



1. 55+ Canada Games: Team Yukon's pickleball contingent enjoyed four days of competition. And we brought home a medal, in the Mixed 3.0, 65+ category. The bronze medal match ended up having two Yukon teams compete against each other. For the medal rounds, it's the best 2 out of 3 games. After each team won a game, forcing a 3rd game tiebreaker, Chic Callas and Sue Lin took the bronze while Russell Bamford and Francine Thivierge got 4th place! Congratulations to all Team Yukon pickleball players for representing the Yukon in such a classy and flexible way!

2. Summer Programming: With the shorter days and cooler weather it is time to wrap up outdoor programming at Mt. Mc. The last day of programming is this **Sunday, September 22**. There will likely be a call out for a work party to take down the wind screens soon.

3. Fall Programming: This fall we have been able to secure gym time seven days a week. As of September 19, 55 of our 170 members have purchased a fall pass. We anticipate that at least 85 (half of our members) will wish to play indoors this fall, and thus need to buy the pass. You can purchase the pass on-line at our webpage (left side). Fall activities have commenced. Sign up for the following week opens at 6 pm on Sundays. Click on the drop-down menu: **Indoor Events Signup**, and then select the desired event. We will continue to monitor registration numbers and tweak our schedule, if need be, to try to maximize the benefit of the 22 hours of gym time per week available to us.

Currently, **for the four-hour blocks**, namely: on Fridays at E. Smith from 5-9 pm, on Saturdays at Takhini from 2-6 pm, the first two hours are scheduled for open round robins (max 15). The second 2 hours are scheduled for 3 group bookings.

However, starting Saturday September 28, we will be offering a facilitated round robin for the second 2-hours, from 4-6 pm, at Takhini for novice and 2.5 level players.

For the two-hour blocks: namely on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the University, from 8-10 pm and on Monday and Wednesdays from 6-8 pm at Hidden Valley we have open round robins. The open round robins are quite popular, with full registrations being the norm.

On Sundays at Takhini, until Pickleball Brackets Ladder League is initiated, we have a tiered round robin event: the 9-11 am slot is for 3.5 level players; the 11 am to 1 pm slot for 3.0 level players; and the 1-3 pm slot for 2.5 level players.

A reminder: to assist you in deciding in which level you should consider playing in our tiered events, refer to the May 2024 newsletter. With permission, we have published the ratings of 39 players, assessed in May by a certified assessor, Brooke Siver. You can access past newsletters by clicking on "Newsletters" on our webpage.

- 4. Yukon Championship** One of the requirements of a Sport Governing Body (which we are now) is to hold an annual championship. This year we will dedicate the weekend of October 18, 19, and 20 to the championship. Details still need to be worked out. But, in broad terms, we will have three separate competitions. On Friday we will have a tournament for novice and 2.5 players at Elijah Smith. On Saturday the 3.0 players will play at Takhini. And on Sunday the 3.5 players will play at Takhini. Players are free to select which tournament they wish to join. We will send out details on the format. You will be playing doubles games (as usual) but will not be signing up as a team. In other words, you will simply sign up as an individual, like our typical round robin signups.

- 5. Pickleball Brackets** We hope to start the Pickleball Brackets ladder league on the weekend following the tournament, in other words, on Sunday, October 27. More information will be forthcoming. The round robins will be in groups of either 4 or 5. Groups will be determined by the software, each week, based on who signs up for a session, and what their current ratings are. Results of games will be submitted electronically after each game to PB. So, you, or at least someone in your group, will need to bring a smartphone, and submit the results. For the next four Sundays prior to the tournament, we will continue to offer the tiered round robins.

- 6. Alaska International Senior Games** Six members of our Canada 55+ Games pickleball team travelled to Fairbanks, Alaska in August to test their training: Mike Sparks, Bryan Craven, Anne Milton, Brenda Dion, Joanne Love and Ian Love. They are pleased to report that they medalled in all their events, which included doubles, mixed doubles and 4 of them trying out singles. A total of 10 medals were earned; 5 Gold, 4 Silver and 1 bronze. The players wish to thank Lotteries Yukon for supporting them through their athletes travel program.

- 7. Truth and Reconciliation Day.** Monday, September 30, is National Truth and Reconciliation Day. It is a statutory holiday in the Yukon. We ask our members to consider wearing an orange shirt in recognition of this day.