



Chilliwack Pickleball Club March 2026 Newsletter



Happy Spring everybody!!

It's been a little on the wet side, but it's so lovely to see the cherry blossoms out and to have it stay light out so much longer! A big welcome back to some of our Snowbirds that have recently returned and also welcome to our newest club members. We hope you are all settling in and enjoying your play at the Landing. Hopefully, everyone has noticed the great progress happening with the new facility behind the Landing! It's exciting to watch it slowly come to life and, as soon as we see those rafters go up, it will finally start to feel real. Continued thanks to Lyle and the board for their work with the city staff in helping to make this long-awaited facility come to fruition.



As usual, I will try and recap things that have been happening in our club over the last month, and give you some info about what's coming up, so here we go.....

PLAY SESSIONS

April's play session calendar is attached at the end of this email (and is also available on our website) but here is a summary of what you can expect coming up this month. *(Note: the city has cancelled us on Apr. 17th, 24th and 25th)*

Mixers: Regular mixers will be held on Apr. 1st, 3rd, 6th, 8th, 10th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, and 27th. (Times will vary depending on what day of the week it is)

There will also be a **DUPR Mixer** (no scores entered) on Monday, Apr. 13th (10:30-12:45pm) and both a **Women's** and **Men's Mixer** on Tuesday, Apr. 28th (12:30-2:45pm)



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Club Play: 3.1 and under Club Play will take place on Apr. 2nd, 11th, 16th and 20th.
3.2 and over Club Play will happen on Apr. 4th, 7th, 18th, 23rd, and 30th. Please check times carefully and note the slight time change on Apr. 23rd.

Skills & Drills: 3.1 and under S&D will take place on Apr. 7th, 13th, 23rd, and 30th.
3.2 and over S&D will happen on Apr. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 20th, and 27th.
(All S&D sessions are 3:00-5:00 pm)

Book Your Own Court (BYOC): All BYOC sessions this month will run from 3:00-5:00pm and will take place on Apr. 3rd, 10th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 27th, and 28th.

Mixed Set Doubles: We will have one Mixed Set Doubles session on Wednesday, April 29th from 10:30-2:45, so grab a partner and register now!

Beginner/2.7&under Rec Play: Beginner/2.7&under sessions will continue to be held on most Tuesdays (except for April 7th). Play runs from 3:00-5:00 and will be held on Apr. 14th, 21st, and 28th.

April Coaching Sessions with Coach Alistair

Private coaching sessions with Coach Alistair to work on your pickleball skills in a one-to one lesson, with a partner or a group. Register on SUH.

1 Player - \$95.00

2 Players - \$120 (\$60 each)

4 Players - \$140 (\$35 each)

Monday, April 13th, 4.00-5.00pm

Monday, April 20th, 3.00-4.00pm & 4.00-5.00pm

Monday, April 27th, 3.00-4.00pm & 4.00-5.00pm



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King or Queen of the Court (KOTC):

- Players will randomly be placed on a net and draw (using 4 playing cards) for first game partnerships
- The game will be timed at 12mins.
- The winning players will move up a court, and the losing players will move down a court for the next match.
- Players will then redraw for new partnerships for the next game.
- If there is a tie at the end of a game, the win will go to the partnership who got to the winning point first.
Ex: The score is 12-12 but Joan and John got to 12 first so they will move on as the winning partnership.
- At the end of the session the winning partnership is declared "KING or QUEEN OF THE COURT"

Thursday, April 9th, 12:30-2:45pm - 3.1 & Under

Tuesday, April 14th, 12:30-2:45pm - 3.2 & Over

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our latest KOTC 3.1& under winners, Brenda Pare and Donna Gill!! Great work ladies! A big thank you to all the other participants who have come out to enjoy our KOTC sessions! It's so nice to mix things up a little and play with, and get to know, other players in the club!





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PICKLEBALL TIPS!

I recently read a great post on the Crazy Pickleball Lady's website that I thought had some great information in it.....useful tips that we all could use! Hope you enjoy the read!

Becoming a better pickleball player requires shot variety and strategy

Making the move from a 3.5 to 4.0 player takes more than just skill. Many times, we see a 3.5 player join in a 4.0 group, and immediately bang away, using only power to win the point. Why is that?

One reason is that those players have probably been playing against players in the 3.5 category who have just improved from 3.0, and quite frankly they have enjoyed being one of the best in their group or tournament bracket. Winning points with power against weaker players is easy.

Another reason is that mentally, people tend to think that stronger is better. Sometimes it is, when used at the right time, but certainly not always. Improving players need to learn when to use their power most effectively.

Not only do players need to improve their paddle skills and embrace a combination of soft shots and power, they also must put more focus on the mental aspect of their game. Strategy is key at the upper levels of pickleball. You might score a few points with power against a higher-level player, but quickly they will adjust, and you'll find yourself getting beat at your own game.

Here's a few things to remember while you play your next game.

- Getting to the kitchen line is your goal. Most points in good games come at the kitchen line. Continually driving the ball from the baseline will only keep you back and away from the kitchen line longer. It will also either keep your partner back as well, or if they move up, they will become a target. Opponents will be at their kitchen line, just waiting for you to make a mistake.
- Remember this phrase, especially when you are at or near the kitchen line, **“When it's low, hit it slow. When it's high, hit it hard.”** Of course, you are going to attempt a put away with power when a high ball comes at you! But if the ball is below your waist and you have to lower your paddle to hit it, your better choice would be to hit a soft, well-placed dink.
- When you are near or at mid-court or at the kitchen line and hit a drive shot, one of two things will likely happen. Either the ball will go into the net, or it will sail high, offering your opponent an easy overhead put away. However, more experienced players will recognize that your shot is going long and let it go. Another phrase to remember, **“Shoulder high, let it fly.”**

I've said it before in other posts, I'd rather lose a game with someone who is working on getting better and misses some of their drop shots, than one who won't try to hit them in a game for fear of losing.

Lastly, remember that when you hit a ball hard at your opponent, they are using their reflexes to get to the ball and will often return the ball without even trying. Make them work for their return shot by changing up the pace and placement of your shots.

Becoming a better player involves learning new shots, incorporating power and touch to your advantage, seeing a wider picture on the other side of the net, identifying openings, and using strategy to take advantage of weak spots. That's when pickleball really becomes fun!



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CLUB REMINDERS

Our new sign-up procedures are well underway and are making a positive impact. Just a reminder of the changes: For regular play sessions (other than Skills and Drills and BYOC) you will be charged 1 play credit at time of sign up. If you sign out, **24 hours** before the session play time, you will be reimbursed your play credit. If you missed the sign out time, it is recommended that you still sign out, in order to prevent you being charged your 3-play credit No-Show penalty. There is still the 2-hour window for sessions for you to sign in (if there is still space) or sign out so that you don't incur a No-Show charge.

For **Skills and Drills**, and **BYOC** you have to sign out **72 hours** before your session in order to have your credits returned. Also, for BYOC we are limiting you to twice a month, since courts are usually in high demand. (If there is still space left after the 72 hours, you will be able to book an additional court.)

Respect and Fair Play: We would like to once again encourage everyone to bring your best positive attitude to the courts! Remember in pickleball the general rule is "If it's too thin, it's in"! Please avoid making overly tight line calls and realize that close calls go both ways.

Ultimately, even when it's CLUB or DUPR play, we are striving to play with enthusiasm and good sportsmanship!



SPONSORS

Once again, we would like to thank the following sponsors for their continued support this year.

If you are looking for services or products, be sure to shop local and check them out! We also have a few spots that have opened for additional sponsors, so if you know a local business that would love to support our club and have their banner on a net, (along with advertising on our website, newsletters and during our tournaments), then please have them contact Ray Hart at Rayhart58@gmail.com, or via text at 604-807-2533.



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APRIL 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01	02	03
			10.30-12.45pm Mixer	12.30-2.45pm Club Play 3.1 & Under	12.30-2.45pm Mixer	10.15-12.30pm Club Play 3.2 & Over
				3.00-5.00pm Skills & Drills 3.1 & Under	3.00-5.00pm BYOC	7.00-9.00pm orientations
	05	06	07	08	09	10
	10.30-12.45pm Mixer	12.30-2.45pm Club Play 3.2 & Over	10.30-12.45pm Mixer	12.30-2.45pm KOTC 3.1 & Under	12.30-2.45pm Mixer	10.15-12.30pm Club Play 3.1 & Under
		3.00-5.00pm Skills & Drills 3.1 & Under		3.00-5.00pm Skills & Drills 3.2 & Over	3.00-5.00pm BYOC	



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12

10.30-12.45pm
DUPR Mixer
(NO SCORES)

1.00-3.00pm
Skills & Drills
3.1 & Under

3.00-5.00pm
Coaches

3.00-5.00pm
BYOC

4.00-5.00pm
Private

13

12.30-2.45pm
KOTC
3.2 & Over

3.00-5.00pm
Beg & 2.7 &
Under Rec Play

3.00-5.00pm
BYOC

14

10.30-12.45pm
Mixer

15

12.30-2.45pm
Club Play
3.1 & Under

3.00-5.00pm
Skills & Drills
3.2 & Over

16

Cancelled

17

10.15-12.30pm
Club Play
3.2 & Over

18

19

3.00-5.00pm
Orientations

20

10.30-12.45pm
Club Play
3.1 & Under

1.00-3.00pm
Skills & Drills
3.2 & Over

3.00-5.00pm
BYOC

3.00-5.00pm
Private

21

12.30-2.45pm
Mixer

3.00-5.00pm
Beg & 2.7 &
Under Rec

3.00-5.00pm
BYOC

22

10.30-12.45pm
Mixer

23

12.45-2.45pm
Club Play
3.2 & Over
***NOTE TIME

3.00-5.00pm
Skills & Drills
3.1 & Under

Cancelled

24

Cancelled

25

26

10.30-12.45pm
Mixer

1.00-3.00pm
Skills & Drills
3.2 & Over

3.00-5.00pm
Privates

3.00-5.00pm
BYOC

27

12.30-2.45pm
Women's &
Men's Mixer

3.00-5.00pm
Beg & 2.7 &
Under Rec Play

3.00-5.00pm
BYOC

28

10.30-12.45pm
Mixed Set
Doubles

29

12.30-2.45pm
Club Play
3.2 & Over

3.00-5.00pm
Skills & Drills
3.1 & Under

30



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Kathy Isaac
CPC Secretary