



New Tec Times

Winter 2026



From the President's Paddle!

Greetings to All Returning Members!



President Sue Miadovnik

I am honoured and excited to introduce myself as the new President of the New Tec Pickleball Club.

As we step into a fresh year, I look forward to meeting our new members and welcome back to each and everyone of our returning members. I am looking to build on our club's success after year one, while fostering new opportunities for growth, engagement, and fun on the courts.

Looking Back and Moving Forward!

Our club enjoyed tremendous growth in members and are building a sound relationship with Council members and Parks and Recreation management. It is thanks to the dedication of our outgoing executives, and all of you—the members—that we have such a welcoming and vibrant atmosphere. **I want to extend my thanks to our Past President Robert Meerburg and board for their commitment and leadership!** We wouldn't be where we are without each and every one of you.

My vision for the club is to continue providing a supportive space where players of all levels can enjoy pickleball, make new friends, and challenge themselves. Whether you're picking up a paddle for the first time or you're a seasoned competitor, you belong here.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. I look forward to meeting and playing with everyone over the coming months. If you have questions or suggestions, my door (and inbox) is always open.

See you on the courts!

Sue Miadovnik

President

New Tec Pickleball Club



Board of Directors

President: Sue Miadovnik

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Treasurer: Patricia Koblizek

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Secretary: Yvonne Nunnaro

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Director: Kim Ellison

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Director: Helen Wilks

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Director: Gary Levine

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Director: Brian Partridge

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New Tec Website

New Tec Facebook

New Tec Instagram

Newsletter: [Julia Levine](#)



Our Newest Board Members!

Introducing our new Treasurer for 2026...

Patricia says: "I am just a mom and grandmother that got bitten by the pickleball bug! (Not "just"...Pat!)

I became a CA in 1980 and started my own practice in King City in 1982. I have performed audits and reviews on many NPO's and charities. I have served on numerous NPO and charity boards for decades. I have since sold my practice but still prepare tax returns, manage estates and trusts and eldercare practice. I also still enjoy my golf, too."



Treasurer Patricia Koblizek



*"It is not what you gather but what you scatter
that tells what kind of life you have lived."*

Golda Meir



Director Brian A. Partridge

More Expertise for our Board!

Life according to Brian...

" I was born and raised in Barrie. I attended University of Waterloo for my undergraduate degree. I then attended the University of Windsor for my post graduate MBA degree.

In 1997, I became a certified accountant. I have held senior accounting roles in the food and auto industry.

I am married and have lived in Allison area since 2002. I look forward to the year ahead!"





In Praise of Secretaries!



L to R: Director Helen Wilks, Past Secretary Janet Hayward and Current President Sue Miadovnik

The launching of a new club requires many dedicated individuals to put the wheels in motion and keep it from running off the rails or out of bounds...

Janet Hayward, now our Past Secretary, is one such person. From taking board minutes to communication on What's App, she was diligent in wanting only the best for our new club.

Beyond her secretarial duties, Janet was instrumental in encouraging others to join. She is always welcoming to any and all who wish to find new friends and join the fun of this fastest growing sport.

Thank you Janet!

Secretary for our Second Year!

Yvonne says...“I have had a long and successful career in marketing and client account management with experience in financial services and loyalty. My strengths are in building great relationship and focusing on strong people management skills. I have had experience in the field of general management.

While I am currently retired, I am offering my expertise to Life Raft Group Canada, a cancer patient advocacy group for a rare cancer known as GIST.



I am looking forward to exploring my passion for pickleball by supporting the New Tec Pickleball board as their secretary.”



Secretary Yvonne Nunnaro

Editor's Note: GIST is a gastrointestinal stromal tumor, also called a GIST, is a type of cancer that begins in the digestive system. GISTS happen most often in the stomach and small intestine.



New Tec's Gotta Have Fun!



This fall we had the opportunity to rent Gym 161 on Monday nights at Banting Memorial High School. With only two courts available, we decided to try a level-specific night for 3.25+ players.

We registered 12 players and ran a Round Robin format. Mary Parsons came up with a great idea for random seeding—drawing a facedown playing card (Ace to Queen) to assign numbers 1–12. It worked perfectly. We played 12-minute timed games and then rotated.

We also mixed things up with a ladder-play night and some dinking-games. Everyone seemed to have a b-a-double-l, with plenty of laughs throughout the session. A big thank-you to all of the spares who stepped in when needed.

Director Kim Ellison



The New Tec Pickleball Club ran another Learn to Play program at Banting on Wednesday nights over four weeks, from November 26 to December 17. We had five club members participate, along with seven new members who joined to experience pickleball for the first time.

We began with basic drills and serving fundamentals, rotating partners so everyone had the opportunity to meet and build social connections. As the program progressed, we moved into game play while explaining rules and scoring—often the most challenging part of the game for new players. The group came together quickly, and it was very satisfying to see their skills and understanding improve each week.

I would like to personally thank Harold Dierken, Jeannie Ellison, Kathy Hardy, Janet Hayward, and Mike Wood for their help in teaching and supporting our sessions.



Pickleball Players Take to the Courts



A holly, jolly bunch of picklers with great style sense...!



Look out! Here it comes!



What concentration! Where's the ball?

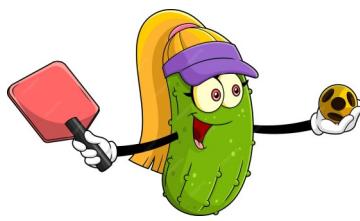


Rules? Really? We Follow Them?

How often have you been on the court and there has been an argument over what is legal or not legal. But it's only rec play, they say. So what rules are you going to apply?" Asking for a friend...

Key Rule Changes for 2026!

- **Volley Serve Clarification:** Added "clear" and "clearly" to the three volley serve requirements (*upward arc, paddle head below wrist, ball below waist*) to give referees grounds to call faults when a serve looks questionable. **So servers - no more sidearm angle shots! Up, up and away...**
- **Prompt Out-Calls:** Players must call a ball "out" promptly, even if it's a dead ball, to prevent delays. **Did you say out? Start yelling!**
- **Net-Plane Violations:** Clearer distinction between crossing the net plane *after* a legal shot (sometimes allowed) and *before* striking the ball (always a fault). **No more reaching over the net to tag the ball!**
- **Rally Scoring Update:** The game-winning point can now be scored by either the serving or receiving team, removing a potential freeze at game point. **Rally on!**
- **Spectator interference:** Changed from "should not" to "must not" for players consulting spectators on line calls, with penalties possible. **Mums the word!**
 - **Double Hit" Clarified:** If it's one continuous, directional motion, multiple hits (triple/quadruple) are legal; a carry (catching/throwing) remains illegal. **A quadruple hit? That's some fast action!**
- **Dead Ball" Play:** If a ball bounces legally on your side and then hits the net post, it's a dead ball, and you win the point. **It's a post mortem on the play!**



Editorial Comments....from the editor!



Pickleball Player Profiles!



Scott Harris

Scott says...

“I started playing pickleball in the summer of 2024 while visiting my daughter in Edmonton. She took me out 4 hours before my flight back home. Playing was great. I used my tennis background and stayed back on the baseline while learning the rules. I was sore all the way back home on the plane. It was worth it, though: I was hooked.

It's nice to get out and meet new people, socialize, and stay fit. I'd like to improve my third-shot drop from anywhere on the court and from any pace of ball coming at me, especially from smashers. Getting to the kitchen quickly can only be done effectively with good drops into your opponents' kitchen.

I enjoy skiing, rock climbing, scuba diving, hiking, and mountain biking. I'm still working and average 34k steps per day. (*Sheesh Scott...you are making us all look lazy!*)”

I enjoy my work, but I am also ready to retire anytime now. Just haven't stepped through that door yet.”

Maria says...

“I look forward to starting a new chapter in 2026 with the New Tec Pickleball Club. My first experience with pickleball was last year, playing Wednesdays (Learn to Play) and Fridays.

My goal was to learn the rules, how to play, and the kitchen (still wrapping my head around that). At the same time, I learned by watching skilled players on Friday night and found it very entertaining.

In my younger days I played tennis, volleyball, and women's floor hockey. I enjoy traveling, art and going to the gym.

The members of the pickleball club have created an additional reason for me to come for the team camaraderie and many laughs. The court has become one of my happy places.

Thank you to the volunteers for making this happen!”



Maria Zonni



Last But Not Least...



Upcoming Events and Initiatives

- ♦ **Winter Banting evenings:**

Registration is full for Monday and Wednesday evenings.

Friday sessions we still have spots, if interested.

- ♦ **Clinics:**

Opportunities for Learn to Play and Advanced Beginner I will occur in the coming months.

We will be bringing in a coach or two for the Intermediate level based on numbers. Stay tuned for more.

- ♦ **Fun Day:**

We are finalizing this date for our 2nd Annual Fun Day in May or June. We will be reaching out for volunteers to help on that day. Jody Macdonald and her team are making plans for our Fun Day event.

- ♦ **Member Spotlight**

Every month, we'll highlight one or more of our members who have exemplified the spirit of our club.

If you have suggestions for who you think should be profiled, please let us know at info@newtecpickleball.org



Communication is Key!

Communication in pickleball isn't just about calling balls — it's about anticipation, teamwork, and trust. The best partners read each other's positioning, stay vocal, and move together.

Next time you step on the court, take a minute to talk through your plan, agree on cues, and keep that "rope" between you tight!

