



VRPA BULLETIN

Updates | Activities | Membership

Important Dates

Our membership year is July 1 to June 30 so renew your membership via the website. Good news: membership fees will remain the same. Renewal is \$10 for the upcoming year. New members will pay a \$10 initiation fee plus the \$10 annual membership fee.

AGM

Our first **Annual General Meeting** will be in mid-September and likely at Pearkes Recreation Centre. Board elections will be held for 3 director's positions. Consider putting your name forward. Only paid up members will be eligible to vote.

Sponsor Support

The VRPA is thankful to Victoria Home Team Realty, Pearkes, Phil Barker, Garside Signs, Island Farms, Oughtred Coffee, Thrifty's, Starbucks, Canadian Springs, View Royal Casino, and Tigh-Na-Mara Resort for their tournament support. Courtside Sports supplied the balls for the tournament, clinics, and outdoor league. Please support them.

President's Message

It has been a busy Spring for the VRPA. We offered player clinics, an outdoor league, and a tournament. We have plans for a referee's clinic and hope to offer that in the early Fall.

Advocacy for outdoor courts is ongoing. We participated in consultations with the City of Victoria on May 3 regarding racquet sport court improvements and on June 7 regarding the redevelopment of Topaz Park. Our consistent message is that the VRPA seeks dedicated courts and significant numbers of them (8 or more) in any given location. It was encouraging to hear City of Victoria staff talk about the, as yet unmet, and legitimate needs of pickleball players.

Saanich planners sought VRPA input regarding McMinn Park redevelopment. There will be two, dedicated pickleball courts in the former location of the sports court located between the tennis courts. In addition, Saanich has recently informed us of, and we will be watching, their Strategic Facilities Master Plan which can be viewed at <http://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/local-government/departments/engineering-department/strategic-facilities-master-plan.html>

On June 8, the VRPA attended the open house at Cedar Hill Rec Centre regarding the plans for Cedar Hill Park. Let's stay consistent with our message. Weigh in through the online survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CedarHillPark>





Stay Informed

Stay up-to-date on activities and opportunities to play through the website at victoriapickleball.org. It is frequently updated and the best way to stay informed. Encourage your friends and fellow players to join the VRPA. There is strength in numbers and in being recognized as a voice for the sport.

Send questions or comments to the VRPA at vicrpb@gmail.com

Future Developments

The VRPA will affiliate with Pickleball Canada. VRPA members will become members of PCO and will be covered by insurance for all regular club activities and for sanctioned tournaments. PCO assures us that members who are already PCO members will, by virtue of VRPA membership, have their PCO membership extended.

Negotiations are active with Pearkes regarding us taking responsibility for some additional time beyond the current drop in schedule to offer different kinds of play. Stay tuned.

Outdoor League - April - June

The VRPA organized the first outdoor pickleball league ever in Victoria this spring. The regular season is now over and four teams have moved on to the playoff rounds. The final four teams are Visconix, Warriors, Rinky Dinks and Team Smash. Come and watch the final Medal Games on Wednesday, June 28, at 10 AM, at Tolmie (Gold/Silver) and Copley (Bronze) parks.

Players' Clinics - April 29, 2017

Six courts, four highly qualified instructors and nearly fifty hard-working participants!

The first VRPA clinics, up to Level 3.0 in the morning and Level 3.5 and up in the afternoon, took place at Colquitz School on Saturday, April 29. Ken Holman and his team of instructors delivered the goods,



from fundamentals to upper level strategies, leaving us with the potential to become better pickleball players. Keep your paddle up and look forward to more clinics in future!

