



## President's Message

Welcome to the November 2021, Pickleball Canada Bulletin.

This issue of the PCO Bulletin contains news regarding membership renewals for 2022, the plans for Pickleball Canada's 2022 Championships, the implementation plan for Canadian Tournament Player Ratings and an announcement regarding a change to how Pickleball Canada and the Provinces/Territories will consult, collaborate and communicate with each other in future.

As we approach the end of 2021, I am pleased to note that we are emerging from the disruptions to our lives created by the COVID-19 Pandemic and making good progress toward PCO's sport development goals. I am confident that with your support and the efforts of our hundreds of volunteers, 2022 will continue to see advancement in all five areas: Introduction to Pickleball, Recreational Pickleball, Competitive Pickleball, High Performance Pickleball and Pickleball for Development.

Karen Rust

---

## 2022 Pickleball Canada Championships

The Championships calendar is filling in with the following dates and locations confirmed:



Nationals – June 20-26, 2022  
Hosted by the Kingston Pickleball Club

Atlantic Regionals – June 3-5, 2022  
Hosted by the Fredericton Pickleball Club



Western Regionals - July 23 – 26, 2022  
Hosted by Pickleball Regina

Central Regionals – Quebec, October 7 - 9, 2022

We are pleased to announce implementation of a process to have the National and Regional Championships recognize and reward **gold medal winners** of qualifying competitions by providing an **early registration** opportunity. The 2021 Provincial Championship gold medallists will receive an invitation for early registration to their 2022 Regional Championship. Since there wasn't a complete set of Regional Championships held in 2021, all 2021 Regional and Provincial gold medallists will receive an invitation for early registration to the 2022 National Championship. Invitations for early registration will be e-mailed the week prior to the tournament opening date. In future years, only Regional gold medallists

will receive the opportunity for early registration for Nationals. Residency and citizenship requirements will still apply.

It isn't too soon to start thinking about bidding to host one of Pickleball Canada's Championships in **2023 and 2024**. The 2023 PCO National Championship will be awarded to a host club in Western Canada. The 2023 PCO Open Championship will be awarded to a host club in Eastern Canada. Locations alternate annually. Please note: bidding will open January 10, 2022 for the 2023 and 2024 National and Open Championships.

The [Tournament Overview](#) webpage has more information on locations and timing. For more information, please contact: [Deanna Hanes](#)

---

## **ONIX PICKLEBALL AS OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT BALL**

Onix has been named the Official Tournament Ball for the 2021 Pickleball Canada National Championship that took place in Red Deer, Alberta from August 10 - 15, 2021, and the upcoming 2022 Pickleball Canada Regional Championships: Atlantic Regional in Fredericton, New Brunswick, June 3 - 5, Western Regional in Regina, Saskatchewan, July 23 - 25, and the Eastern Regional to be held in Quebec, date still to be determined.

"We are delighted to have Onix Pickleball as Pickleball Canada's Official Tournament Ball", said Karen Rust, President of Pickleball Canada. "Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America, with over 26,000 Pickleball Canada registered participants (players, instructors, coaches, officials, board members and others). Partnering with Onix, a company who provides top quality balls, and supports all levels of pickleball play, is important to Pickleball Canada and pickleball in Canada".

Since its founding in 2005, Onix has become the leading manufacturer of performance pickleball paddles, balls, and accessories and is dedicated to growing and supporting the sport at all levels. "Onix has been supporting grassroots pickleball, as well as international players and tournaments for many years. Specifically, in Canada, we have been supporting clubs, coaches, players, and tournaments for more than five years", said Jay Simmons, Product Manager, Onix USA, and Mitchell Rothfleisch, C.E.O. Sports Topspin, Canadian Distributor of Onix and Durafast. "We are extremely happy to be working directly with Pickleball Canada and their new Executive Director, Carla Anderson. We are equally proud that Onix and the Dura Fast 40 pickleball have been chosen as the Official Tournament Balls of Pickleball Canada.

---

## **Membership Renewals on December 31**

With the implementation of the new National Membership System, Pickleball Canada (PCO) along with your Provincial-Territorial Sport Organization adopted a January 1 to December 31 membership year. Many clubs also chose to share this common expiry date for membership. On December 1st members will receive a renewal notice for their 2022 fees.

See below for the benefits your 2022 \$10 PCO membership provides, and what initiatives we are currently working on.

### Benefits:

- Membership Registration and Payment System: Simplified system for all athletes at the Club, Province/Territory, National levels.

- Injury and liability insurance: Receive supplemental Sport Liability and Personal Injury Insurance coverage that provides protection at the athlete, Club, Facility, Provincial/Territorial and National level.
- Pickleball Canada Newsletters: Receive "members only" E-newsletters.
- Sanctioned Events: Have the opportunity to play in Pickleball Canada Sanctioned Tournaments.
- Performance Based Rating and Tournament Management: Access to a system to assist with your Tournament and Club League play.
- Be the first to know about events/tournaments: Receive advance notice of upcoming tournaments and training clinics to take advantage of our early registration benefits.
- English and French Communication: Access information in both English and French.
- Help the growth of Pickleball: You love pickleball and you want to do your part by contributing to help increase the number of collective voices that are committed to the growth of Pickleball and support the development of facilities and opportunities for recreational and tournament players across the country.

Initiatives we are currently working on:

- Updating the look, feel and content on the Pickleball Canada website  
- [www.pickleballcanada.org](http://www.pickleballcanada.org)
- Assisting in the development and management of the National Coaching Certification Program to ensure coaches are Canadian certified.
- Developing a Pickleball Canada e-store with discounts for members only.
- Developing a Youth/Junior Program.
- Developing a High Performance Player program.
- Promoting and supporting equity, diversity, inclusiveness and belonging within the pickleball community.
- Developing a Para-Pickleball program.
- Establishing a "made in Canada" Canadian Tournament Player Rating (CTPR), which will apply to all sanctioned Tier 1, 2, 3, and Tier 4 tournament play.
- Expanding our nationally regulated Officials' accreditation program.
- Establishing and monitoring policies on safe sport, code of conduct, discrimination, equity & access, conflict of interest, financial, and more.
- Providing a single voice for Canada at the international level to help grow pickleball throughout the world

Here are the ways to renew your PCO membership:

1. Renew directly with Pickleball Canada <https://pickleballcanada.org/participate/individual-membership/join-renew/>
2. Renew through your club
3. Renew through your Provincial or Territorial Sports Organization.

Thank you for renewing your Pickleball Canada membership!

Together we can make our voice stronger across Canada.

---

## **National Pickleball Advisory Council**

A role review of the existing Inter-provincial Territorial Advisory Council (ITAC) was undertaken in 2021 with the goal of strengthening the relationships between Pickleball Canada and the provincial/territorial organizations. Committee members were Tony Casey, Peter Milovanovic, Alden Briggs and Walter Knecht . Following a survey of ITAC members,

analysis of responses, and deliberation at ITAC and Pickleball Canada Board meetings, a new structure – the National Pickleball Advisory Council (NPAC) – was confirmed as a replacement for ITAC.

NPAC will be comprised of one representative from each Provincial and Territorial organization, plus two Pickleball Canada Directors and the PCO Executive Director. NPAC will meet monthly to enable more timely consultation. The agenda will be jointly set and focus on one or two key topics with periodic guests invited to address specific items.

This new structure is designed to promote and strengthen relationships among the national, provincial and territorial pickleball organizations as we work together to build a well-organized and integrated pickleball system in Canada.

---

**Tennis BC and Pickleball BC formed a Task Force earlier this year to promote adequate public facilities for both sports, reduce the conflict that sometimes arises at shared courts, and share best practices.**

Read their Joint Recommendation [here](#). Pickleball Canada and Tennis Canada plan to use this document as the foundation for a 'National' recommendation with the goal of increasing cooperation between tennis and pickleball associations in addressing the problem of inadequate pickleball facilities. The development of the National Recommendation is underway.

These are excellent documents that should be shared with cities and municipalities across Canada to support the establishment of more pickleball facilities.

Well done,  **PICKLEBALL BC**

---

**Canadian Tournament Player Ratings**

The Canadian Tournament Player Rating (CTPR) implementation is on track for an early January, 2022 implementation. For most players who have tournament history recorded in Pickleball Brackets (PB), their current tournament rating will be rolled into the CTPR and become their initial CTPR. Players without tournament experience recorded in Pickleball Brackets who wish to compete in a Pickleball Canada sanctioned tournament will be required to set up a personal Player Profile in PB and asked to complete the CTPR Request Form. The Form will provide "filters" as guides, helping PCO determine the player's initial CTPR. Only games from PCO sanctioned tournaments will update a player's CTPR.

- [ENGLISH CTPR Request Form](#)
- [FRENCH CTPR Request Form](#)



Validation of the player's PCO number and expiry date will take place when the player profile is set up in Pickleball Brackets and at the time of registration for a tournament. It is very important you record your details carefully and consistently on both the Pickleball Brackets and PCO National system. Membership number, last name and year of birth must match between the two systems. **Recommendation is to check and confirm well in advance!**

For more information, please contact:

Barry Montgomery, PCO Ratings Committee Chair: [ratings@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:ratings@pickleballcanada.org)

---

## **National Coaching Certification Program for Pickleball**

For more information and a link to upcoming training sessions, click [here](#).

---

### **Help Wanted**

Pickleball Canada is seeking an individual willing to fill the role of '**Privacy Officer**'. The Privacy Officer is responsible for the implementation of our Privacy Policy; monitoring information collection and data security and ensuring that appropriate training is provided on privacy issues and their responsibilities. See the current [Privacy Policy](#) for more information.

We are also seeking volunteer(s) with an interest in **Policy and Governance**. There is some important work to be done in this area to review/update existing Pickleball Canada policies and oversee the implementation of new ones such as the Safe Sport policies.

If you are interested in getting involved with Pickleball Canada by volunteering in one of these areas, or would like more information, contact:

[Karen Rust, President](#)

---

**One year ago**, with the COVID-19 Pandemic raging, nearly all activities including family visits and pickleball were shut down. Thankfully, with the majority of Canadians fully vaccinated and other risk mitigation practices in place, we have been able to resume playing the sport we love and spending time visiting in-person with family and friends. However, let's all be vigilant about continuing to stay safe as we enter the busy holiday season and as new threats to health arise.

---

### **Your Pickleball Canada Board of Directors and Executive Director:**

President - Karen Rust

Vice-President, Planning & Development - Tony Casey

Vice-President, Administration & Competition - Deanna Hanes

Secretary - Karen Wallace

Treasurer - Peter Milovanovic

Directors: Robert Hogue, Bill MacGregor, Rose Sawatzky, Bryna Kopelow, Ted Sherback, Dave Best, Ted Fardoe, Cara Button, France Emery, Pat Morrison, Karen Hill, Cynthia Clark

Executive Director - Carla Anderson

### **Questions? Comments? Email:**

Karen Rust, President

[karen.rust@pickleballcanada.org](mailto:karen.rust@pickleballcanada.org)