Hello all of you pickleball'ers! I hope that your summer has started well and you are enjoying playing and interacting on the courts. There has been a lot going on at Delta Pickleball and our season is in full swing.

Dash 'N Smash sanctioned tournament

We held our fourth annual Dash 'N Smash sanctioned tournament in early June. We had 225 players participating including many of our club players and some excellent players in the top divisions. Our youngest player was 15 and our oldest player was 77! We earned about $13,000 towards our capital fund. Thank you to tournament director Henry Lyszczyk and the almost 100 volunteers that helped to make this event a success!

Chalmers Elementary lessons

On June 16 and 18, 2026, we had a number of volunteers come out to coach the Grade 3-6 students from Chalmers Elementary School. This is the third year we have worked teaching pickleball to the Chalmers kids. Kids and coaches had a great time and this was much appreciated by the school and the students. Thanks to our amazing volunteers!

Club lessons and mentoring sessions

We held a number of lesson sets in May with Dave and Anne Kennedy in the South and Bruce Davidson in the North and have continued with a variety of lessons and mentoring through June. We have more scheduled for July so if you are a player at 2.50 to 3.25, look for sessions on Playtime Scheduler. Thanks again to great volunteer coaches and mentors.

Competitive sessions

In responses to requests from some members looking to play more competitive sessions, we would like to create some sessions at the 3.75 and 4.0 level to prioritize competitive play. We will start initially adding some "Ruler of the Court" sessions concept in July. The "Ruler of the Court" will allow players winning matches to progress in the match set and losing players to move backwards.

We will try to put these sessions on weekends or evenings if possible to allow our working members to participate. In order for these sessions to be scheduled, it is important that we have court hosts. We will only run these competitive sessions with court hosts. If there are members who are interested in discussing competitive sessions at other levels, please contact me at president@deltapickleball.org

Volunteers….the backbone of our club

I would like to send a major “shout out” to all of our volunteers (Board members, court hosts, tournament volunteers, coaches, mentors and other nameless people taking care of our courts). Our club does not function or exist without these people. Please make a point to thank these volunteers for helping make our club what it is today.

On this note, I would like to remind everyone about etiquette and behaviour while at the courts. In order to keep our play enjoyable and fun, we have a code of conduct on our website that is always helpful to review. While there is nothing surprising there, the basics of it can be summarized by two principles:

1. “do unto others as you would like done unto you”; and
2. Relax, be kind, courteous and have fun. It’s only pickleball

This is a reminder to everyone that we expect these courtesies to be applied to all players and especially to our volunteers including court hosts. Any behaviour that is perceived to be loud, abusive or inappropriate towards anyone during DPA times cannot be tolerated and can be a subject of revocation of membership privileges. Let’s all have fun out there!

The Dream Maker round robin returns for 2026

We will be holding the Dream Maker round robin fun tournament again this year. For those of you that joined us last year, it was reported to be one of the highlights of the season. We don’t have a lot of changes in store as it seems as though many of you liked the format. The Dream Maker will be held on August 8, 2026 which is National Pickleball Day. Last year our Dream Maker was the largest National Pickleball event in the country.

Don’t worry if you haven’t played organized pickleball yet. This is an easy entry to organized play. Throughout the Dream Maker **you will only play against people who report to play at your level.** The design of the day is to ensure that we have a great social day of play. For your entry fee you get a good day of play and lunch. Proceeds from the Dream Maker will be donated to a local charity (yet to be determined). Entry to the Dream Maker will open on Playtime Scheduler around July 18 (we will send out another notice prior to entries opening).

DPA Board of Directors 2026/27

It is that time again to begin considering the make-up of the Board of Directors for next year. Out of 10 positions there are currently four positions that are up for renewal. It is important that we have Board members that understand and are willing to help carry on the mission of Delta Pickleball. Our club depends on the leadership of our Board of Directors to deliver more facilities, maintain our facilities and operate our event calendar including playing sessions.

The process is simple. If you are interested in serving on the Board of DPA then please express your interest to me at president@deltapickleball.org. The number of interested parties will determine if there is a vote required at the Annual General Meeting. This year's AGM will be held at Cromie Park on September 12, 2026. As per tradition, we will hold a fun play morning prior to the AGM (which will get started promptly at 11:30 am and should end by noon). If you have any questions about serving on the Board please feel free to contact any Board Member including myself.

Closing

We have hit the mid-point of our season and it is great to see so many of you out on the courts. On behalf of your Board I am excited about what is still in front of us for the second half. Enjoy!

Regards,

Landon Kitagawa