

**Board Update** - Greetings from your new Board of the Delta Pickleball Association! Over the last few weeks we have spent a significant amount of time getting organized in order to serve our membership. To date we have:

- Edited and subsequently adopted the DPA statement of Mission, Vision and Purpose;
- Created a set of goals guiding the efforts of our Board;
- Created and agreed to a code of conduct for our Board that defines how we will work together;
- Created an organization structure, including roles and responsibilities for each director, that will help us be more efficient;
- Created a first draft of a calendar for 2024/2025; and
- Begun the process of transitioning all roles from the previous Board.

**Your New DPA Board** - Your new Board and their corresponding roles are:

1. Laura Jacob – Secretary
2. Landon Kitagawa – President and Government Relations
3. Brian Lochansky – Registrar
4. Henry Lyszczyk – Vice President
5. Brad Nelson – South Delta Operations
6. Jim Park – Player Development
7. George Pierce – North Delta Operations
8. Bruce Robertson – Facilities Management
9. Danny Sran – Communications
10. Nancy Tait – Treasurer

I am impressed by each and every Board member and thankful for their willingness to take on both the governance and operations of DPA.

**Thank You Previous Board!** - After digesting all of that work we have to do, we all have a greater appreciation for the service of our previous Board. This Board would like to acknowledge the contributions of Don Tuck, Alan Holmgren, Florence MacDonald-Bain, Cheryl Becir, Peter Darvill and Jim Ewert. Many of these Board members formed the original Board of Directors in 2017. Thank you for your service and accomplishments on behalf of DPA.

**We Need You!** – Collectively the membership of DPA has had a significant impact on the City of Delta’s perception of the strength and influence of our membership. Starting with the letter writing campaign last year to stop the reduction of courts at Cromie and following up with the responses recently to the budget survey, Delta is finally listening! There is an important next step that we need as many of you as possible to do (a short 5 minute form). We sent out a longer memo earlier this week with some information and suggestions.

**Cromie Update** – In the last newsletter, Don Tuck outlined the results of the previous Board’s discussions for sound barrier work at Cromie. At that point, there was discussion of a pilot sound mitigation project that would surround what is currently the four east part-time pickleball courts (two tennis courts). The discussions outlined a plan to turn two of the four part-time pickleball courts into permanent courts.

We had good discussions with the City concerning these modifications. The Board made other proposals to the City that were well received and are currently being studied. Our mutual hope is that changes to Cromie can be in place for the start of our Spring season.

We have asked the City to focus on three things for the modified facilities:

- Fencing around the two new permanent courts (previously not part of the plan);
- Focus on mitigating flooding through drainage on the north and south sides; and
- Focus on playing surfaces that mirror the ones at Chalmers and Dennison.

We need to keep our fingers crossed for these developments. I want to reiterate the important role of advocacy by our members in empowering the Board to speak with a strong voice to the City. Thank you! Please keep this up.

**Volunteers needed** – As the Board is now organized and trying to create an agenda for our 2024/2025 season that is responsive to the feedback that we have received, we need help. We will be coming forward in the future for help with hosting courts, tournaments, managing our physical court assets, events, coaching and mentoring and many more things. We are a volunteer run organization that can be led by 10 people but certainly not run by just the 10. Feel free to talk with one of your Board members about your willingness to help. It is much appreciated!

**Summary** – I am excited for the 2024/25 season. On behalf of your Board, one of our goals is to be clear communicators as to what is going on in our club. I hope that this first newsletter is a step in the right direction but if not, please feel free to reach out to me at [landondpa@gmail.com](mailto:landondpa@gmail.com). Enjoy your winter pickleball season, wherever it leads you, and see you out on the courts!

*Landon Kitagawa*

President, Delta Pickleball Association