

RJPC Board of Directors' Regular Meeting – Minutes

November 7, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. AST (in person)

Meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

In attendance: Don Spicer (President), John McKim (Vice-President), John Carruthers (Treasurer), Theresa Rath Spicer (Secretary), Ed Kennedy and Jan Langley. Quorum achieved.

1. Approval of Meeting Agenda

- Additions to agenda: None
- Agenda approval: Motion by Jan to approve the agenda; seconded by John C. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Motions passed since Last Meeting

- Minutes are approved via email in order to share them with members in a timely fashion, in accordance with the Special Resolution passed at the 2025 AGM. As such, the August 21 meeting minutes were approved by the Board via email on September 1.

3. Operations Update (John McKim)

- **Court Winterization:**
 - A work bee for court winterization will take place on **Saturday, November 15 at 11 a.m. (with Sunday, November 16 at 11 a.m. as a rain date).**
 - Don has a shutdown checklist which he will forward to John M. We need to add to the list to remove a piece of the toilet to prevent breakage over the winter. We'll leave one windscreen up as a test as to how it will weather the winter. We'll leave one net up until the end of the December so that members can play if they want but they can also use portable nets (we'll put the old net from the firehall at the outdoor courts in case it's needed). AED, outdoor balls and grass seed will be stored at John M's house. Paddles and indoor balls will move to the firehall.
 - The tank has been checked by Brian McNutt; if it needed pumping, he was going to take care of it.
- **2025 Outdoor Schedule Review:**
 - A discussion was held on the 2025 outdoor schedule to help inform next year's schedule, including the need to be adaptive throughout the season and to have sessions for all levels/types of play (beginners, intermediate, advanced, social play, competitive play, drilling, etc.). This feedback will be considered along with feedback from the upcoming member survey.
 - It was also noted that it would be helpful to have a volunteer to manage the Playtime Scheduler as Derek Andrews was an invaluable resource the last couple of years; this role is integral to the Club's operations.
- **Sign on Fence:** A member requested that we add a sign to the fence that displays our name. In the spring, we will place our banner there and it will be removed as required for events and then placed back up. Important note: additional signage needs to be approved by the Legion.

4. Construction Update (Ed Kennedy)

- **Deadbolts for Doors of Washroom Facility:** We have new deadbolts and they're of much higher quality. They'll be installed in the spring.
- **New Doors for Washroom Facility:** This is on hold for now. In the spring, we'll get new quotes on different options. John M. will reach out to a carpenter he knows and Ed & John C. also have a contact they'll reach out to when the time comes.

- **Motion Sensor Lights:** Motion sensor lights will be installed on the washroom facility. Since the meeting, we've learned that Mike George will do this soon; the setting times will be on at 7 p.m. and off at 11 p.m., however, the intent is to turn off the breaker for the winter.
- It was noted that the Construction portfolio should be able to wrap up its work early in the outdoor season in 2026. A suggestion was made that perhaps the Construction portfolio could transition to a Maintenance portfolio to handle things like cleaning of the washrooms (official options should be considered instead of relying on a volunteer), removal of the garbage and weeding/upkeep around the courts; this will be for the consideration of the 2026-27 Board.

5. Membership (Jan Langley) & Events (Jan Langley & Theresa Rath Spicer)

Membership

We have 150 members (same as reported in the August 21 minutes).

- **Membership Renewal:** We encourage members to renew for 2026 prior to the end of 2025 so that they have uninterrupted benefits, can attend and vote at the AGM, receive ongoing communications, etc. Plus, for every renewal prior to the end of year, the Club is reimbursed \$5 per member from Pickleball Nova Scotia.
- **Firehall:** Play at the firehall began on November 3 and will run until the spring. There is some open play and some rated play to try to meet the varied needs of our members. It was noted that there's no waitlist on the firehall schedule; this has since been rectified.
- **Paddles:** Some of our donated Selkirk paddles have broken/gone missing. Don will research if the Selkirk program is still available; however, we have since learned the program has been discontinued in Canada. We'll look for other options for donated paddles.

Events

- **Christmas Tree Decorating:** We will once again have an RJPC Christmas tree at Bissell Park. More information to follow for those who wish to be involved.
- **Sharing RJPC with Neighbouring Clubs:** It was suggested that perhaps next year we could look at doing home and home events with Arisaig, Tatamagouche and/or Little Harbour.

6. Finance (John Carruthers)

- Financials included below (see pages 4-6).
- **Savings Account:** Opened a savings account which will allow us to receive e-transfers without fees. As a result, a new email address rjpcfees@gmail.com has been set up for e-transfers for guest fees and event tickets (Legion dance, for example). John C. will also move some money from the chequing account to the savings account to allow for interest to be made.
- **Potential Recognition of the Thompson Family Foundation:** The Thompson Family Foundation has donated \$32,500 to RJPC over the last three years. At the August 21 meeting, a motion was passed to name our annual pickleball tournament the Thompson Family Pickleball Tournament *if the family agrees*; the family has since agreed to such recognition, so our tournament will be named this going forward. John will also draft a thank you letter for the Foundation.
- **Nova Scotia Power Billing:** We were able to communicate with Nova Scotia Power about billing and have since received bills and are now set up for electronic billing.

- **Go Play Fund Wrap-Up:** Eight RJPC members received Go Play Fund monies last year from the Municipality of Pictou County and only three people have completely used the funding to date. The funds either need to be used by those members by December 31 or returned to the municipality. John C. has followed up with the people in question.
- **Future Spending:** A discussion was held on possible future spending for such items as wifi, wifi cameras, weather station and/or a ball machine. However, all of this will need to be decided on by the future Board based on next year's financial position.

7. **Communications (Theresa Rath Spicer)**

- **Members' Only Facebook Page:** Launched in early September for members' use.
- **Member Survey:** Thank you to the Board for input on the draft survey. This year's survey will be launched at some point during the week of November 10 and will be open for 10 days. This will allow us to tabulate the results and communicate the findings to members before year's end.

8. **Partnership Liaison (Don Spicer)**

- **Legion:** Check with the Legion to see if we could help facilitate the spreading of the gravel; we have since learned that they've made their own arrangements. The Board will continue to make an annual donation to the Legion *if the budget allows* and assist with grants as needed.
- **RJVFD:** Nothing new to report.
- **YMCA:** Nothing new to report.
- **Town of Pictou and MOPC Active Transportation re Bike Rack:** We're awaiting next steps from the Active Transportation contact about the installation of bike racks which will also serve as e-bike chargers.
- **Wi-fi Access:** Requires follow-up with MOPC in the spring.

9. **Other Business**

- **Remembrance Day:** We'll be laying a wreath during the Remembrance Day service; Ed will officially represent RJPC at the service, and Ed and John C. will officially represent RJPC at the Remembrance Day dinner at the Legion.
- **Board Recruitment:** The term for three of six current Board members (Don, John C. and Theresa) is up early in 2026. We have a couple of members who have expressed interest but need to issue the official Expression of Interest this month.
- **Members' Meeting & AGM:** The Members' Meeting will be held on Monday, January 19 at 7 p.m. AST, followed by the AGM at 7:15 p.m. Don will research the feasibility of a voting platform to be used during the meeting to record attendance and voting. Don will also create the Teams link for the meeting which will be issued to current members in January. We're required by our by-laws to give 30 days' notice of the meeting, so this information will need to be communicated in multiple ways prior to December 20, 2025.
- **Email Threads:** When starting a new topic, Board members are asked to start a new email thread instead of commenting on a previous email.

10. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by John M. at 8:50 p.m.; seconded by Jan. Motion carried.
Next Meeting will be the online Members' Meeting and AGM on January 19, 2026 at 7 p.m. AST.

Minutes by Theresa Rath Spicer, RJPC Secretary

Financials to October 31, 2025

River John Pickleball Club Statement of Financial Position



	Oct 31/25	Dec 31/24
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 13,756	\$ 17,513
Bank of NS GICs	23,000	-
	36,756	17,513
Membership fees receivable - Pickleball Canada	3,335	3,709
Donations receivable - Municipality of Pictou County		200
HST recoverable	2,964	16,624
Prepaid insurance		1,934
Deposit - RJVFD	600	600
	43,654	40,580
Capital assets		
Pickleball facility and equipment, at cost	248,893	216,888
	\$ 292,547	\$ 257,468
Liabilities		
Current		
MOPC GoPlay Fund - in trust	\$ 900	\$ 1,400
Payable to RJVFD	500	
Deferred revenue - 2026 membership fees	1,350	5,325
	2,750	6,725
Net assets		
Unrestricted surplus	13,270	10,649
Internally restricted funds	27,634	23,206
Investment in capital assets	248,893	216,888
	289,797	250,743
	\$ 292,547	\$ 257,468

River John Pickleball Club
Statement of Operations
For the year ended December 31



		Actual	
	Budget	Jan 1 to	Jan 1 to
	Dec 31/25	Oct 31/25	Dec 31/24
Revenues			
Government grants			
Government of Canada			
New Horizons for Seniors Program		\$ 19,233	\$ 25,000
Province of Nova Scotia			
Efficiency Nova Scotia		3,600	
		22,833	25,000
Fundraising			
Donations from individuals, corporations, Service Clubs and Associations		10,600	19,092
		10,600	19,092
Other income			
Club membership fees	\$ 7,500	9,825	4,721
Drop in fees	1,000	1,031	1,151
Pickleball Nova Scotia rebates	800		775
Other income (Clinics, Tournament, and miscellaneous)	2,100	1,137	1,126
Interest income			1,524
	11,400	11,993	9,298
	11,400	45,426	53,390
Expenses			
Bank charges	110	323	176
Donations and sponsorship	1,000	1,250	1,150
Dues and fees	35	81	231
Insurance	2,086	1,934	1,897
Office and court expenses	2,000	1,618	1,895
Repairs and maintenance	1,100	244	780
Training fees			309
Transfers to restricted reserve funds			
Insurance deductible fund			1,000
Court replacement fund	2,000	2,000	2,000
Wind screen replacement fund	1,000	1,000	1,000
Utilities and internet	1,100	115	
Volunteer appreciation night		807	
	10,431	9,372	10,438
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 969	\$ 36,054	\$ 42,952
Net assets, beginning of year		\$ 250,743	\$ 203,791
Excess of revenues over expenses		36,054	42,952
Transfers from operations to restricted funds		3,000	4,000
Net assets, end of year		\$ 289,797	\$ 250,743

River John Pickleball Club
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For the year ended December 31



Net Assets	Unrestricted Surplus	Internally Restricted Funds	Investment in Capital Assets	Jan 1 to Oct 31/25	Jan 1 to Dec 31/24
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 10,649	\$ 23,206	\$ 216,888	\$ 250,743	\$ 203,791
Add:					
Revenue	11,993			11,993	9,298
Fundraising		33,433		33,433	44,092
Transfers to restricted funds		3,000		3,000	4,000
	22,642	59,639	216,888	299,169	261,181
Deduct:					
Expenses	(9,372)			(9,372)	(10,438)
Capital expenditures		(32,005)	32,005		
Net assets, end of year	\$ 13,270	\$ 27,634	\$ 248,893	\$ 289,797	\$ 250,743
Internally Restricted Funds					
	Capital Expenditures	Court Replacement	Wind Screens	Insurance Deductible	Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 19,206	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 23,206
Add:					
Fundraising	33,433				33,433
Transfer from unrestricted funds		2,000	1,000		3,000
	52,639	4,000	2,000	1,000	\$ 59,639
Deduct:					
Capital expenditures	(32,005)				(32,005)
Balance, end of year	\$ 20,634	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 27,634

Administrative Note: Minutes approved by the Board via email on November 10, 2025