



## July 2024 Newsletter

### Presidents Message - Rod Hamilton

What a great June and it is nice to see the courts so fully utilized. As the school year comes to a close, the scheduled times should be back on track as listed on the website.

Some cosmetic and functional changes are coming to the CVPA. As you can see by the “banner” atop the newsletter, we have a new Logo. The old logo served us well for many years. The Board felt it was time to modernize the logo with an emphasis on the valley, our mountains, etc. We spent a lot of time looking at options and have decided on this one. Our thanks to our club’s very own Russ Portigal for sharing his many talents and coming up with the final logo. Shirts with the new logo will be going on sale this week see details in the newsletter how to get yours!

The Functional changes are coming. We are redeveloping our website and expect that it will be finished in the late fall to early winter. Our goal is to make it easy to navigate, be clean and uncluttered and help you easily find the information that is most important to CVPA members.

It’s with a heavy heart that we said goodbye to Paul Deeton last week at a Celebration of Life held at Crown isle. As you know he was one of the CVPA’s early members (he learned the game down south in 2008) and founded with a few others the Intermediate “A” round robin play. He devoted a lot of time and energy to our club and he will be dearly missed. In lieu of flowers, the CVPA collected donations in the amount of \$710, that was made in Paul’s name to the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation.



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Two clinics held at the Comox Sports Complex on Vanier Road were completed this week on back to back Sundays. The registration was for 24 participants which quickly filled along with another 30 – 40 on the waitlist. so we know there is a demand for lessons, skill training, clinics and drills. As a volunteer organization we are just trying to find the personnel resources and court times to fit the demand. We will stay on it and supply to CVPA members what we can. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those coaches that helped me out on the clinics and those that continue to help Joe with his indoor training, Sunday beginners class and his Tuesday night Skills and Drills.

Have a great July and look forward to seeing you on the courts.

### **Comox Valley Pickleball Club T-shirt Sales**

With the exciting launch of the new CVPA Club logo, it seems fitting that we get going on some new clubwear. It has been several years since we have had clothing that represents our club, that we can wear with pride, showing others where our home club is. We will begin with some t-shirts. There will be different fabrics, long or short sleeved and a large variety of colours to choose from. Hopefully something for everyone.

The sale of t-shirts will begin this week and carry on throughout the month of July, and possibly longer if desired. This project is being coordinated by two Board members, Donna Turner and Jane Kolmatycki. Both Donna and Jane will visit each venue and level of play a few times over the next few weeks to take orders from anyone who would like to purchase a shirt.

All short sleeved shirts will sell for \$35 and long sleeved shirts will be \$40.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange a purchase you can email either Donna [cvpa2015@gmail.com](mailto:cvpa2015@gmail.com) or Jane [kolmatycki@shaw.ca](mailto:kolmatycki@shaw.ca) and a meeting can be arranged.

If this sale goes smoothly, we will be open to offering other articles of clothing such as ball caps, sweatshirts, hoodies, vests in the future. We are also open to feedback and suggestions from club members regarding other things you might like to see.

Here is a link to the order form for t-shirts

<https://cvpickleball.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Pickleball-Shirt-order-form-2024.pdf>

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## Upcoming Events

### **Summer Fun Tournament**

#### ***CVPA Fun Play Day - This Saturday, June 29th!***

Come down to the Rotary Highland Courts this Saturday to watch some fun antics that may actually involve pickleball. Fifty club members from all levels of play have signed up for a few hours of fun on the courts. While the majority of the courts have regular play, it might be entertaining to watch as some will try their "opposite " hand at playing the game. We will have a designated court where all players will be playing a full game with their non-dominant hand. On another court we will shorten the game to a mere 14 feet with a dinking only game played entirely within the No Volley Zone, and that will include a dink serve! Should be interesting.

Their Majesties King Doug and Queen Michelle will be on hand managing a "Royal Court" where players will be challenged to play the game however our sovereignty deems fun and appropriate. Anything is possible on this particular court for the lucky or unlucky players who may find themselves scheduled to play here. This may well be a royal pain for some, but it is sure to entertain the rest of us.

So from 9am - 12pm, feel free to drop by the Rotary courts to watch and cheer on some of your friends who play the sport or a variation of this sport, we all love. Take a moment for some lemonade and a treat. Stick around to see who will win the random draws at the end of play and walk away with some fun Pickleball swag. There is a rumour that we may even get a visit from a mysterious mythical creature who just happens to also enjoy the game.

Hope to see you there.

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## Upcoming Events



Located in beautiful downtown Parksville, the Oceanside Pickleball Club would like to invite you to play in the Vancouver Island Pickleball Championships.

Date: August 23. Women's Doubles  
August 24 Men's Doubles  
August 25 Mixed Doubles.

Facilities: 8 Courts Parksville Community Park Pickleball Courts  
5 Courts Parksville Community Park Lacrosse  
2 Courts Berwick Parksville.  
8 Courts Parksville Curling Club

Entry Fee: \$15/event

Age Categories: 39 and younger, 40-54, 55-69 and 70+

Skill Categories: 2.5-2.9  
3.0- 3.4  
3.5-3.9  
4.0 +

Register via: Pickleball Brackets

<https://pickleballbrackets.com/ptd.aspx?eid=25c379af-9430-4fb4-875b-a1498f0168a8>

Sanctioned by PickleballBC

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## Summer Inter Club League for Competitive Pickleball Players

When: July 16<sup>th</sup>-August 27<sup>th</sup> 7 weeks long, weekly, every Tuesday,  
Where: Robron Courts - Campbell River - Martin Park Courtenay and/or Cumberland courts (to be determined)  
Time: 2pm-4pm  
Cost: \$60 per team  
Level: 2 pools of 8 teams: Pool A – 3.51-3.99 Pool B – 4.0 and Up  
Format: 4 players on each team: 2 women + 2 men

Each week each player will play 4 x games to 15 points by 2: 2 x gender doubles and 2 x mixed doubles.

Games are played in a traditional format with points being won only when the serving team wins a rally.

Change ends when the first team reaches 8 points.

Game days are decided first by the number of games won by each team and if 4 games each, it will be decided by the number of points won by each team. If the number of points is also equal, the teams will split the bonus points.

Each team will receive one point for winning each game plus two bonus points for winning game day. That is, a maximum of 10 points on offer each week.

Game days postponed or washed out due to rain will be replayed before the following week (time and date to be decided by both teams)

Game days partially completed but abandoned by rain will be decided if one team has won at least 5 games. Otherwise, abandoned game days will be replayed the before the following week (time and date to be decided by both teams)

Registration before July 9th@ [pickleballcanada.org](http://pickleballcanada.org) see the CVPA website for details

For more information contact Chantal Rousseau [roussec678@gmail.com](mailto:roussec678@gmail.com)



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## Indoor Advanced Skills Sessions - June 16th & 23rd

The CVPA teaching volunteers held an advanced two hour pickleball clinic at the Comox Valley Sports Centre arena 2 on two Sundays. The events were filled rapidly with long wait lists, proving the success/need for an indoor facility for our club members. Thank you to the participants and the volunteers that made this happen.



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## **Facilities Subcommittee Report - Darcy Miller**

The Facilities Committee and subcommittee continue to seek additional playing areas and times for CVPA members. They have been actively lobbying with various government agencies, recreational facilities, private parties and other associations, all in an effort to meet the growing demand for courts in the Valley.

The Facilities subcommittee has been meeting every 2 weeks. This group of 15 dedicated, energetic members have their "noses to the grind-stone" searching, researching and gaining a wealth of information toward achieving their goal of an indoor facility here in the valley. This is not an easy task and the subcommittee is focused and committed toward this goal. They want to bring the Highland Rotary facility experience in-doors. The well-organized group is continuing to search locations, funding opportunities, building design, as well as legal and administrative support/advice.

We will update CVPA members as new information and developments arise.

Recent discussions between the Town of Comox Public works and the CVPA Facility Committee are working on the upgrades to the Highland Rotary Courts below:

### **Water fountain/station and misting pole**

The location has already been identified and the staff have spray painted its location on the grass so we should see it operational by sometime in July. It will be located on the far side of the Lacrosse box. Yes, it would be nice to have it situated at our table area however the Town wants to provide reasonable access for all of the Highland Park user groups. This makes sense and it's really quite close to our playing area.

### **Paving**

The Town of Comox is planning to lay black-top on the area around the courts where gravel paths are presently. We have asked if they could also pave around the shed area and where players park their bikes. Bikes racks were discussed and may be an added feature. Hopefully this will be completed by the Fall.

### **Security**

As you are probably aware, Court 6 as well as a washroom suffered from vandalism in May. The Town of Comox is investigating the details to install security cameras in the play areas including the pickleball courts.

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## **Washroom facilities**

Porta-potties are located opposite the Lacrosse Box until the permanent washrooms are repaired. Please use them!

## **Memorial Bench**

We have asked the Town of Comox Public Works department for comment regarding installation and location of a Memorial Bench in memory of Paul Deeton. We will hear a response soon.

Something to keep in mind regarding these projects is that the Town of Comox is presently challenged by a lack of available staff therefore our patience is appreciated.

The City of Courtenay budget was recently passed and within the approved projects is funding for a Pickleball court study. The CVPA Board has been meeting with City representatives and is providing valuable input regarding permanent pickleball courts in Courtenay. This should provide a catalyst to see more desperately needed facilities in our Valley.

Stay tuned!

## **Membership Report**

Currently the CVPA membership (as of June 25th, 2024) - 649 with the breakdown of:

Men - 315

Women - 334

The CVPA thanks you for your support and recognition of the accomplishments of previous board members and the efforts of the current board to improve play for all pickleball players in the valley.



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## Powell River Interclub Playday

On May 26th, Powell River hosted an inter-club play day for our members. A reciprocating play day to the Powell River players was held at Rotary Highland Courts on June 23rd. We played many games of pickleball, ate delicious food, and met new friends!



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## **Play Schedule Report**

As most of you already know, the CVPA board is asking players to choose one level of play and stick to that choice for outdoor play. The reasons for this are many but mainly it is requested as a show of respect for all members. The courts at all our venues are at capacity and beyond, so in order to accommodate as many players as possible this step is necessary. If you wish to play more than your chosen level, you will have to organize your own play outside these club play times.

Also please note that these Suggested Play Times (SPT's) are organized and run by CVPA volunteers and are available because of the work done by the CVPA. Therefore - all players playing during these SPT's MUST be CVPA members. If you are not a member then you are considered a member of the public and therefore unable to participate in our SPT's.

If you have any questions on this please feel free to contact the CVPA at [cvpa2015@gmail.com](mailto:cvpa2015@gmail.com)

### **Play Times/Locations**

<https://cvpickleball.ca/outdoor-play-times/>

<https://cvpickleball.ca/playtimes/>

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## **Coaching Tip**

The ATP.....the shortened verbiage for “Around the Post”.

As you move past 3.5 intermediate play and aim to become more advanced, this is one of those shots you need to have in your quiver.

It's much easier to execute than most people think, but because it is seldom practiced a players brain often does not consider it an option when the ball is outside the post thus resorting in either a lob or a frantic hero shot that often results in delivering a Green height ball to your opponent.

There are two principle reasons why you should learn to execute an ATP:

1. It stops your opponent from being able to hit those aggressive cross court dinks. If they know that for every ball that travels beyond the post you will hit a winning ATP, it forces them to hit dinks that are softer, less aggressive and within your normal stance.
2. It's actually a pretty easy shot to hit and most often results in winning the point. Once you learn it you will find out its simpler to execute than a lob or reset back to the middle.

The key to hitting an effective ATP is: *Let the ball drop before hitting it.* This gives it time to travel outside the post and once the ball is 6 – 10 inches off the ground when you strike it, it's virtually unreturnable.

Have your drilling partner hit a few dinks that go beyond the post and get comfortable hitting an ATP. Once you do one in a game, you kinda feel like a PRO !.

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## Comox Valley Pickleball Association Sponsor

The CVPA has partnered with Pickleball Paddles Canada as a CVPA sponsor. Check out their website and use code COMOX for 10% off your order.

<https://pickleballpaddlescanada.ca/>



## Visit the Comox Valley Pickleball Association websites and social media

Comox Valley Pickleball Association Website

<https://cvpickleball.ca/>

Comox Valley Pickleball Association

<https://www.facebook.com/cvpickleball.ca>

Comox Valley Pickleball Discussion Forum

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/741799624629434>

Email

[cvpa2015@gmail.com](mailto:cvpa2015@gmail.com)