



# Welcome to Your Provincial Tournament

*The 2026 Pickleball Saskatchewan Provincial Tournament presented by Dream is almost here. Whether you're a participant or simply curious about what's going on, we wanted to touch base with a brief recap of tournament information. And, if you're looking for inspiration on your pickleball journey, you might find some in our feature story about one of Saskatchewan's top pickleball athletes.*

## Just The Facts . . .

The 2026 Pickleball Saskatchewan Provincial Tournament Presented by Dream is a Major Championship sanctioned by Pickleball Canada. This year's tournament, the largest ever Saskatchewan provincials, is hosted by Pickleball Regina Inc.

Pickleball Regina is proud to support the Canadian Mental Health Association – Regina Branch, which will receive 100% of net proceeds from this tournament to support its vital mental health programs and services.

This indoor event will be played on 16 courts at the Queen City Pickleball Hub and conducted under current Global Pickleball Federation rules. The official tournament ball is the yellow Franklin X-40.

## The Schedule

<b>Thursday, May 28</b>	10:00 a.m. – Men's & Women's Singles
<b>Friday, May 29</b>	8:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony 8:30 a.m. – Women's Doubles
<b>Saturday, May 30</b>	8:00 a.m. – Mixed Doubles
<b>Sunday, May 31</b>	8:00 a.m. – Men's Doubles

During the opening ceremony, we ask all players to show consideration for our guests and cease all on-court activities.

In addition to official tournament games, a youth demonstration tournament with officiated matches is being held Friday May 29, starting at 4:30 p.m. Medals will be awarded to the top three teams in the round-robin competition.

## For participants and spectators, some things to remember

- Don't forget to bring your proof of Saskatchewan residency — Driver's License, Health Card, or Provincial ID — which will be required at check-in.
- To reduce congestion, player bags are not allowed in the centre corridor between the courts
- St. John Ambulance personnel will be on site in the event first aid assistance is required.

- Feeling lucky? Canadian Mental Health Association – Regina Branch will be on site selling 50/50 tickets on tournament weekend. They're also available online right now at <https://cmharegina.rafflenexus.com/>
- If you're looking for a special keepsake photo, watch for IG Wealth Management's trading-card style photo booth in the Avana Mall

## Thank you to our sponsors

We're proud to have Dream as the presenting sponsor of this year's provincial championships. Dream's historical presence in Saskatchewan has been a driving force in our province's development, and we're excited they've agreed to present Saskatchewan's premier pickleball event.



Other leading businesses have also stepped up in support. IG Wealth Management is the Event Sponsor for Friday's Women's Doubles. ASL is the Event Sponsor for Saturday's Mixed Doubles, with Wilco the Event Sponsor for Men's Doubles on Sunday.



We're also thankful for the support of the following court sponsors: NIS Contractors Ltd, Stantec, Casinos Regina & Moose Jaw, Park Avenue Builders, Primary Engineering, SVC Construction and General Contracting, Ground

Engineering, Ehrenburg Homes Ltd., Pacesetter Homes, NorthRidge, Capital Ford and Scharfstein Barristers and Solicitors.

In addition, AdSpark and the Queen City Pickleball Hub have provided generous in-kind contributions.

## We need your help. Consider volunteering – no experience necessary!

There are still many roles to choose from, each with several shift times, on each of the four days. Please click [Sign Up Genius](#) to view the full description and choose a day/time that suits you. It's a great way to meet new people, engage in the tournament atmosphere without the stress of playing, watch some great play, or give back to the sport we all love. Only a few days left, so please sign up now.

## Useful links

**Have a tournament-related question?** [provincials@pickleballregina.ca](mailto:provincials@pickleballregina.ca)

**Looking for things to do?** [tourismregina.com](http://tourismregina.com)

**Want to head downtown?** [reginadowntown.ca](http://reginadowntown.ca)

**Need a hotel?** [stayinregina.com](http://stayinregina.com)

# From club courts to centre stage

## Pickleball event blends fun and competition

From May 28-31, more than 400 athletes will gather at the Pickleball Saskatchewan Provincial Tournament Presented by Dream, where competition and community come together to crown the province's top players.

For most of the pickleballers at this year's event, the provincials are a fun weekend of competition in a tournament built to accommodate a wide range of skill levels.

For a few, though, they can be a stepping stone to elite, national-level competition.

One of those is Regina's Anna Dyachenko — the only Saskatchewan athlete competing in the professional Canadian National Pickleball League.

Originally from Kazakhstan, Dyachenko played semi-professional basketball while attending university in the United Kingdom. During her time in Europe she met her husband, Mark McCulloch, and eventually moved to Regina.

Dyachenko discovered pickleball almost by accident about 12 years ago while visiting family in Phoenix, Arizona. Encouraged by her mother-in-law to try a local club session, she quickly became hooked on the fast-growing sport.

Events like the provincial championships were an important step in building a competitive resume that reflects both her athletic background and the rapid rise of the sport in Saskatchewan and Canada.

"It's basically like a micro experience of what it's like competing on a professional level," Dyachenko says.

After first picking up a pickleball paddle, Dyachenko played mostly recreationally. About seven years into her



Anna Dyachenko

pickleball journey, she began pursuing the sport more seriously.

Competitive success soon followed. Dyachenko has captured multiple gold medals at tournaments across Canada and the United States, with a women's singles title among her many podium finishes at Canada's national pickleball championships. She's also medalled many times at the Saskatchewan provincials, including a mixed doubles gold in 2023.

Her advice for players at all levels at the 2026 provincials?

"Everybody's going to be nervous," she says. "That's just how things are when you're participating in an event that means a lot to you."

"Accept it, be okay with being nervous, and then go and do it anyway."

Last year Dyachenko reached another milestone when she was selected in the second round of the Canadian National Pickleball League draft by the Vancouver Owls. The league, launched in 2023, aims to bring together top players from across the country in a professional team format.

"The talent in Canada is outstanding and every year the level of competition within the league is getting better and better

as they're bringing international players in," Dyachenko says.

Her competitive season is off to a strong start. Dyachenko recently returned from a tournament in Alberta after medalling in all three events she entered: golds in women's and mixed doubles and a silver in singles. Her 2026 tournament play is sponsored in part by Pickleball Regina.

Beyond competition, Dyachenko remains deeply involved in the grassroots side of pickleball.

As a coach and ambassador for the sport in Regina, she has helped introduce new players to the game while contributing to its rapid growth across the region.

That's all while balancing an elite sports career with family life.

"It's not an easy thing to do," she says. "Sometimes I feel like a juggler."

And the month of May is particularly busy.

Out-of-province preparation for her professional commitments means Dyachenko is unable to play in this year's tournament, but her thoughts will be with those on the courts in Regina — whether playing for fun or chasing their own pickleball dream.

The indoor event takes place at the Queen City Pickleball Hub accessed through the Avana Centre Building at the REAL District from May 28-31.

### **Thursday, May 28**

10:00 a.m. – Competition begins with Men's and Women's Singles

### **Friday, May 29**

8:30 a.m. – Play continues with Women's Doubles

### **Saturday, May 30**

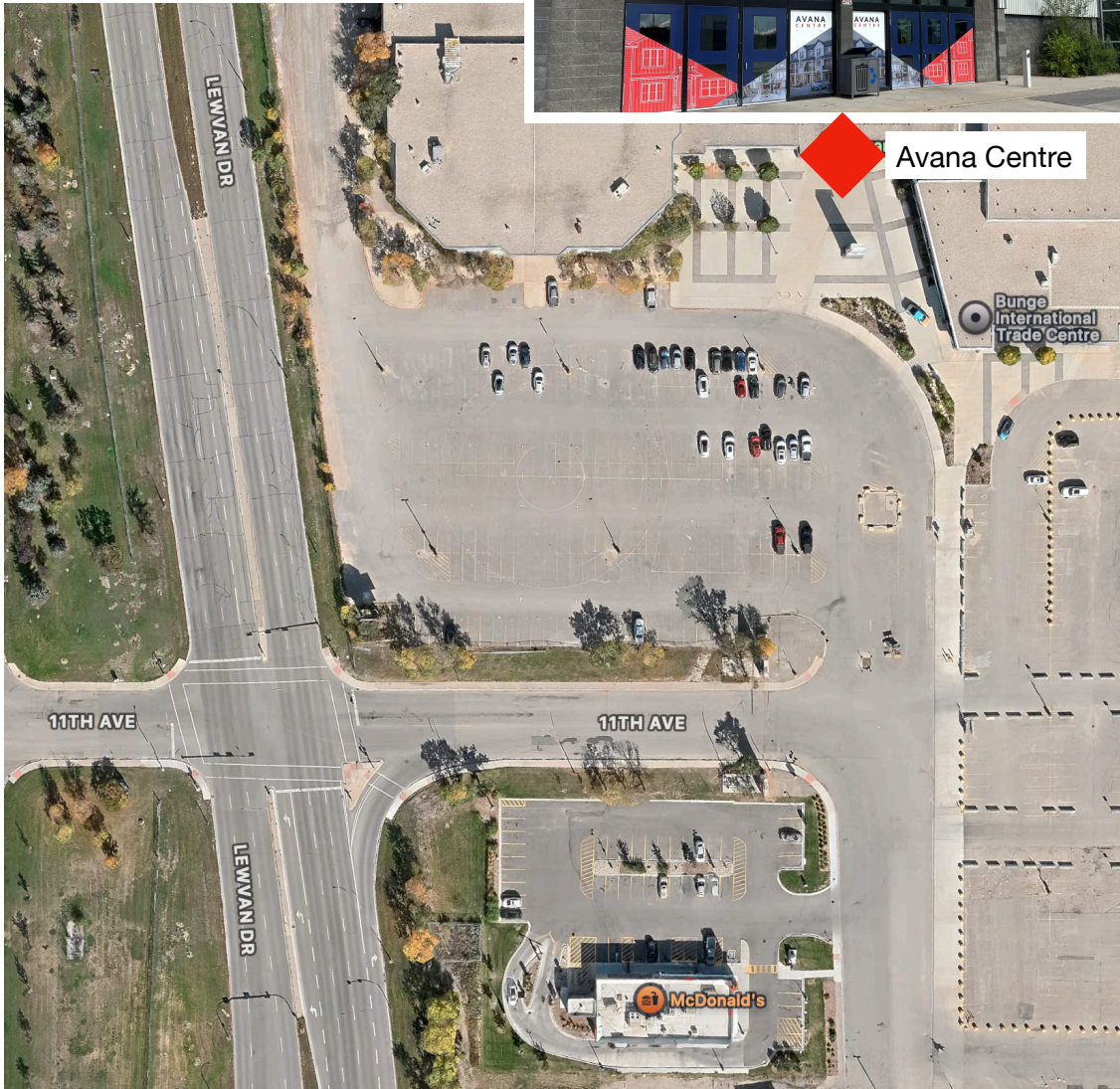
8:00 a.m. – Mixed Doubles

### **Sunday, May 31**

8:00 a.m. – Men's Doubles

Admission is free, and spectators are welcome.

## Getting Here



Not familiar with Regina or the Queen City Pickleball Hub? Here are some suggestions to help you find your way. If you plan on using a navigation app to get to the tournament, you may find the address of the Queen City Pickleball Hub listed as 1700 Elphinstone Street. This is a street address for the REAL District. Many players find it most convenient to get to the QCPH by entering the REAL District using the 11th Avenue Entrance at its intersection with Lewvan Drive. The QCPH is accessed through the Avana Centre, which you'll see on your left as you enter the REAL grounds. Free public parking is available. After entering the Avana Centre, volunteers will be waiting to direct you to the registration area. You're here — welcome to the provincials!

