## **October 2024 Newsletter**



- **1. Membership Growth:** We now have 189 members. And 98 of our members have purchased a fall pass. Although the board is pleased to see the growth in interest, it realizes that, with a limited access to indoor court time, we have an obligation to try to provide reasonable access to those who purchased a fall pass. **Thus, the board has decided to limit the number of fall facility fee passes to 100.** We anticipate keeping the limit at 100 when winter/spring passes come available in December, unless we get access to more court times in the new year.
- 2. Additional Court Times: We have been granted additional time at Takhini on both Saturday and Sunday, starting October 26. Saturday we will have access until 8 pm. Thus, we will have three 2-hour time slots: 2-4 pm, 4-6 pm, and 6-8 pm. The last time slot on Saturday (6-8 pm) will be for group bookings (4 or 5 per court). On Sundays we can stay until 4:30 pm. Thus, we will have four 2-hour time slots: 8:30-10:30, 10:30-12:30, 12:30-2:30, and 2:30-4:30. Our last tiered round robin will be on Sunday, the 27<sup>th</sup>. The first three time slots on Sunday, October 27, will be tiered round robins, all starting 30 minutes earlier than previously. The last time slot on Sundays (2:30-4:30) will be an open round robin.

Starting Sunday, November 3 we will offer the Pickleball Brackets ladder league. Details to follow in a separate newsletter.

## 3. November Schedule.

Hector will be posting the November calendar soon. The board has made the following changes to the schedule:

Hidden Valley will be for group bookings on both Tuesday evening, 6-8 pm and Saturday mornings, 10-12. We ask that each group be a minimum of 4 players and that individuals in Hidden Valley groups book no more than once a week.

Takhini: Group bookings (3 courts) on Saturdays, 6-8 pm. On Sundays, from 8:30-2:30 will be ladder league, followed by an open round robin from 2:30-4:30.

We have no access to Hidden Valley in December. In January we will have access again on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings.

**4. Booking of court times:** We currently allow everyone to start signing up, starting at 6 pm on Sunday, for whichever courts they wish during the following week. This has created problems. For example, representatives of three different groups signed up right at 6 pm for 2 courts at Hidden Valley last week. Also, there is a "hard-core" of players (perhaps 35-40) who are booking most of the court time. Given that we have (or very shortly will have)

reached our limit of 100 fall pass holders, the board wants to give more players a chance to book at least one court per week. So, the board has decided that fall pass holders can book a maximum of two open round robin events prior to the day of an event. If there are any vacancies on the day of an event, then anyone can add their name to fill up the event. We do not wish to scrutinize (police) this policy and ask for your support and cooperation. But we will be assessing how well it is working and are prepared to tweak it if necessary. Participation in ladder league does not reduce players' booking options during the remainder of the week, as we wish to encourage as many as we can to join the ladder league. There is space and time for 9 rungs in the ladder league, with each rung having 4 or 5 players. Thus, we can accommodate up to 45 players each Sunday. You will sign up week by week. There is no requirement to commit to playing each week.

We welcome feedback and suggestions on how to best serve you, given that the demand for court times exceed the supply of times available.

- **5. Yukon Championships:** We had 16 participants in the 2.5 tourney, 24 in the 3.0 tourney, and 22 in the 3.5 tourney. The results:
  - In the 2.5 tourney: 1<sup>st</sup> Jessica Coulombe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tan Nguyen and 3<sup>rd</sup> Gunter Balsam.
  - In the 3.0 tourney: 1<sup>st</sup> Erin Loxam, 2<sup>nd</sup> Karen Loos, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vic Istchenko
  - In the 3.5 tourney: 1st John Streicker, 2nd Dan Shorty and 3rd Kirk Gale

The top three received a gift certificate to be used at Hougen's. (\$75, \$50, and \$25 respectively for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>. As well, all participants received 2 orange Onix indoor balls. Thanks to the volunteers, Anne Milton, Peter Idoko and Anne-Marie DaSilva. Thanks to Jayme, the Tournament Director, and to Jim for creating the tournament format.