



MEETING MINUTES

Director's meeting July 9, 2024, at 7 pm via Zoom

Present: Julie, Erin, Irene, Vashti, Ryan, Kiyoshi, Steve,

Absent: Allen, David

1. Accept minutes of May 14, 2024 meeting

MOTION accepted and seconded, Kiyoshi/Erin

2. **Financial report - Erin**

2.1 Erin went over the budget and reported that the Club is in a healthy financial situation.

Most revenue comes from memberships, tournaments and clinics. To date, all court rental expenses have been covered for the remainder of the season. Upcoming expenses may include purchase of nets/additional lockboxes/court repairs.

2.2 There was additional discussion about what other clubs have done - New Westminster, Vernon, and Okotoks in terms of funding for clubhouses, courts and facilities. It was agreed that our long-term strategy is to create opportunities that benefit our members by working with the 3 municipalities for the betterment of facilities and the expansion of pickleball as a sport.

2.3 Erin recommended investing a portion of the existing funds that are currently in the general account (\$36,410.00) into a one-year cashable GIC.

MOTION: by Erin to invest \$15,000.00. Accepted and seconded, Irene/Ryan.

ACTION: Allen to make arrangements with G&F Financial and report back at next meeting.

3. **President's Report – Julie**

3.1 Current membership is at 716 members. Attendance numbers are relatively consistent at each session. It was reported that many members are not happy with the long waits to play. It was agreed that the club is likely at capacity in terms of the number of courts (8 at Bramble). The Dogwood group has capped membership at 300 with more than 40 on a wait list. Erin reported that she continues to share this information with the Sports Advisory Committee, City Staff and Kevin (Manager) to help support the need for more court space. The option of capping membership until additional court space becomes available was discussed (possibly the Lacrosse Box at Eagle Ridge). Erin reported that the City may be open to freeing up time at the Lacrosse Box which could then be used to relocate novice play sessions, possibly on a trial basis, at first.

ACTION: Erin will report back on developments at the next meeting. The option to cap membership was deferred for further discussion and planning.

3.2 Host Update – participation has been good but there are still some empty time slots. Recommended that an email be sent to existing hosts asking them to consider taking additional time.

ACTION: Julie will work with David to get an email out

3.3 Play Schedule – Additional one hour of play (beginning at 4 pm on Thursdays) is in place until end of July. Erin will confirm if this can be extended into August and possibly the end of the season.

3.4 August 5th – Julie reported that the July 1st play format was successful and it was a fun event with 125+ members participating. It was agreed that there will be no changes to the existing play schedule for the August 5th and September 2nd holidays.

3.5 Addition of New Board Members – CVs received from Wilf and Chris Chow. There is currently one position available on the Board. Wilf withdrew his name due to family commitments, leaving Chris as the only candidate. Recommended that a more structured approach for recruiting board members be considered prior to and/or for consideration at the next AGM.

MOTION: to accept Chris Chow on the Board as a Member at large. Accepted unanimously.

ACTION: Julie will contact Chris to advise.

4. Coquitlam Report – Erin

4.1 Court repairs at Bramble may not be completed before the July tournament. It will be a 2-day job so the courts may be closed down for those repairs. Erin will report back at next meeting.

4.2 Erin has asked the City to cut the grass back further on the hillside to accommodate better seating for the tournament.

5. Update on Tournament and Clinic Planning

5.1 Julie reported that John and Heather have things well in hand. There was no cap on registration this year so it's looking like 200+ members have signed up. Because of these numbers play time has been extended to 8 pm both days and parking in the school lot has been extended to 7 pm each day. Expected that there will be 10 or 12 door prizes. Volunteer's names will be put in to win one of 10, \$10 Starbucks gift cards each day. Allen will purchase the gift cards for volunteers (total of \$200) and additional gift cards for tournament organizers (\$200 in total).

5.2 Julie reported that tape will be used in place of chalk to mark a holding area. Details on spectator seating, placement of registration table and other tournament were also discussed.

5.3 Ryan reported that planning is well underway for the August 10th clinic that will run 4 hours, from 12 noon to 4 pm. There will be 2 skill-based sessions – one Offensive, one Defensive. This will allow 64 members to register as opposed to 32 if only one session was planned, so the economics will work in the Club's favour.

5.4 Ryan reported that he has secured 2 top notch coaches, Robin and Dana who are associated with Steve Deakin Pickleball, and who are world class athletes and POCOMO members. There will be a total of 4 coaches, Ryan among them, along with one supplemental coach, Wendy Soffiat who is a leading women's player. It's anticipated that the cost for coaches will be in the range of \$1,000 - \$1350 for the clinic, which is well under par with other coached clinics. Registration cost will be \$60 per session. The Club

will earn revenue \$3,840 before expenses from the clinic – expected that net revenue will be in the range of \$2,000. The clinic format, instruction, and other details on running the clinic are in place - leaving advertising, collection of registration fees, and dispersing of monies to do.

5.5 Outstanding issues – no plans are in currently in place to reschedule the clinic in the event of a rain out day. There was concern about overloading Allen so soon after the July tournament. Advertising the clinic to members should start as soon as possible for enrollment numbers and coaches can be confirmed.

ACTION: Ryan to get clinic details to Allen for posting on our website and WhatsApp and emailing members with registration info.

6. New Member Welcome package

Vashti reported that she has prepared a new member package for review by the board with general information on membership, club play, skill rating, things to know and the other types of questions that new members always have. This is intended to reduce time spent answering these queries on the courts and to add a 'customer service' aspect to membership. The Board all agreed that this is great idea.

ACTION: Vashti will circulate the package to Board for feedback and then pass on to Allen for emailing to new members at the time of registration.

7. Youth Membership

Vashti proposed that the Board consider offering a reduced registration fee for youth. And to also consider developing a youth program in future. There was also general discussion about running a trial 'youth development' program if the club could get access to the Lacrosse box. Julie thanked Vashti for her ideas and thoughts.

ACTION: These proposals deferred for further discussion.

8. There being no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm