

Victoria Regional Pickleball Association

Minutes
Monday, February 2, 2026

At Damaris Brix' house

In Attendance

Roger Graves, President
Tessa Graham, Vice-President
Cathy Wong, Treasurer (regrets)
Damaris Brix, Secretary
Denise Wheeldon, Director
Brian Harrigan (regrets)
James Nielsen

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. The January 2026 meeting was postponed till Feb 2nd.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the December budget were approved. The purpose of that meeting was to review the 2026 Budget. Cathy had presented a revenue and expenses document which the committee reviewed line by line.

President's Report

Roger updated the committee on his initial discussion with an applicant for our temporary Programmer position (Feb 15 – Mar 15). The candidate will be formally interviewed later in the week.

Roger has created a Google workspace under the domain name of VRPA.net. Each board position will have a Gmail address which can be transferred to another person when there is a change of role or incumbent. The Google workspace also allows for better file management.

Roger advised that IPOP is starting to recruit for an HR person for their proposed Mayfair Mall courts. The courts likely wouldn't be completed for two years.

Vice-Presidents Report

Tessa updated the committee on the Berwick tournament planning. She has been in discussion with the tournament director about the proposed entry fee of \$55, and the fact that she would like to see some medal matches be best 2 out of 3. Jason from UVIC will be doing a conference call with the Event Coordinators. Cathy or Tessa will do the budget.

Xmas Tournament – UVIC is open to partnering with VRPA on the Xmas tournament. They have proposed December 20th. Although this is close to Christmas the advantage is that there will no longer be students on campus and the parking would be free as it's a Sunday.

Referee Training – Tessa advised that out of a cohort of 13, there should be 9 people that complete the referee training in March. She will be booking head referees to assess them. She has a budget to pay for the court time for assessment. She would

like to purchase name tags for the refs. PCO nametags can only be worn for sanctioned events.

Membership Report

There are 702 active members. Damaris has spent considerable time notifying 80 individuals who had signed up for classes who were not members. All have now renewed/joined. A reminder that people must be a member in order to run for the Board.

Programs

Denise reported that we had to cancel some programs at a loss. This was disappointing as the program team specifically offered programs that had been requested in the survey. The Block Booking opportunity has not been well subscribed to. It was suggested to lower the cost of them to \$40 per two-hour block. Damaris wondered how we would ensure that only VRPA members are playing in the block bookings.

It was agreed that future programs would have a limited window for sign-ups so they can be cancelled in a timely way if not filled.

In September we will have 1 evening at Cedar Hill Middle School, and perhaps could get another.

The Board discussed the issues around getting a DUPR rating. It was agreed that James would write an article explaining various ways to go about this.

The shortcomings and expense of Sign-Up Genius was discussed. We paid \$10,000+ in SUG fees last year. It is hoped that a new program manager could explore other registration programs that are more cost effective and offer better flexibility and reporting.

Activating Youth Pickleball

Roger advised he has received a communication from AYP detailing orders they have placed for nets and balls. The Board wasn't sure if further funding was being requested from VRPA. AYP has raised some funds from the Firefighters. It was suggested that some of our surplus nets could be donated for use in the schools.

AGM

The board discussed logistics for the AGM. Each board member was asked to gather proxies from players they play with.

Meeting adjourned at 4:06 pm