



## 2026 Members' Meeting & Annual General Meeting – Minutes

(DRAFT, until approved at 2027 AGM)

*Monday, January 19, 2026 at 7 p.m. AST*

In attendance (in alphabetical order by last name):

Derek Andrews	Bey Hay	Sherry Keen	Maurice Poirier
Margaret Barry	Larry Hay	Ed Kennedy	Theresa Rath Spicer
Gerald Barry	Elaine Langille	Kelly Kolke	Don Spicer
Jan Carruthers	Jan Langley	Kathy McInnis	Wade Taylor
John Carruthers	Don Johnston	John McKim	Karen Upshaw
Rhonda Calcott	Sheila Johnston	Sharon Myra	Ted Upshaw
Barb Foulds	Ruth Jordan	David Nicholson	
Stacey Gillis	Bob Keen	Vicki Patton	

### **MEMBERS' MEETING**

The Members' Meeting began at 7 p.m.

### **General Update**

Don Spicer, President, provided a General Update which was based on the 2025 Board Report that was circulated as part of the information package. The major accomplishments of your RJPB Board of Directors in 2025 (presented in alphabetical order by portfolio name) are as follows:

#### **Communications – Theresa Rath Spicer**

- Issued 9 editions of the Club Communiqué to keep members informed and engaged.
- Maintained the existing public-facing Facebook page and created a new private, members-only Facebook page; thanks to members for creating content on both pages.
- Updated the RJPB website, including publishing Board Meeting minutes on the Governance page.
- Created the 2025 Member Survey, and analyzed and communicated the results.

#### **Construction – Ed Kennedy**

- Ensured warranty work was completed by Maritime Tennis Court Builders, including strengthening the barrier fences between courts and addressing cracks on the court surface.
- Facilitated the completion of electrical work, and installation of court lighting.
- Finished the washroom facility, including adding door returns, new deadbolts, window trim, hand dryers, wall-mount soap dispensers and exterior motion-sensor lights.

### **Events – Jan Langley & Theresa Rath Spicer with Committee Members Sharon Myra & Vicki Patton**

- Organized numerous events including the weekly Legion socials, Volunteer Pizza Party, MiLP tournament, Annual Summer Dance in partnership with the Legion, Light It Up event, and end of season BBQ and sing-song.
- Facilitated RJP's participation in the River John Festival Days parade, Remembrance Day service and Christmas tree decorating/lighting.
- Offered self-guided evening play – Ladies' Night, Men's Night, Ruler of the Court, Round Robin and Partner Play.

### **Finance – John Carruthers**

- Continued to establish reserves for future expenditures to maintain the courts for the long term.
- Supported the Legion and River John Action Society (by being a Bronze Sponsor of River John Festival Days) with financial contributions for the second year in a row.
- Facilitated the GoPlay Fund program to several RJP members by the Municipality of Pictou County.

### **Membership – Jan Langley with Committee Member Elaine Langille**

- Encouraged membership in RJP, ending the year with 151 members.
- Purchased ball hoppers and balls for both formal and informal player development opportunities.
- Hosted multiple Player Development sessions throughout the season under the direction of the talented Tully and Cate (we can't thank them enough for their dedication and generosity), and a weekend session by Next Level Pickleball with both intermediate and advanced classes.
- Hosted Learn to Play sessions during River John Festival Days, and a Youth Learn to Play session in partnership with the YMCA and Legion Day Camp.
- Administered the indoor schedule at the firehall, including offering a few rated-play sessions which have been popular.

### **Operations – John McKim with Scheduling Committee Member Derek Andrews**

- Conducted significant research on windscreens with four suppliers, considering various features, cost, etc. and shared info with the Board. Later purchased and connected windscreens to the three fences surrounding the court closest to the parking lot.
- Implemented a complex outdoor schedule on Playtime Scheduler that attempted to meet as many members' needs as possible, with a focus on membership development both for beginners and higher-level players. Demonstrated flexibility by changing the schedule to meet members' needs, including adding other rated play sessions as requested by members.
- Implemented and administered the successful Book-a-Court program.
- Administered court maintenance, including regular court cleaning and garbage removal.

### **Partnerships – Don Spicer**

- Maintained a strong partnership with the Legion, regularly encouraging support of their events. As a continued show of support, the Board encourages all RJP members to consider becoming Legion members. You can join for free in 2026.
- Held discussions with the Town of Pictou & Municipality of Pictou County about a bike rack/e-bike charger which will be installed at the outdoor courts in 2026.
- Conducted successful outreach with Tatamagouche Regional Academy to encourage and support the creation of a school pickleball program. We, unfortunately, did not hear back from our outreach to North Nova Scotia Education Centre.
- Conducted outreach with Selkirk to potentially replace our current donated paddles; our application is currently under review.
- Contacted DUPR and created an account for RJP for possible future use.

### **Questions & General Feedback from Members**

The floor was opened to questions/comments from members, which were as follows:

- Comments were made about ensuring people can access our courts and that we provide a welcoming approach given non-members have to be signed in by a member. It was noted that we provide access now, either through requests on Facebook or via our email address, and numerous members have signed-in strangers and played games with them. One member in particular has gone out of his way to meet non-members at the courts and allow them to play. We can always do a better job of promoting access via our communication vehicles to ensure we're welcoming to non-members who want to play at our facility.
- Comment that RJP has a lot of money in the bank; would like to understand the plan with respect to those funds, including whether it will be donated to the community and/or local schools.
  - Treasurer John Carruthers noted that it's important to 1) maintain reserves, including for court maintenance, which could be a significant expense; and 2) have a year of operating expenses set aside.
  - Regarding donations, Don Spicer noted that we have donated to the Legion and the River John Action Society (for River John Festival Days), and our members donated to the River John Community Food & Health Centre in lieu of the Tully's accepting payment for the Player Development sessions they offered.
- Comment that the membership fee is a little high. Suggestion that it should be \$60.00 inclusive of taxes to help us promote and support the growth of pickleball as a sport for all ages and abilities in River John and surrounding areas.
- Comment that we should consider sponsoring River John Recreation by placing a sign at the ball field; it's noticeable that we're not there and it would be a good place to contribute to our community and promote pickleball.

### **Adjournment**

The Members' Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance (in alphabetical order by last name):

Derek Andrews	Bey Hay	Sherry Keen	Maurice Poirier
Margaret Barry	Larry Hay	Ed Kennedy	Theresa Rath Spicer
Gerald Barry	Elaine Langille	Kelly Kolke	Don Spicer
Jan Carruthers	Jan Langley	Kathy McInnis	Wade Taylor
John Carruthers	Don Johnston	John McKim	Karen Upshaw
Rhonda Calcott	Sheila Johnston	Sharon Myra	Ted Upshaw
Barb Foulds	Ruth Jordan	David Nicholson	
Stacey Gillis	Bob Keen	Vicki Patton	

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Call meeting to order, confirm quorum**

Meeting was called to order at 7:22 p.m. AST following the Members' Meeting, which the above-noted members attended, thus they all have voting rights at the AGM. Thirty members in attendance; quorum confirmed.

#### **2. Present and approve agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda by Jan Langley, seconded by Sheila Johnston. Motion carried.

#### **3. Approve minutes from last AGM**

Motion to approve the minutes from the 2025 AGM by Vicki Patton, seconded by Derek Andrews. Motion carried.

#### **4. President's Message – Don Spicer**

As is evidenced from the Board Report presented at the Member's Meeting moments ago, your Board of Directors and Committee Members have been very busy this past year. It has been wonderful to see so many positive things happening and to watch our club continue to grow – both in membership and in the diversity of play. Our members range from 2.0 to 4.3, and everything in between.

I'd like to share a few personal observations that wouldn't necessarily make it into a Board Report, but that make me proud to say I'm a member of RJP:

- Seeing smiling faces and hearing laughter from members of all ages and abilities enjoying the courts.
- Working alongside so many eager volunteers who make our events, tournaments, and work parties such a success.
- Hearing visitors from other clubs comment on how much they love our club – some even joined this year after their experience at our tournament.
- Hosting friends from across Canada and hearing them say, "These are the nicest courts we've played on."

We have a great deal to be proud of. I am especially proud of this Board and all it has accomplished, and grateful to each of you for the role you play in making our club what it is.

Thank you to the outgoing Board members for their tireless service, and to those continuing on in their roles. I also want to thank Rhonda Calcott, Kelly Kolke, Sharon Myra, Barb Foulds and Mo Poirier who put their name forward to join the Board this year. I truly believe our club is in very good hands.

I would be remiss if I didn't single out John Carruthers, our Treasurer, for his dedicated service to RJP. He was a founding member of the Club and has served on the board since the Club's inception. He's completed two terms on the Board and we can't thank him enough for all that he did to manage the Finance portfolio, including a tremendous amount of dollars raised through fundraising. Thank you, John.

Finally, thank you for the privilege of allowing me to serve as your president over the past year. While my time on the Board has come to an end, you're not getting rid of me that easily; I'll still be on the courts and volunteering as much as I can. See you on the courts.

#### **5. Financial Report – John Carruthers, Treasurer**

As part of information package, members received financial statements up to the end of December 2025. Financials were presented as per the information package (see pages 7 through 11 below).

Discussion pertaining to the Financials included:

- Question about Thompson Family donation which is quite significant at \$10,000 this year (and \$30,000 over three years) and how that capital is to be spent. John Carruthers explained that over the last three years, any money that came in as a donation through the Municipality of Pictou County has been segregated for capital purposes.
- A discussion ensued about how monies can be spent going forward. It was pointed out by a founding/former Board Member that when we first created our not-for-profit, we signed documents of incorporation and created by-laws. This documentation includes information on the purpose of the club, the mission and what we can collect and use monies for. As we make decisions on how the money is managed, there are terms that we must follow.

A motion was made to accept the financials as presented by John Carruthers; seconded by Gerald Barry. Motion carried.

#### **6. Acclamation of Candidates to the RJP Board of Directors**

We received five applications to the Board of Directors, so the five members were acclaimed. In alphabetical order by last name, they are: Rhonda Calcott, Barb Foulds, Kelly Kolke, Sharon Myra and Maurice Poirier. They join Ed Kennedy, Jan Langley and John McKim on the Board, who are in the second year of their 2-year term.

Board Member Jan Langley thanked the outgoing Board members – Don Spicer, John Carruthers and Theresa Rath Spicer, whose term is up effective this evening.

## **7. Other Business**

Additional discussion included:

- A comment was made about whether the Members' Meeting before the AGM is required and discussion ensued.
  - This is per the by-laws which require that a member has attended at least one previous members' meeting to be able to vote at future members' meetings.
  - It was noted that this is an important provision in our by-laws to protect a group of new members from derailing the AGM.
  - It was noted that it may be difficult for the secretary to track who has attended a Members' Meeting since the inception of the Club and compare it to those in attendance at the AGM. Therefore, having a Members' Meeting before the AGM has continued year after year.
  - It was noted that a summer or fall Members' Meeting could be held, instead of holding one before the AGM.
- A comment was made about exploring the possibility and financial feasibility of winterizing one court.

## **8. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. AST by Margaret Barry, seconded by Maurice Poirier. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Theresa Rath Spicer, Secretary

***Administrative note:*** This draft version of the minutes was approved by the 2025-26 Board of Directors via email on January 23, 2026; the minutes won't be considered final until they're approved at the 2027 AGM.

**RJPC Financials to December 31, 2025**

**River John Pickleball Club  
Statement of Financial Position**



**Assets**

Current

	<u>Dec 31/25</u>	<u>Dec 31/24</u>
Cash in Bank of NS	\$ 17,306	\$ 17,513
Bank of NS GICs	23,167	-
	<u>40,473</u>	<u>17,513</u>
Membership fees receivable - Pickleball Canada	-	3,709
Donations receivable - Municipality of Pictou County	200	200
HST recoverable	2,469	16,624
Prepaid insurance	1,966	1,934
Deposit - RJVFD	600	600
	<u>45,507</u>	<u>40,580</u>

**Capital assets**

Pickleball facility and equipment, at cost	248,893	216,888
	<u>\$ 294,400</u>	<u>\$ 257,468</u>

**Liabilities**

Current

MOPC GoPlay Fund - in trust	\$ -	\$ 1,400
Deferred revenue - 2026 membership fees	4,875	5,325
	<u>4,875</u>	<u>6,725</u>

**Net assets**

Unrestricted surplus	12,998	10,649
Internally restricted funds	27,634	23,206
Investment in capital assets	248,893	216,888
	<u>289,525</u>	<u>250,743</u>
	<u>\$ 294,400</u>	<u>\$ 257,468</u>

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



	Budget Dec 31/25	Jan 1 to Dec 31/25	Actual Jan 1 to Dec 31/24
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>Government grants</b>			
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
<b>Fundraising</b>			
Donations from individuals, corporations, Service Clubs and Associations	10,600	19,092	
	10,600	19,092	
<b>Other income</b>			
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	1,225	1,126
Interest income		167	1,524
	11,400	12,248	9,298
	11,400	45,681	53,390
<b>Expenses</b>			
Bank charges	110	330	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	1,740	1,895
Repairs and maintenance	1,100	604	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	153	
Volunteer appreciation night		807	
	10,431	9,899	10,438
<b>Excess of revenues over expenses</b>	\$ 969	\$ 35,782	\$ 42,952
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>		\$ 250,743	\$ 203,791
<b>Excess of revenues over expenses</b>		35,782	42,952
<b>Transfers from operations to restricted funds</b>		3,000	4,000
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>		\$ 289,525	\$ 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 Dec 31/25	Jan 1 to Dec 31/24
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	\$ 10,649	\$ 23,206	\$ 216,888	\$ 250,743	\$ 203,791
Add:					
Revenue	12,248			12,248	9,298
Fundraising		33,433		33,433	44,092
Transfers to restricted funds		3,000		3,000	4,000
	22,897	59,639	216,888	299,424	261,181
Deduct:					
Expenses	(9,899)			(9,899)	(10,438)
Capital expenditures		(32,005)	32,005		
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 12,998</b>	<b>\$ 27,634</b>	<b>\$ 248,893</b>	<b>\$ 289,525</b>	<b>\$ 250,743</b>
<b>INTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>					
	Capital Expenditures	Court Replacement	Wind Screens	Insurance Deductible	Total
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	\$ 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)
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 20,634</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>	<b>\$ 27,634</b>

The Club maintains these reserve funds for the use as identified in the description for each fund.

The reserve for capital expenditures consists of unspent funds received from donors who contributed to the capital campaign to fund the initial construction of the courts. The remaining balance of \$20,634 will be used for future court maintenance as required.

As of December 31, 2025 the Club has restricted \$27,634 (2024 -\$23,206) of its Net Assets as its restricted reserve fund.

The Club has Guaranteed Investment Certificates at the Bank of Nova Scotia of \$23,167 set aside as restricted funds.

The remaining \$4,467 is included in the general bank account.

**River John Pickleball Club**  
**Note to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended December 31**



**1. Nature of Operations**

The River John Pickleball Club was incorporated as a non-profit Society under the Registry of Joint Stocks of Nova Scotia on February 1, 2022. The objective of the Society is to promote the growth of pickleball as a sport for all ages and abilities in River John and surrounding areas.

The Club operates a three court pickleball facility in Partnership with the River John Legion on land leased from Legion. Funding was provided by governments and donations from the community. The Club is exempt from income taxes under section 149(1)(l) of the Canadian Income Tax Act.

**2. Capital assets, at cost**

	<b>Dec 31, 2025</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2024</b>
Pickleball facility including site preparation, paving, court coatings, nets, fence, light post supports, and concrete pad	\$ 169,721	\$ 169,721
Bathroom renovations	26,087	23,908
Shade shelter	12,404	12,404
Lights and electrical costs	29,954	2,718
Seating - benches, bleachers and picnic tables	4,324	4,324
Signage	1,925	1,925
Windscreens	2,589	
HeartSine Samaritan AED	1,889	1,889
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 248,893	\$ 216,888

## Operating Budget – Year Ending December 31, 2026

River John Pickleball Club Operating Budget Year ending December 31, 2026				
	Per Member	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	
<b>MEMBERSHIP FEE STRUCTURE</b>				
Membership fee per person		\$ 75	\$ 75	
Estimated number of members		131	100	
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Membership fees	\$ 75	\$ 9,825	\$ 7,500	
Clinics, tournament and other miscellaneous income	10	1,225	1,000	
Daily play and drop in fees	10	1,031	1,000	
Interest income	6	167	600	
PBNS/PBC rebates	5		500	
	106	12,248	10,600	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Bank service charges	2	330	200	
Contribution to the Legion and River John Days	13	1,250	1,250	
Dues and fees	1	81	100	
Insurance	20	1,934	2,000	
Long term court replacement reserve	20	2,000	2,000	
Office and court expenses	17	1,740	1,700	
Repairs and maintenance	10	604	1,000	
Utilities	3	153	300	
Volunteer appreciation night		807		
Wind screen replacement	10	1,000	1,000	
	96	9,899	9,550	
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	\$ 11	\$ 2,349	\$ 1,050	
<b>Capital Budget - Year ended December 31, 2026 (including HST)</b>				
Bathroom door upgrade		\$ 6,000		
Bathroom outdoor light timer		1,200		
Ball machine		3,000		
		\$ 10,200		
<b>Funded by:</b>				
Internally restricted funds - capital expenditures - December 31, 2025 (available \$27,634)		\$ 10,200		
<b>HST recoverable in 2027</b>		\$ 1,253		

2026-01-02