

# STRATFORD PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

**Article 1:** This organization shall be known as the Stratford Pickleball Association (SPA)

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## Article 2: Aims and Objectives

1. **Mission Statement** The Stratford Pickleball Association's Mission is to provide a safe, fun, healthy, recreational, and competitive activity for its membership and guests while promoting a healthy lifestyle, exercise, development of skills, and enjoyment of Pickleball in and around the area of Stratford. The Membership of SPA is open to ALL people, regardless of age or skill level, and participation in the Sport shall be encouraged among all Youth in the Area.
  - To develop and encourage sportsmanship and good fellowship among all participants for the betterment of their physical, mental, and social well-being.
  - To promote equal opportunity to play regardless of ability or skill.
  - To provide an affordable program of competitive and non-competitive Pickleball for the youth of Stratford and District.
  - To develop, organize, and administer competitive and non-competitive playing opportunities for all ages and abilities.

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## Article 3: Affiliation

Stratford Pickleball Association is a member of the Pickleball Association of Canada and the Ontario Pickleball Association and follows the rules and directions as set out by Pickleball Canada.

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## Article 4: Operation and Eligibility

1. Any person who is also a member of Pickleball Canada is eligible, on payment of the required dues to Stratford Pickleball, to become a member of SPA.
2. The required annual dues are to be determined by the Board.
3. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall preferably be held early in the new calendar year and must be held no more than 90 days past the end of the fiscal year (December 31). The date will be determined by the Board. The AGM can be

conducted either by personal attendance or by electronic attendance depending on the circumstances at the time.

4. At every AGM, there will be an election of any new Members who will be added to the Board. The Board shall be responsible for preparing a list of nominees for presentation at the AGM for those individuals eligible for election.
5. If the General Membership fails to elect a sufficient number of Board Members, the existing Board will have the authority to appoint the appropriate number of members.
6. The Board shall, from amongst themselves, elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President (the Executive).
7. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules.

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## **Article 5: Management**

1. Stratford Pickleball Association will be managed and governed by its Bylaws and this Constitution.
2. Minutes of Board Meetings and General Meetings shall be kept and recorded by the Secretary (or designee) and made available to the Membership.
3. A Bank Account shall be maintained by the Treasurer. Control and access to the Bank Account shall be by the Treasurer and one other Executive Member.
4. A Financial Report shall be presented by the Treasurer at each scheduled Board Meeting, and this report shall form part of the minutes available to the Membership.

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## **Article 6: Board of Directors**

1. The governing body of SPA shall be referred to as the Board of Directors.
2. The Board shall consist of the following members (maximum of 12/ minimum of 7)
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Immediate Past President
  - Up to seven Directors

3. A member of the Board may hold more than one position if necessary.
4. A simple majority of voting serving members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for any Board meeting. Quorum must include three of the Executive Members.
5. Each member of the Board shall have a vote.
6. **Attendance Requirement:** Any Board Member who misses three consecutive Board meetings without reasonable cause may be subject to removal from the Board by a majority vote.
7. **Term Limits:** No individual may serve in the same Executive position (President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer) for more than four consecutive terms unless otherwise approved by the Membership at an AGM.
8. All Board Members must have Stratford Pickleball Association registered with Pickleball Ontario/Pickleball Canada to be eligible to serve.
9. The Board shall have the authority to exclude from membership any person or persons who are deemed detrimental to the operation of the Association.

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## **Article 7: Duties of the Members of the Executive**

### **1. President**

- Shall be the Chairperson of the Board and preside at all meetings.
- May vote as a representative and cast a second vote in the event of a tie or non-majority decision.
- Shall call all meetings as deemed necessary.
- Shall exercise the powers of the Board in cases of emergency or urgent situations.

### **2. Past President**

- Shall perform duties as assigned by the President.
- Shall participate in Board deliberations with voting power, acting in an advisory capacity.

### **3. Vice President**

- Shall assist the President in carrying out duties.
- Shall chair meetings and assume the responsibilities of the President in their absence.

#### **4. Secretary**

- Shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Board and General Meetings.

#### **5. Treasurer**

- Shall keep a record of all monies received and disbursed.
- Shall deposit all monies in the bank and make all disbursements by cheque or approved electronic transaction
- Shall present a financial report at each AGM, showing the most current financial position possible.

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#### **Article 8: Amendments**

The Constitution may be amended by the Board as time and circumstances require, subject to ratification by the Membership at the AGM.

Current version of Stratford Pickleball Association (SPA) Constitution

Reviewed by SPA Board members Dec 29, 2025 / Presented for ratification at AGM on Jan 10, 2026

President \_\_\_\_\_ Vice President \_\_\_\_\_