

**Vancouver Pickleball
Meeting # 3 .::: MINUTES**

**29th October, 2017
10:30 am - 12:00 pm**

Vancouver Curling Club

Present: Richard Lee
Catalin Costa
Chuck (2) Jung
Chuck (3) Jung
Judy O'Hara
Anke Harpe
Charles Neufeldt
Paul Scheffer

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

1. **Confirmation of quorum** - quorum was confirmed.
2. **Agenda** - the agenda was approved as circulated.
3. **Minutes** - of the September 24, 2017 meeting were accepted
4. **Matters arising** -
 - a. **Membership numbers** - Chuck advised we are currently sitting at about 190 members, ideally we need to be at 500. Discussion ensued about how to bring the numbers up. One hundred people signed up with the initial call to join. How do we get more people interested? Chuck3 suggested printing up slips of paper to hand out to people at pickleball on an ongoing basis, and/or putting up posters in community centres. When it was agreed that there was no incentive for people to sign up, Charles offered to donate a paddle to be raffled off. It was agreed that we with 400 in membership, the raffle would take place. It was agreed that having members from outside the Metro Vancouver is a good thing.

Signup - The topic of the "waiver" came up and Catalin advised a letter was sent after the fact to anyone who signed up providing that information. Going forward, there is a waiver people have to read before signing up through the website
 - b. **Logo** - after much discussion, the majority of the executive agreed that the decision on the logo would be made by the executive and not put out to the membership. The thought is that the next board could make a change to the logo, and it was felt it is really a non-issue. To that end, the following timeline was agreed for the logo contest:

- November 15 – submissions due
- November 16 – Catalin to post all submissions

- November 19 – decision made at the next VPA executive meeting
- REVEAL: Christmas social

- c. Website / Social media - In respect to the website, Catalina advised that he found the site and it was free, therefore he went ahead and set it up. There was discussion about hiring someone to keep it up to date, however, the executive would have to pass it along - it makes sense it is kept up to date by Catalin and members. The fact that mass emails were not going through from the Gmail account makes it especially important to keep the website update in order to keep people coming back for updates. Richard suggested using “whatsapp”. Chuck3 agreed to speak with other organizations as to how they send information to members. Charles suggested using the free service “mail chimp”. ***Catalin to look into how to get the website more “searchable”.***

With respect to Facebook, Catalin provided the password so that all executive members can post. It was also suggested that we ask a few key people to post to keep Facebook up to date. It was agreed that Facebook would remain secondary to the website. Initially Anke will speak with Terry and Rochelle about posting; Catalin to train. Future posters may not have access to all sections.

- d. Executive (term of positions) – it was agreed the term would be 1 year.
- e. Responsibilities of executive - deferred.

5. New Business

- a. Sponsorships – it was agreed we would sell retail space on the website. We would also thank “sponsors” such as Rackets and Runners for donations made. For “clickable” space – it will be sold, depending on location on website. Cost would range between \$50 - \$150 / year. Initially, it was agreed that prime spots would sell for \$100 vs \$50 for non prime spots. Anke, Catalin, Charles to decide what is prime versus non-prime selling spots.
- b. Use of QE Nets - it was agreed that if someone is looking to use the nets, we should suggest they go to Trout Lake or Dunbar. The benefit is that 1) they can sign out at the community centre desk, and 2) the courts are enclosed. The use of QE nets for the general public is a bit more difficult as it would mean giving out the key to more people. Anke advised she has a list of people who have the ability to get the nets out and there has never been a problem. This is another reason to have people going to the website for f/b - to find out when people are setting up QE nets.
- c. More outdoor nets - Richard to contact Fion about her contact in the city and the possibility of him meeting with the VPA.
- d. Clinics - ***Richard to message community centres to look for open space for “try it” programs.***

Paul Scheffer advised Shirley Mann’s daughter works with the city and may be able to provide information on open spaces in community centres. ***Paul agreed to look into available options.***

Vancouver Curling Club takes ice out in the summer - good place to hold clinics, or even a tournament. ***Paul agreed to find out the dates when ice is taken out.***

- e. Joining Pickleball BC - As the Vancouver Pickleball Association is still so new, it was agreed that we will hold off joining at this time. We will encourage our members to sign up, but will not provide our membership list to Pickleball BC. **Catalin to post a link on the website.** This can be reviewed again at a later date.
- f. Third Shot Sports - there was a brief discussion on using Third Shot Sports for clinics. It was agreed that we have enough talent in our area that bringing in this organization is not needed at this time. There was a thought to inviting some of Vancouver's (and Canada's) top players to do an event where people could come out, watch, learn, and play. To be discussed in more detail.
- g. Christmas Social - in theory, it was agreed that this would be a great time to reveal the logo. Adrianna Mercier (post the meeting) agreed to organize with Paul Scheffer. **Paul was going to confirm dates where we could utilize the Vancouver Curling Club, and find out about fees.** If the facility is already open - it could be very minimal. While a great money maker, 50/50 draws are heavily funded. We will look at charging an entrance fee, and/or doing some raffles. It will hopefully also get people to sign up as a member. Dates being looked at are December 2 or 3.

6. Other Business

- a. City of Vancouver - there was a discussion on how to approach the city of Vancouver with requests for more nets / facilities. It was agreed we should highlight the following:

- keeps ALL people active
- multigenerational (all ages)
- diversity and for all abilities
- social aspect - not just on the court!

In a video we could show people of all ages and abilities playing pickleball. Young to old, able and disabled bodies.

- b. there was a discussion about the money Catalin has paid out for various things since inception of the VPA. To date, about \$130. Catalin suggested waiting for money to come in for the VPA before paying him. All were in agreement, with thanks.

- 7. **Adjournment** - the meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm. The next meeting has been set for 1 pm on November 19 at the Curling Club.