

Victoria Regional Pickleball Association
Minutes
Monday, January 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Connie McCann, President
Beverly De Haitre, Vice-President
Damaris Brix, Secretary
Virginia Jacklin, Director

Trish Main, Past President
Judy Langford, Treasurer
Gilles Pellerin, Director
Gale Penner, Director

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

Financial Report

Judy presented the Treasurer's Report

Island Savings Balance:	\$25,535.13
PayPal Balance:	\$1,609.17
Petty Cash Balance:	\$20.27
Trackie (PCO) Balance:	\$80.00

The VRPA Christmas Tourney ran at a loss of -\$221.00. However, the Board was aware this would be the case ahead of time and agreed to keep entry fees low, rather than raise them to cover costs. The largest expense was the rental of Pearkes for the day at \$1344. Medals, door prizes, snacks and photocopying made up the other expenses. Any entry fees from players who withdrew after paying will be put against this loss.

When a person cancels their registration from one of our programs or tournaments, they are charged a \$10 administration fee. It was brought to light that both Paypal and Pickleball Brackets charge a fee for issuing refunds. The Board agreed that any such fees would be absorbed by the \$10.

Bursary

Gilles and Joanne Rykers have been appointed to the Bursary Committee. They will be bringing their recommendations forward to the February meeting from the 6 applications. They have a few recommendations to improve the bursary application form including adding sections for email address, years of playing Pickleball and how an applicant would utilize their coaching certificate.

Membership Report

Gale reported that there are 242 active members, and 236 expired members. It was agreed that another email will be sent out to the expired members encouraging them to rejoin. However, some of those expired members are Snowbirds from elsewhere that only joined last year when they came to

Victoria rather than travel south. Any follow-up regarding memberships will be directed to Gale to respond to.

Website – no report

Program Update

We are currently offering programs at Cedar Hill, Pearkes and Naden. The Pearkes Open Play and Partner Play filled up quickly, but there has been low enrollment in Denis' and Heather's groups. Rather than being gender specific they may be changed to mixed sessions. There was a discussion on the difficulties of providing stratified or levelled play. It was agreed that we would offer beginner recreational play (up to 3.5) on Saturday mornings at Naden. This will be 10 minute timed play. In the afternoon we will offer Intermediate Open Play for those at 3.5+. The facilitator will not be asked to judge players' abilities. There is a tool on our website for players to rate themselves. We will be using the Naden gym for lessons on Sundays. Virginia will find out from Naden what has been programmed in the other half of the gym, as noise could be an issue and there is no curtain.

Pamphlet

Damaris suggested that VRPA develop a pamphlet/brochure and/or poster that could be put on display outlining the benefits of a VRPA membership including:

- One low fee provides membership in VRPA, Pickleball BC, and Pickleball Canada
- Get first access to VRPA programs and tournaments
- Insurance if injured while playing
- Support the organization that is advocating for more courts in the region:

It was agreed that this would be worthwhile. Connie will email the membership and see if anyone has publishing skills to help with the design. Judy suggested that a bookmark type size might be more professional looking, but Trish commented that copying charges are least expensive for standard paper size. It was suggested that this initiative be put on hold until the website is updated.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BC 55+ Games

Connie announced that she has accepted the position of BC 55+ Games Sports Chair. Congratulations, Connie!

Facilitator Program

Jim Merz and Leslie Black have volunteered to be facilitators, and we also have a list of spares. Connie circulated a Facilitators instruction guide. Trish will be in touch with Connie with some suggested edits.

Municipality Outreach

VRPA is actively liaising with municipalities in the quest for more courts.

- Connie will be presenting at the Oak Bay council in January with our offer of \$4,000 for sound abatement at Carnarvon, and signage.
- There is no news about Tolmie. The head planner for Saanich has recently retired.
- Topaz has conceptual plans for 6 Pickleball courts, and 2 tennis courts. There will be a new council in the Fall of 2022; hopefully they follow through with the proposed plans of the previous council in 2023.

- Connie will follow up with Saanich to see if there has been any further discussion regarding the possibility of building courts at Lochside/Fowler Rd
- Gilles Pellerin, and member, Jules, from the Westshore are working with Connie on a future approach to Westshore Parks and Recreation. The target is Budget 2023.

Island Sports News on Pickleball

Beverly has been approached by Island Sports News to speak on the insurgence and popularity of Pickleball.

Pickleball BC AGM

The Pickleball BC AGM is February 15th, 2022.

Task Force Report

Trish advised that the task force report, which was sent to all PBC members, has been well received by Tennis Canada and Pickleball Canada. Further, Connie and Trish will send it to local governments, recreation and parks departments, and recreation planning consultants.

Next Meeting – Monday, February 7th at 3:00 p.m.