

NEWSLETTER

Yukon Pickleball Association



May 2025

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Top Story

Membership Numbers

The popularity of pickleball continues to explode. As of May 8, we have 187 members, up 17 in the last two months. Of those 187, 132 have purchased a 2025 winter or spring pass, and 100 have joined the Whitehorse Pickleball Club in pickleball.com. The club has three leagues: tier 1 with 21 players, tier 2 with 32, and tier 3 with 27.

Note to New Members

Rather than repeating a message sent previously to new members, please read the February 2025 newsletter. This can be found by going to the YPA webpage

<https://secure.pickleballcanada.org/club/yukon-pickleball-association/14/>

Indoor Court Options

We have access to the following school gyms:

Tuesdays, Hidden Valley (6-8 pm)

Thursdays, Christ the King (8-10 pm)

Saturdays, Hidden Valley (10 am-noon)

Sundays, Takhini (8:30 am -4:30 pm) reserved for ladder league

Thursdays, Golden Horn (6:30-8:30 pm)

Fridays, Elijah Smith (5-9 pm)

Saturdays, Takhini (2-10 pm)

Monday, Golden Horn (6:30-8:30 pm)

Not all gyms are available each week. Check the weekly "indoor events signup" on our webpage and the monthly calendar. Bookings for the following week start each week at 7 pm on Sunday. You are asked to make a maximum of 2 bookings, prior to 7 pm on Tuesday. If there are still vacant spaces, then you are welcome to book additional times. We ask players to respect this protocol, to allow as many of our members as possible to play at least once a week.

Dedicated Outdoor Courts

City Parks received \$15K funding from Canada Community Building Fund to look at feasibility of locations. No contract has yet been awarded to look at options proposed by City Parks. There has been no response from the business arm of KDFN regarding possible development of courts in their industrial subdivision near Robert Service Way and the Alaska Highway.

AGM

We achieved quorum at the AGM. Hector Campbell resigned as VP but will continue his involvement as an instructor with the YPA. Thanks, Hector. Three members offered to join the 2025 board: Manon Carriere, Jessica Coulomb, and Sean Booth. At the first board meeting on April 23 the officers of the new board were agreed to. Jim Gilpin (President), Sean Booth (Vice President), Erik Hoenisch (Treasurer), Manon Carriere (Secretary).

Summer Ladder League

We will have two sessions this summer on the outdoor courts. Session #3 will be on Wednesday mornings starting June 4, and Session #4 will be on Saturday mornings starting June 7.

Since we only have 4 courts, we need to create two tiers; an upper tier that will play from 9-11 am, and a lower tier that will play from 11 am – 1 pm. On each game day up to 20 can opt in for each tier. We will do our best to place the top ranked players in the upper tier. So, for example, if 80 register to play in the summer ladder leagues, 40 would be placed in tier 1 and 40 in tier 2. **The tiers however are linked.** The player with the lowest rank at the end of a game day in tier 1 (**who played that day**) would be placed at rank 1 in tier 2 for a subsequent game day. Similarly, the player ranked first in tier 2 at the end of a game day would be positioned at rank 40 in tier 1, assuming there are 40 players in tier 1

We will continue to rely on games won and lost and points for and against, to determine changes in ranking. Hopefully by the end of the summer we will have sufficient data to use DUPR values for the fall ladder league.

Players can choose to play in either the weekday session (session 3), or the weekend session (session 4), or both. Starting dates have not been set. However, we will likely start the first week in June, just as session 2 (the indoor winter session) is winding down. The summer sessions will run until the end of August (perhaps 12 weeks). **Once we have set up the sessions, please sign up for either the upper tier or the lower tier, and for either session 3, or session 4, or both at pickleball.com.**

For new members who wish to join the ladder league, there are instructions at the end of the newsletter.

2025 Winter Ladder League

We have two remaining game days left in session 2: May 18 and May 25. We deleted June 1 to provide time for the upcoming tournament. Given that the summer leagues will start the first week of June, we decided to cancel the indoor league on June 8. Until more games are played, the reliability of DUPR scores will be low, resulting in wide variations in DUPR values from week to week. We noticed that in tier 3, there was relatively low participation, even with 27 members registered. On some days tier 3 players opted not to register their games in pickleball.com, and instead simply have a round robin. If tier 3 players would prefer to simply play a round robin with their peers rather than have scores recorded in pickleball.com, please let us know. The YPA is charged for the service provided by pickleball.com at 44 cents per opt-in. So, a full roster of 15 costs YPA \$6.60 each week. Please send feedback to either of the co-managers: Jim (jgilpin@northwestel.net) or Sean (sean@seanbooth.ca)

Skills & Drills + Ball Machine

Saturdays 4PM-6PM

The four sessions of skills and drills with the ball machine held in March and April were popular. Another three sessions are scheduled for May and will focus on “third shots”. Spots will be limited to 10! **Online sign-up opens each Sunday evening at 7 pm**

- May 10: for 3.5, 3.0+ players
- May 17 for 3.0 players
- May 24 for 2.5 players

Summer Indoor Court Time

We have requested indoor court time at Jack Hulland School this summer. This gym is like the Takhini gym, with three courts and a decent space behind the baselines. We will have access from Monday-Thursday and are waiting for confirmation of times. We have been promised 7-9 pm but are asking if that can be extended to 5-9 pm. Indoor access will start in late June, once school is out.

Tennis Yukon Summer Camps

We will participate in two summer camps this June and July organized by Tennis Yukon. These camps offer a variety of activities, to a maximum of 10 children, ages 9-13.

Mark Renneson Camp

July 7-11, 2025

We're thrilled with the overwhelming response to the upcoming Adult Camp with Mark Renneson — all 32 spots were filled within **7 hours** of registration opening! A **waitlist of 15 players** has been created. Due to this high demand, a **special 2-hour clinic** has been arranged for **July 10**, with priority given to those on the waitlist.

Instructor Level 1 Training

Tentative Aug/Sep 2025

We are exploring the possibility of hosting another Level 1 Instructor Training.



If you're interested in participating, please contact **Brenda Dion** as soon as possible at:

brendadion1@gmail.com



Congratulations!

A big **congrats to Brenda Dion** on achieving her **Level 2 Instructor Certification** – Developing Recreational Players. Well done, Brenda!

Upcoming Tournament

May 30 – June 1, 2025

We're working on details for a possible **upcoming tournament**. Stay tuned — more information will be announced soon!

Summer Solstice Play & Social

Friday June 20

Mark your calendar for an evening of fun, games, and community as we celebrate the longest day of the year together! More details to come.

Recreation Expo

May 4, 2025

YPA had a table at this event, which had about 40 sport, recreation, arts and cultural groups promoting their activities. It was a busy day, as the EXPO overlapped with a major swim meet. Thanks to the volunteers for the display (Brenda created lovely posters) and for setting up and “manning” the display table.

Summer Pickleball

Mount McIntyre

Again, this summer the YPA has entered into an agreement with Tennis Yukon to share use of one of their four tennis courts. The summer fees we collect are passed on to Tennis Yukon at the end of the season. We thus charge the same fees as Tennis Yukon. For summer 2025 the fees are:

- Seniors (55+), Juniors (>19) and students: \$72
- Adults (19-54) \$125



50% Early Bird discount is available prior to May 16.



- Seniors (55+), Juniors (<19) and students: \$36
- Adults (19-54) \$62.50

Note: a significant portion of the fees goes towards resurfacing of the courts, which occurs about every 10 years. To purchase a summer pass, go to our webpage, click on the Summer Pass 2025 button and follow the instructions.

We hope to have the courts washed within the next week or so by Wildland Fire Management. The windscreens are up, and the nets are in the white box. The code for the locks on the south gate and the box is the same:1066.

Until the ladder league starts the schedule is:

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
9-11 am	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
11-1 pm	Open RR	Open RR	Open RR	Open RR	Open RR	Open RR	Open RR
5-7 pm	Open RR					Open RR	Open RR*
7-9 pm	Group					Group	Open RR*

Once we start the ladder league the schedule is:

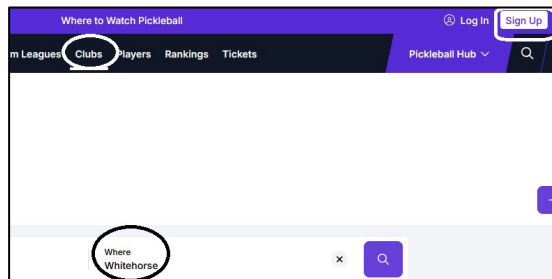
	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
9-11 am	Group	Group	Group	LL	Group	Group	LL
11-1 pm	Open RR	Open RR	Open RR	LL	Open RR	Open RR	LL RR
5-7 pm	Open RR					Open RR	Open RR*
7-9 pm	Group					Group	Open RR*

Since we have four courts we can accommodate an open round robin of 20 players. As well each tier of the ladder league can have 20 players opt-in on each game day.

How to Join the Ladder League and ‘Club’

First, you must first join the Whitehorse Pickleball Club in Pickleball Brackets. We currently have 100 members who have joined the club. (Note: joining the Whitehorse Pickleball Club-in Pickleball.com is in addition to being a member of YPA).

To join the club: **go to pickleball.com**. Click on “Sign up”, (upper right), click on “clubs” and type in “Whitehorse”.



You will now see a box with our club.



Click on the box to access the next screen:



Click on “become a member” and follow the instructions to create a profile. Note if you are a novice your rating choices are likely either 2.0 or 2.5.

There is a lot of additional information about the ladder league that you can access on our webpage. Click on the FAQ button. Here you can find out how to join a league, etc.