

Victoria Regional Pickleball Association

Minutes

Monday, November 18, 2024

At Judy Langford's house

In Attendance

Connie McCann, President (via Zoom)

Tessa Graham, Vice-President

Judy Langford, Director

Damaris Brix, Secretary

Trish Fougner, Director

Joanne Rykers, Treasurer (via Zoom)

Lindsey Stene, Director (regrets)

Kerry Pridmore (regrets)

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and were amended to reflect that Connie (not Judy) will follow up with the city re Beacon Hill courts. The minutes were approved as amended. Tessa chaired the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

It was agreed that Tessa would send out another reminder to members about the quiz celebrating 1,000+ members. Prizes include early registration to programs, tickets to the production of Animal Farm, gift certificates and handmade greeting cards.

It was clarified that Connie will initiate an e-transfer to PBC for the Youth Pickleball.

Connie advised that neither Uptown nor Berwick have taken advantage of the VRPA offer to enter a team in the Christmas tournament. They will be given another opportunity for a free entry at the Women's tournament in April and the June event.

Programmers Report

Liam's report was reviewed. The board appreciated the concise report. Connie will follow up with Liam on the timeline for registration, and that there needs to be a reminder that members can sign up for ONE instructional and ONE non-instructional program only.

Registration details will be sent to Beverly to post on Facebook with a copy to Trish.

Facilities

Judy advised that Shoreline and Cedar Hill Schools cancelled a couple of our bookings for concerts etc. Liam was able to refund participants their fees at a minimal admin cost to VRPA.

Tessa will touch base with Judy to find space for the next cohort of referee trainees in Jan and Feb. Ten people have signed up.

Connie advised that instructors and facilitators will not get a parking pass while working at the conference centre.

SPPA Amalgamation

SPPA will be having their AGM on Dec 5th. They will be bringing forward a special resolution for SPPA to fold their organization and transfer their membership to VRPA. Approximately 50% of their 140 members are already VRPA members. The resolution will have 1 SPPA member be appointed to the VRPA board. On a best efforts basis the money transferred from SPPA will be used to benefit SPPA members, i.e. with VRPA programming on the peninsula. VRPA doesn't have to do anything with SPPA potentially joining us other than formalizing it with an informational notice to members. Tessa will draft something up and run it by Trish to edit.

Tessa recommended that the Board hold another planning session around what we can offer on the peninsula and to develop a three year plan.

Tournaments

The Christmas tournament, sponsored by Uptown, is being run over two days this year. The intermediate/advanced category filled up in seconds crashing the system. Krista is TD, Judy is managing the volunteers, and Cathy is event coordinator.

Vernon and Coldstream will be hosting the provincials in 2025.

President's Report

AGM

Connie asked the Board to consider a suitable date for the 2025 AGM given that the Treasurer and Bookkeeper will need January to prepare the financial statements. It was agreed to hold it on Wednesday, February 19th at 7pm. Judy will see if the Cordova Bay 55+ meeting room is available for it. Once the facility is confirmed Connie will send out the first of at least 4 notices to members.

Connie is actively trying to recruit new members to run for the board.

Activating Youth Pickleball K-7

Connie and 8 volunteers are doing an introduction to Pickleball for some teachers on Nov 22. Plans are underway thru this PBC program to get into six elementary schools from Jan-Mar. Connie will be making up a list of equipment that needs to be purchased thru Courtside Sports. This will then be invoiced back to PBC.

City of Victoria

Four Tru-Courts are going into the Conference Centre. The City is seeking suggestions on programs and will use last year's Crystal Gardens programs as a model. They will be running clinics and lessons, and a mini tournament. There will be a 60/40 split.

Financial Update

Joanne reviewed the financial statements. She noted that the Christmas tournament will have a net loss of \$1800. Although our bylaws state that activities and tournaments need to pay for themselves, the overall bottom line for all tournaments combined is in the black. This Christmas tournament is our gift to members.

Various points were made regarding the budget:

- There was a net loss last year for the clinics at Esquimalt. A cost sharing arrangement will need to be better laid out if we offer the Poach and Deakin clinics again next summer.
- Connie believes that youth pickleball will snowball and that we should have \$2000 in the budget to support its growth to cover such things as instructors in schools. This is in addition to the \$2000 for the PBC Activating Youth Pickleball funds.
- Connie asked for \$500 for tournament prizes. After some discussion it was agreed to increase this to \$750.
- Connie is against increasing the fees for the mini tournaments and wants to keep entry fees to \$30
- She advised that the budget should have two separate lines for youth pickleball: Activating Youth Pickleball and Youth Programs
- Referee budget will be separated out.
- Although we are not considering it, Connie noted that if we wanted to increase the membership fee it would have to be taken to the AGM.
- Joanne advised that the Budget Committee will be meeting on November 26th to draft a budget which will then be brought to the board for approval.
- It was agreed that \$8,000 would be added to the budget for "Community Support". This would include things like sound panels or equipment.

Provincials 2026

Connie recommended that a committee be struck to begin exploring the possibility of putting in a bid for the 2026 provincials. The point person would be on the board. Connie will target individuals who might be interested.

Next meetings

Nov 26 – Budget Committee meeting

Dec 17 – Board meeting to review budget

Jan 13 – Board meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm.