February 2023 newsletter

- 1. AGM: Our AGM will be held on March 15, from 5-7 p.m. at the Sport Yukon Boardroom 1. Please let Jim Gilpin jgilpin@northwestel.net know in advance if you wish to attend in person, as space is limited. Members will also be able to access the meeting via zoom. We are currently "transitioning" to meet the requirements of the new Societies Act. Thus, members will need to approve a special resolution to endorse a new constitution and by-laws. The new act requires that the constitution be a simple declaration of the purpose of the organization. We are proposing adopting the recommended generic by-laws, with one minor change, namely setting quorum at 20% of members rather than 25%. Details of the special resolution will be sent out about March 1. The board is elected on a one-year basis. We look forward to your participation at the AGM, as we appreciate your input and feedback and your support in growing the sport in Yukon. Please inform any existing board members (listed on our webpage) if you are interested in joining next year's board. Based on the Strategic Plan we intend to assign directors to roles: such as Instruction, Community Engagement, Tournaments, etc. If you do not wish to be on the board, but would like to help, we intend to set up committees that will focus on specific tasks.
- 2. Round Robins: We intend to continue offering two round robins on Saturdays. The open round robins (from 2-4 pm) always fill up. The non-competitive round robin (from 4-6 pm) was set up with novice players in mind. Some experienced instructors attend to offer some warmup drills and help facilitate the round robin. Several players have joined the YPA in the last few months. We particularly hope you will take advantage of this opportunity. Just "google" Yukon Pickleball Association and on the webpage click on the Events button. The drop-down menu will appear. Click on the appropriate date, click on the register button and follow the prompts. We can accommodate 15 players. Currently there are 7 signed up for Feb. 18, and 2 signed up for Feb. 25.
- 3. Ladder League: Ladder league 2023-2 started last Sunday, February 12, and goes for 4 weeks. The last matches are on March 5. Only 4 levels (20 players) signed up. The board would like to see more players participate in the league. Ideally, we would like to have 30 players (6 levels) participate each week. Starting March 12, we are going to try a different format. Rather than committing for several weeks, you can sign up one week at a time, using the Events button on our webpage. Sign up will open the Sunday prior to the next week. So, for March 12, you can sign up starting on March 5. And sign up will close at noon on the Thursday. So, registration will close at noon, March 9 for the March 12 ladder league. Based on how many signed up, and what their "ranking" is, players will be grouped into groups of 4 or 5, with players within each group at about the same skill level. Rankings have been determined based on past performance in ladder league. Rankings will shift slightly from week to week based on subsequent performance. However, just because a player was the top scorer in a level on March 12 (s)he cannot assume that (s)he will be in a higher level the following week. It will all depend on who signs up. We are looking at more formal ranking systems. But, for starters we would like to try this out to see if we can generate more interest.
- 4. **Shot Clinics:** Starting on February 26, up to 8 participants will be able to sign up. Shot clinics will continue to be offered every second Sunday (Feb. 26, March 12, and 26) from 1-3 pm. On alternate Sundays group bookings can be made during this time slot.