



MINUTES

North Shore Pickleball Club Directors Meeting

October 28, 2019

Present: Heather Fleming, Allan Gauthier, Ron Precious, Estha Parg Murenbeeld , Larry Harper, Anne Watson.

Regrets: Dale Harvey

Call to Order: 3:30 pm

Motion to approve the October 28 agenda: Moved Estha, seconded Larry. Passed

1. **Motion to approve the September 25 minutes:** Moved Allan, seconded Larry. Passed.
2. **Review of action items of September 25:**
 - a. Full reimbursement of expenses has been made to Linda S.
 - b. The opening of Murdo Frazer was a success, with Mayor Mike Little in attendance and participating in a game.
 - c. See #10 below.
 - d. The November presentation to WV Council is being drafted.
 - e. Estha is now a Club signing officer together with Heather, Allan & Dale.
 - f. The development of Club statistics grid for the website is in progress.
3. **Financial Position:**

During September, payments were made for provincial registrations, the new vertical banner for events, expenses related to the opening of Murdo Frazer, and \$900 of the \$1,000 Healthy Living Grant for school programs was taken into revenue and expensed on paddles, nets and balls.
4. **Letter to the District regarding Little Cates:**

We're working collaboratively to provide play solutions at Little Cates that will work for the neighbours, the Tennis Society and our Club. Kerry Strongman is now the Lead for the LC Leadership Group expansion project.



5. Reflections/ Comments on the 2019 Season:

- 29th Street and the new Mahon Park courts will dry faster than Murdo Frazer due to the shade at MF. This will be reflected in attendance in 2020.
- the socials were very good but perhaps communication needs clarification on the dates.
- the outdoor seasons at Murdo and Little Cates should be April 1 – Sept 30.
- court hosts need identifying badges.
- many more court hosts are needed at Murdo next season.
- permits and signage will be helpful for Club play times.
- overlapping interests at Little Cates will need continuing discussion.

6. 2020 Outdoor Tournament:

Allan will research best practices in California to lead the Club to our first Club-wide tournament. Heather has led tournaments and will assist as required. The current thought is to have the play widely dispersed geographically, with the finals and perhaps the semi-finals at Murdo with a party to follow. **Action:** Allan to book Murdo now for May.

7. School Programs:

The first school introduction to pickleball since receiving our Healthy Living Grant from VCH resulted in providing instruction and play to one Grade 10 and seven Grade 9 Handsworth High School classes. In total 220 students were introduced to the game and 10 club members donated 103 volunteer hours. Thank you all!

We discussed the appropriateness of this activity for our young Club and decided that school programs help to spread the sport and are in alignment with our mission which is to promote pickleball for all ages. Two full days are rather intense though and its recommended future school introduction sessions be limited to half days. These programs help raise our Club profile in the community and with the municipal governments and recreation departments.

We also decided that the use of the equipment to promote the sport to other community groups would be in keeping with the intent of the VCH donation.



Motion: To loan the paddles and net or nets as are available to the Girl Guides of Canada camp in July 2020 and to look for other youth program opportunities. Moved Estha, seconded Allan. Passed.

Next steps are to start preparing the report to VCH which will be due in March (**Action:** Anne) and to check future plans with Joanne, John and Walter who have been involved in West Vancouver and in North Vancouver. (**Action:** Ron)

8. Communications Report:

Estha is tracking our web site to determine when and how it is used. The busiest week in August saw 159 visitors who clicked on an average of over 5 pages each. Seventy-six percent of members open our emails and are rated as highly engaged, while 11% are more moderately engaged. Only 12% of members rarely open our emails. There is minimal unsubscribing. Mail Chimp doesn't send pictures but we don't see sufficient value in the paid version (which costs \$1,000) to convince us to upgrade from the free version. Pictures are available on the Facebook site.

9. Social Committee Report:

The new banner worked well at the October pub night. Another social is being planned for 5:30, Wednesday November 20 at the Colony Bar Northlands in North Vancouver.

The Club is too large to host a Christmas party. Gatherings will be on a private level.

10. Support of other Charitable or Community Causes:

No requests are pending and we will not accept further requests for assistance or promotion until this issue is included in our next survey of member opinions.

11. Stats and Membership Update:

We have 483 members of which 60% are female and 40% are male. Slightly more than half are first time members. The geographic distribution is DNV 50%, WV 24%, NVC 20%, other 6%.



Over 5,000 people played during Club times at Murdo Frazer between April and September. At Little Cates there were 2220 players, and at 29th Street there were 1160 players during Club hosted times.

12. Outdoor Courts:

It was decided that the Club will host outdoor play at Murdo Frazer and Little Cates from April 1 to September 30 next year. The MF box, chain and fence banner are now in Allan's garage and the LC box, chain, six nets, a Club fence banner, and the school program paddles and balls are in Heather's garage.

13. Board Meetings:

The following tentative dates have been set for directors' meetings:

Thursday January 16

Thursday February 20 (if needed)

Thursday March 26

Tuesday April 28

The AGM is scheduled for May 14 from 7-9 pm at Delbrook. **Action: Anne** to book the room.

14. Potential New Board Members for the May AGM:

With an eye towards recruiting new board members, we gave the following indication of our intentions:

Heather – one more year

Larry -one more year

Allan – intends to retire in May but will continue as Registrar

Anne – intends retire in May

Ron – intends to retire in May

Estha – intends to continue

Dale - one more year

Discussions and decisions are on-going. We want to facilitate continuity and to encourage a good rotation of club members on the Board.



15. Other Business

Ron has researched a bulk purchase of Club t-shirts, hats and visors. He will analyze the quotations received and present options at our next meeting.

Next meeting: Thursday January 16th at
1:00-3:00pm at Heather's
#4, 1001 Northlands Drive, N Van.