediate players to join. We currently have 125 members, which is truly amazing. For quorum, we need 15% in attendance-at least 19- either in person or via zoom.

After the formal AGM, we would like to have a discussion of two major initiatives:

Establishing a rating system. A background paper will be published prior to the AGM to inform you of our proposal to use Pickleball Brackets to rate players, and to use those ratings to rank players, to create a ladder league, that objectively places players of similar skill level in the various rungs of the ladder. This is a major shift. But our association has reached a stage of size and maturity that we must adopt a rating system if we wish to offer something other than open play.

Advocating for dedicated pickleball courts. We intend to make a presentation to City Council, probably in early May, to seek their support for improved pickleball facilities. We have three goals.

A short-term goal, to have the lease between the City and Tennis Yukon revised to include pickleball as an entitled shared user of one of the 4 tennis courts. Details of the revised lease would require negotiations with Tennis Yukon and the City.

A medium-term goal, to create a minimum of 6 dedicated outdoor pickleball courts.

A long-term goal (only because it is more expensive), to build more indoor gym space, of adequate size, to better meet the needs of pickleball and many other sports.

When the time comes for the presentation to City Council, we will be urging you to show support and to fill the Council Chambers. This will impress the councillors more than whatever words we offer.

Additional news:

Spring Break: We are unable to use Takhini School during the spring break. However, we requested, and were offered the use of Elijah Smith on Saturdays and Sundays for the same times that we normally have at Takhini. So, on March 16, 17 and March 23, 24 the only change is the location. We will be at Elijah Smith not Takhini. We have also been offered to use Elijah Smith on Fridays of those two weeks. Please note: the times are not our standard Friday times. On Friday the 15th we have the gym from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. On the 22nd we have the gym from 4:00-6:00 pm. Please mark your calendars.