



May 2024 Newsletter

1. May 10 (Elijah Smith), May 11-12 (Takhini) Brooke Siver Player Rating Assessments

A total of 38 players were assessed. These players will be able to use these assessed ratings when declaring their “initial rating” in Pickleball Brackets (PB). Everyone needs to declare their initial rating when registering to use PB. Fortunately, a significant number of players have been rated, and have offered to share their rating. This should be used as a guide for other players who were not rated and who wish to participate in Pickleball Brackets’ ladder league. Our members will self-rate at four levels: 2.0, 2.5, 3.0 and 3.5 to start. **There is a wide spectrum of skill within each of these four categories.** As players participate in the ladder league (more details to follow), individual’s rating will change, based on game scores. Stronger players’ rating will increase; weaker players’ rating will decrease. Consequently, the rankings will become more meaningful and reliable. PB uses the rankings of the players who sign up for an event to determine who plays in which level. In other words, the top 5 ranked players who sign up for a particular day are grouped as level 1, the next 5 are grouped as level 2, etc.

Nobody was rated at 2.0 by Brooke. Novices should consider this as a possible initial rating.

The players rated at 2.5 are: Dennis Senger, Jane Wilson, Angela Gale, Greta Grey, Anne-Marie DaSilva, Francine Thivierge, Rosemary Plaskett, Zenith McCready, Tammy Rolls, and Sheila Senger.

The players rated at 3.0 are: Erik Hoenisch, Don Coates, Terry Markley, Kanjana Menzel, Walter Brennan, Yvonne Clarke, Kat Zrum, Armil Ramos, Lindy-Jo Aston, Mike Baker, Erin Loxam, Monique Girard, Mike Sparks, Joselito Tobias, and Stephen Word.

The players rated at 3.5 are: Kirk Gale, Tristan Sparks, Jayme Curtis, Don Emond, Ewa Dembek, Bryan Craven, Michel Gelin, Hector Campbell, John Streicker, Jim Gilpin, and Brenda Dion.

2. Friday May 31, Saturday June 1, and Sunday June 2- Mark Renneson -Clinics

DATE: Friday May 31 for Team Yukon pickleball for Canada 55+ Games (27 players)

WHERE: Canada Games Centre

WHEN: 3.5 players will train from 5-7 pm, 3.0 players from 7-9 pm

DATE: Saturday June 1 Level 1 NCCP Instructor training (**Full**)

WHERE: Takhini School

WHEN: 8 am- 4 pm

DATE: Sunday June 2 4 skill clinics (each 1 hour 45 minutes) -details coming)

WHERE: Takhini school

WHEN: between 8 am – 4 pm

COST: approx. \$56 per clinic/per participant

SIGN UP: registration will be on-line via Third Shot Sports

Clinic 1 (8:00-9:45 am) for advanced players

Clinic 2 (10:00-11:45 am) for strong intermediate players

Clinic 3 (12:15-2:00 pm) for intermediate and strong intermediate players

Clinic 4 (2:15-4:00 pm) assessed game play, for advanced and strong intermediate players.

Players can sign up for a maximum of 2 clinics. Note: clinic 3 is the only option for intermediate players.

Clinic details will be sent to ALL YPA members along with a link to reserve your spot!!

3. Friday June 21 Summer Solstice Social – Mt Mc Courts

Several have expressed interest in volunteering to help with this event. However, there is always room for more. Planning is underway. We will have live music. There will be a potluck food sharing. The basic outline is: from 5-6 pm, show up, share some food and drinks. From 6-8 pm we will have a fun team event. Then from 8-10 we will have a separate fun team event. Each event is limited to a maximum of 40 players. You can sign up for one or the other or both. Remember to bring a chair. We will cross our fingers for the weather. If it is rained out, we have no Plan B. View the attached flyer. Please contact Brenda if you wish to help. brendadion1@gmail.com.

4. INDOOR PLAY at ELIJAH SMITH (ESES) & TAKHINI SCHOOLS

Indoor play is wrapping up for the season at ESES. We have a session on Friday, May 31, and one more on June 7. June 1 and 2 is our last weekend at Takhini. It has been reserved for Mark Renneson's clinics.

5. SUMMER PROGRAMMING

OUTDOOR PLAY at MT MC TENNIS COURTS

We have been allocated more outdoor time than ever at Mt. Mc. this summer: from 9 am to 1 pm seven days a week, and from 5 pm to 9 pm on Friday and Sunday evenings. Although we have had access throughout May, the weather has been so-so, with mornings often close to the 0^o C. With indoor play wrapping up at ESES, and with more summer-like weather (hopefully) we expect that more use will be made of the outdoor courts.

We intend to start Pickleball Brackets ladder leagues on Wednesday June 12. We are scheduling two PB ladder leagues a week, one each Wednesday and the other each Saturday. On those two mornings both time slots will be reserved for PB. Each level will consist of 5 players who will play a round robin. (If the number of players who sign up is not a multiple of 5, then PB will group players in groups of either 4 or 5, as required). We have 4 courts, and thus can accommodate 20 players per time slot. With both time slots reserved, we can thus accommodate up to 40 players for each PB ladder league event. Details on registering in PB, on registering for a particular PB event, and on submitting game results on the internet to PB are forthcoming.

On the other five mornings (M, Tu, Th, Fr, Su) all four courts in the first time slot (9-11 am) will be reserved for group play. The concept for group play is: first, organize your group of 4 or 5 players. Then sign up your group for one of the courts. Please do not just add your name and see who else may join you. Also, take advantage of the member directory (on our webpage) to connect with others.

On the other five mornings (M, Tu, Th, Fr, Su) all four courts in the second time slot (from 11 am – 1 pm) will be dedicated to open round robin, with a maximum of 20 players.

We will review this program at our next meeting to see how well it is working. Comments and suggestions are always welcome.

INDOOR PLAY at ECOLE EMILE TREMBLAY

We have received permission to use at the Ecole Emile Tremblay gym two evenings a week, Tuesday, and Thursday, (5-9 pm) starting June 25 and finishing August 8. Note: Thursday evening is reserved for Canada Games training.

| MT MCINTYRE TENNIS COURTS | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| TIME | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| 9 AM- 11 AM | Group booking 4 courts | Group booking 4 courts | Group booking 4 courts | PB League Play 4 courts | Group booking 4 courts | Group booking 4 courts | PB League Play 4 courts |
| 11 AM -1 PM | Round Robin Open (20) 4 courts | Round Robin Open (20) 4 courts | Round Robin Open (20) 4 courts | PB League Play 4 courts | Round Robin Open (20) 4 courts | Round Robin Open (20) 4 courts | PB League Play 4 courts |
| EVENING | MT MC | | EET | | EET | MT MC | |
| 5 PM-7 PM | Canada Games 3.5 Training 2 courts Round Robin Open (10) 2 courts | | starts June 25 Drills- + Ball machine (12) | | starts June 27 Canada Games 3.5 training 3 courts | Round Robin Open (20) 4 courts | |
| 7 PM- 9 PM | Canada Games 3.0 training 4 courts | | Round Robin Open (15) 3 courts | | Canada Games 3.0 training 3 courts | Round Robin Open (20) 4 courts | |

May 28, 2024

(x) indicates # of spots available for sign up

6. DEDICATED OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS

Jim Gilpin made a presentation to the City Council on May 21 requesting their support for 6 outdoor dedicated (single purpose) pickleball courts. Several councillors asked good follow up questions. This presentation received media attention, from both CBC and the new Yukon Star. Here is a link to the Star report: <https://theyukonstar.com/pickleball-facility-sorely-needed-council-members-told/>
 We are following up with the City to find out the next steps. We hope to have a geotechnical site assessment of our proposed site (across from the Robert Service campground) done this summer.

7. POLARETTES GYM

Although we are seeking dedicated outdoor courts, we realize that, given our climate, an even greater need is for more gym space. In that regard, Jim Gilpin was asked by Stacy Lewis of Tennis Yukon to look at how the current Polarette’s gym at St. Francis of Assisi School could be reconfigured to meet the needs of various racquet sports (tennis, badminton and pickleball). With a small vestibule added to create an Arctic entrance, the gym could accommodate one doubles tennis court and four pickleball courts. Sport Yukon is lobbying to keep this space as a gym once the Polarettes move to their new facility in Whistleband.