



Chilliwack Pickleball Club

March 2024



Welcome to Spring!!!! It has been so nice to return to some sunshine and warmer weather and I can't believe that we are in the later half of March already.....where does the time go??? (Well, for many of us it goes to playing pickleball...aren't we lucky!!)

A big welcome to all of our new members this month, and also a big welcome back to all of our snowbirds that are now starting to return from down south. Just a quick reminder that if you haven't already renewed your club membership it will need to be done as soon as possible so that you can't get back out onto the court.

In case you need any information, you will be able to find all of the instructions for membership renewal, purchasing play credits, monthly schedules and more on our club website.

Regular Play reminders:

Thank you to all of the members that are mindful of booking into sessions and showing up on time. It certainly makes the job of the host a lot easier and helps make sure that playing opportunities are fully utilized by all members of the club.

A few important points:

-Skills and Drills: sign up for S&D's now closes the night before (Weds. evening) at 8 pm. This is the closure time for both getting into the session **AND opting out**. This is necessary, in order for us to arrange for the proper number of instructors to be available to help out the following day. The sessions are also very popular so if you're hoping to secure a spot, sign up opens at 6pm on Thursday nights, for the following week's Thursday session.





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-Last minute openings: For all other play sessions, the opt-in/opt-out options continue to be locked out **2 hours** before the play time begins. However, it is very common for numbers to change the morning of that play session. This means that often play spots actually become available in the morning, that weren't available the night before. **If you are eager to play, but didn't get a spot for that day, make sure to check the system just prior to the 2 hour lock-out, because many times a spot becomes available at the last minute.**

-2.0 & Beginner's Ladder League

When will the Ladder League start & finish?

The ladder league started on **Mon, Mar 4th** and run for 9 weeks until **Apr 29th**. Time, 1.15pm-3.15pm. You can still join up at this time.

What is the cost?

Normal fob in every week.

Who can play?

The league is open to all members who have a rating of 2.0 and under. The aim is for all players to enjoy playing pickleball with other players of a similar skill level.

Do I need to attend all 9 weeks?

No, players do not have to commit to playing all 9 weeks but there will be a 1 place ranking penalty for missed weeks. Players can also start mid session but will incur the 1 spot penalty for each week they missed.

How does the ladder work?

- Players will be placed in groups of 4-5 with other players closest to them in ranking.
- Format is a round robin. Groups of 4 will play games to 15, win by 2. Groups of 5 will play games to 11, win by 2. One 1min timeout per team per game.
- After play is finished, player's scores are entered. The rankings are recalibrated for the next week and the top player of the group will move up and the bottom player will move down.
- If a player misses a week, then they will incur a 1 spot penalty.
- After the 9 weeks are complete there will be two prizes awarded. One for the player who finishes at the top of the ladder and one for the player who has the most wins. If it happens that the Ladder Leader has the most wins, then it will go to the player who has the second most wins. If there is a tie, then a point differential tie breaker will be used to determine the winner.

How do I register?

- You must OPT IN on Pickleball Brackets one week in advance up to 2hrs before play commences.
- If you cannot play then you must OPT OUT 2hrs before play commences. It is very important to arrive on time so not to delay play.

What happens when the round robin is finished?

Players may continue playing socially and mixing with other player's one court up or down. Please be considerate of all players and do not leave your court short of players. **Have fun and see you out on the courts!!**



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-Tuesday Coed Ladder League

When will the Ladder League start & finish?

The ladder league will start on **Tues, April 2nd** run for 12 weeks until **Jun 18th**. Time, 12.30pm-3.00pm.

What is the cost?

Normal fob in every week.

Who can play?

The league is open to all members. The aim is for all players to enjoy playing pickleball with other players of a similar skill level.

Do I need to attend all 12 weeks?

No, players do not have to commit to playing all 12 weeks but there will be a 1 place ranking penalty for missed weeks. Players can also start mid session but will incur the 1 spot penalty for each week they missed.

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- You must OPT IN on Pickleball Brackets one week in advance up to 2hrs before play commences.
- If you cannot play then you must OPT OUT 2hrs before play commences. It is very important to arrive on time so not to delay play.

What happens when the round robin is finished?

Players may continue playing socially and mixing with other player's one court up or down. Please be considerate of all players and do not leave your court short of players. If you cannot commit to play for at least 2hrs (12.30-2.30pm) then do not OPT IN to play.

-Men's/Ladies' & Fixed partner Ladder Leagues:

We are in the last week of our Men's/Ladies' and Fixed partner ladder leagues as they wrap up on March 25th and 26th. Lots of excellent play has been happening, but more importantly it certainly seems like participants are really having fun and enjoying the opportunity to work on their pickleball skills and shoot for the top!



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-Book Your Own Court

Just a quick reminder that Book Your Own Court opportunities are limited so please make that you are certain about using a court, and have your foursome organized, before securing a booking. That way others, that are waiting for an opening, can book in and we don't have any courts sitting empty during BYOC sessions.

-May Spring Tournament:

Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our May Spring Tournament as originally planned, as the City of Chilliwack is not making the Landing available to us for all 3 days. There are many other local Pickleball Tournaments available in the Spring and Summer months for those who wish to compete. Visit the Pickleball BC website for an updated list of any upcoming tournaments around BC. If you want to travel further, check out Pickleball Brackets which will also lists U.S. and other tournaments across Canada.

Play Tip of the Month:

Want to get better at Dinking???....Always move your feet between shots at the kitchen line.

You should pretty much never hit two dinks (or more) in a row without moving your feet. That's because the ball never comes to the exact same place twice! Even if your steps are tiny, you should move between each shot to put yourself in the best position to hit. Ideally, you should be contacting the ball at the same point relative to your body every time to keep your swing consistent, which will in turn minimize errors.

Active footwork is what allows for this. If you don't move your feet, you'll lean your body to hit, which means you'll be hitting a different shot every time, which is near impossible to consistently control.



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That's a Wrap!

Winter Ladder League:

After the completion of a very successful Winter Ladder League, with over 60 players participating, we crowned our champion. Congratulations to Sam Barieh who finished on the top rung with Greg De Vries taking the prize for the Most Outstanding player by notching the most wins. Congratulations to everyone who participated! The league was wrapped up with a well attended social event held upstairs at the Landing. Lots of great door prizes were handed out for participants and a big THANK YOU goes out to Linda Huffman and her volunteers for helping with coffee and goodies!



Elder college

This spring Lyle and his group of wonderful volunteers are continuing to run our very successful Elder College sessions. Participants are provided with one in class session, followed by 2 on-court introduction sessions where they learn all the basics of this great game of pickleball. The sessions are always well attended, and participants really enjoy themselves, so much so, that many of them end up becoming members of our club! Group 1 completed earlier this month and the second group completes their last on-court session this week. If you know someone waiting to get a great introduction to pickleball, have them check out Elder College and sign up for our next classes coming up in the Fall.





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Membership Corner

We continue to be amazed at our members that are still going strong and playing great pickleball well into their senior years!! This month we will chat with another of our 80+ members, Peter Hooge!

Member Close-up

Name: Peter Hooge

Age: 80 years young

Beginning the journey: Peter has been playing pickleball about 7 years and started down in Casa Grande, Arizona at a park called Palm Creek Resort. They have 32 wonderful lit courts and have even hosted the U.S. Nationals there a number of years. A neighbour of Peter's at Palm Creek introduced him to the sport and brought him to the club which has about 1000 members.

Previous sports/activities: Peter has always been involved in sports. When he was a young teenager he played Babe Ruth Baseball on a team with Jerry Reimer, and helped their team win the city championship both years that they played. Both of them were also picked for the AllStar team. Peter was also captain of his high school Soccer team that won the Fraser Valley Championship. Along with baseball and soccer, Peter was also on the MEI high school basketball team that, in 1963, took the Provincial Championship with 27 straight wins and only 7 players!!! After high school he continued to play a lot of tennis and golf, and to this day still stays busy with swimming, biking, hiking, and of course, Pickleball!!

Favourite thing about pickleball: Peter, along with his wife Betty, both really love the social aspect of the sport, and Peter says, he doesn't mind the competitive aspect either!

What's your secret?: Peter feels the secret to still being able to play and enjoy the sport at this age is that he has stayed active. His advice would be to try and stay in shape and try and eat a healthy diet (this is the part he feels isn't always good at.....join the club Peter!!!).

Any parting advice, Peter?: Make sure you have a good social network of friends to enjoy life with!!!

Thank you so much for sharing your story with us Peter!
Here's wishing you many, many more healthy, happy Pickleball years!!

Congratulations:

A few of our members have been busy playing in tournaments outside the lower mainland. Sunshine, pickleball and success on the courts.....what more could you ask for?!!

Congratulations to the following:

Sheila Armstrong & Sandra Verschuur GOLD 4.0 Women's Dbls. (California)

Sheila Armstrong & partner SILVER 4.0 Mixed Dbls. (California)

Sandra Verschuur & Cheryl May BRONZE 3.5 Women's Dbls. (California)

Jodi Vanthournout & partner GOLD 3.0 Women's Dbls. (Washington)

April Graham & partner BRONZE 3.0 Women's Dbls. (Washington)

Jeannie Bruinink & Brian Bruinink BRONZE 4.5 Mixed Dbls. 60-69 (Arizona)

Jeannie Bruinink & Julie Fredette BRONZE 3.5 Women's Dbls. (Arizona)



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Jodi Vanthournout & Dan Vanthournout BRONZE 3.5 Mixed Dbls. (Washington)

Jodi Vanthournout BRONZE 3.5 Skinny Singles (Washington)



Volunteer opportunities

The Chilliwack Pickleball club is a great club to belong to, one of the best! This is due to the tireless efforts and work of a dedicated core of executive members that are constantly working hard to balance out the needs, and preferences, of hundreds of members. It isn't an easy task for sure, given the city's time constraints on access to the Landing and operating/rating systems that don't give us the freedom to do what we would like. But the sun is shining on the horizon, as we anxiously await our Pickleball facility that will hopefully be getting underway within a few months, and a new operating system that we are hopeful will help us tweak our club rankings and realign our daily play options. In the meantime, some spots have opened up on our executive board, so if you feel like you have the time and energy to dedicate to helping our club continue to grow, and can commit to helping with some of the operation and daily hosting duties, we would love to have you come onboard! If you are interested, or just want some more information, please contact our president, Lyle Simpson at president@chillpb.com.





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Merchandise/Paddle table

Just a reminder that on Mondays we have the Member's merchandise table available. So far it has been a great success for members who have had success selling their personal items. The table will continue to be open for any of our members to display any pickleball related items that they may have for sale. For example, a slightly used paddle, court shoes that are newer but don't really work for you, or other items you have acquired that are in good condition, but you no longer require.

There are a few rules regarding putting items out for sale:

1. Items must be pickleball related
2. You must put out your product when you arrive, and take it back with you when you leave that day
3. Items must be clearly marked with the price, your name, and phone number so that you can be contacted. (People will be able to connect with you at the end of play when you are coming back to the table to collect your items)

(Tuesday to Saturdays we will continue to have our demo paddles out, as well as the club's selection of new paddles for purchase. On these days the table will only be displaying paddles being sold by the club, and there will be some demo paddles still available for sign-out if you want to try them out. In order to purchase any of the products being displayed by the club, please inform your host for that day and they will be able to help you or have Ray Hart or Dave Barham, who are in charge of our paddle inventory, secure a paddle for you to purchase. Please note that new paddles, or paddles not marked as Demo, can only be tried out by hitting a ball against the wall, but are not to be taken out on the court and used during game play.)

Supporting our Community:

During our Winter Tournament in February, we ran another successful raffle to help raise money for Chilliwack Hospice. Thank you again to Sheila Armstrong for securing lots of wonderful prizes and to all of the volunteers that helped us out, manning the table and selling raffle tickets. A big thanks also goes out to all of our members that generously opened their wallets to buy tickets. Due to all of our efforts, Lyle was able to present a cheque for \$1080.00 to the Chilliwack Hospice Society this month!





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Sponsors

Once again, we would like to thank the following sponsors for their continued support this year and welcome some that have come on board for 2024! Make sure to check them out when you are looking for products or services in our community.




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Physiotherapist
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That's it for this month's updates! See you at the club!

Please find April's play calendar attached to the following page.

Kathy Isaac
secretary@chillpb.com



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APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01	02	03	04	05	06
	10.30 - 1.00pm Mixer	12.30-3.00pm Coed Ladder League.	10.30-1.00pm Recreational Social Play	12.30-3.00pm Rec Social & Skills & Drills	12.30-3.00pm Mixer	10.30-12.30pm Competitive & Rec Social Play
	1.15pm-3.15pm 2.0 & Beginners Ladder	12.30-3.00pm Beginners Play		7.00-9.30pm Rec Social	7.00-9.30pm BYOC	
		7.00-9.30pm Rec Social				
	07	08	09	10	11	12
	10.30 - 1.00pm Rec Social	12.30-3.00pm Coed Ladder League.	10.30-1.00pm Mixer	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled
	1.15pm-3.15pm 2.0 & Beginners Ladder	12.30-3.00pm Beginners Play				
	14	15	16	17	18	19
	10.30 - 1.00pm Mixer	12.30-3.00pm Coed Ladder League.	10.30-1.00pm Recreational Social Play	12.30-3.00pm Rec Social & Skills & Drills	12.30-3.00pm Mixer	10.30-12.30pm Competitive & Rec Social Play
	1.15pm-3.15pm 2.0 & Beginners Ladder	12.30-3.00pm Beginners Play			7.00-9.30pm BYOC	
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	10.30 - 1.00pm Rec Social	12.30-3.00pm Coed Ladder League.	10.30-1.00pm Mixer	12.30-3.00pm Rec Social & Skills & Drills	12.30-3.00pm Rec Social	Cancelled
	1.15pm-3.15pm 2.0 & Beginners Ladder	12.30-3.00pm Beginners Play			12.30-3.00pm CTA Session	
					7.00-9.30pm BYOC	
	29	29	30			
	10.30 - 1.00pm Mixer	12.30-3.00pm Coed Ladder				
	1:15pm-3:15pm 2.0 & Beginner's ladder	12.30-3.00pm Beginners Play				



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