

Pickleball Club Board Meeting: Jan. 15, 2022

In Attendance:

Bryan Rickman, President
Bethel Edens, Vice President
Fran Groot, Secretary
Jon Phipps, Structured Play
Diane McGee, Player Improvement
Darwin Pugmire, Maintenance Coordinator
Karen Tratiak, Tournament Director
Karen Paurus, Social Coordinator

Absent:

Sharon Wallace, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 10am.

Opening Remarks: Bryan's goal is to enable us to continue playing pickle ball and do everything we can to make that happen and still keep everyone healthy. After some discussion it has been decided to discontinue indoor get-togethers for the rest of the season but continue with the outdoor get-togethers. We will continue with the pod system also to stay safe.

Minutes of Dec. 18, 2021 meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes was initiated by Diane McGee and seconded by Jon Phipps. The motion passed unanimously. Going forward the minutes will be sent to Jo Lamson and Chuck Gilmore.

Treasurer's Report:

Income for the period Dec. 19, 2021-Jan 15, 2022:

Total income: \$332.10

Total expenses: \$312.50

Net income: \$19.60

Bank balances:

Checking account (Jan. 11, 2022): \$12,882.44

Savings account (Jan. 11, 2022): \$50.00

Since Sharon was out of town she gave a copy of the report to Bryan but there was no motion to accept the report since Bryan left it at home. He will forward it to the Secretary to include in the minutes.

Public Comment: Bryan invited those attending the meeting to bring up any issues but said we may not take any action on them at this meeting. Any comments would be put on the agenda for the February meeting.

There was a discussion about needing additional signage on courts 5 & 6 for people coming in from the pool area to state that the courts are closed on Sundays until 11am (after church services). It was suggested that the signs be placed at all the gates instead of on the sides of the courts. This would inform the visitors who may not know of this rule. We can also put a notice in the Compass and on our Facebook page.

Old Business:

Bryan and Sharon met with a Hughes Federal Credit Union representative and got the signature cards signed so in addition to Bryan, Sharon and Bethel may now sign checks.

They also asked about getting a credit or debit card for the Club and Hughes Federal Credit Union does not offer either for non-interest-bearing accounts like we have. Bryan and Sharon may look into a bank transfer system so that no one on the Board has to use their personal credit cards to make purchases. Since we are an all-volunteer organization and the bank does not pay us any interest, we are not required to apply for a Federal ID number.

New Business:

John Mosher forwarded to Bryan Charter updates made while he was in office. Bethel now has those documents as well and will review them, make any revisions and incorporate them into the Board handbooks. Bryan remembers that the Board did away with the Charter and came up with a different document which was included in John's updates. Karen Tratiak requested that all Board members get a copy also for review.

Another issue discussed was decisions allowed by individual Board members versus issues/decisions that need full approval by the Board. An instance was when Karen Paurus was at Costco buying supplies for the Welcome Back Burger Night when she realized at the check-out counter that she went over the budget. She made the decision to pay for the overage instead of putting some supplies back to stay within the budget. The Board needs to define what expenditures need Board approval and what expenditures can be approved by a single Board member. Karen Tratiak mentioned that we need better communication within the Board.

Private Lessons:

Right now we have people giving private lessons and are being paid to provide those lessons. The only requirement we have in place is that the lessons be taught after 4pm. One question is do we need a portion of what they are paid to be given back to the club. It was noted that the instructors are using our facility and our balls.

John Lingwall maintains that anyone who is an instructor, whether for beginner, beginner plus or higher, should be certified so there is a similar style with solid fundamentals and a continuity among instructors so there is a progression of lessons. He noted that Voyager could be a destination teaching facility and produce higher level players. He also said lately we have had other higher level teachers who aren't teaching the fundamentals. John strongly believes that anyone who provides private lessons should be certified and that certified instructors could be a selling point for people to come to Voyager Outdoor Resort. Bryan and Diane noted that last year we put together a committee of Board members and players to discuss this matter and the decision was made that instructors do not have to be certified. Jane Gilmore agreed that instructors at a higher level should be certified but instructors at the beginner and beginner+ level are teaching fundamentals so don't need to be certified. Beginner and beginner+ lessons are given for free but there is a \$5 registration fee which goes to the club. Nancy Pound asked whether we tell Roger Angevine he cannot teach private lessons for money unless he is certified? Bethel Edens suggested that people who want to be paid for private lessons register with the club to do so. Another suggestion was to offer certification lessons at Voyager (it was noted that certification costs \$250). Bethel recommended that all instructors should register with the Board so we know who is offering private lessons for a fee. A motion was made that instructors who want to teach private lessons for a fee need to register with the club/Board, 10% of the fees go back to the club and instruction must take place after 4pm. But the motion was tabled until after Diane reconvenes her committee to bring up these proposals and revisit the certification recommendation. It was noted that Encore has approved the pay-for-profit lessons in the Park. We can't bring in outside instructors for lessons however.

Committee Reports:

Vice President Bethel Edens said Jo Lamson will take over the media website from Dale Secord. She will do this on a voluntary basis unless it takes an "extraordinary" amount of time in which case she will be compensated. She will update the current website while she creates a new website which will "go live" in November. We will ask for public comments to see what people would like to see on the new website. Chuck Gilmore will continue to send out the e-mail "blasts." Bethel & Jo will come up with a budget for fundraising for things like court improvements. It was also noted that money we get from other groups using our liquor license goes to Toys for Tots. Since there were no socials last year due of Covid no money was raised for that charity.

Court Maintenance: Darwin Pugmire

Darwin said most of the maintenance takes place in the fall when the season begins but also thanked those people who helped him. He bought 2 dozen all-weather CORE balls. He moved the Onyx balls to courts 1-6 for 2.5-3.0 players (mixed with Franklin balls). He put out the 2 dozen CORE balls on the 5th St. side courts (mixed with Franklin balls). We still have about 125 Franklin balls and 30-40 Onyx balls, probably enough to get us through the season. He's gotten good reports on the CORE balls and hasn't seen any broken ones. It seems the players are happy with the balls. Darwin finished putting out the plastic tiles outside courts 1 & 2 so reduce stones and dirt being brought onto the courts. Fran noted that she is constantly picking up balls and putting them in the tubes. She doesn't recommend putting up more

signs so maybe we can put a notice on the website for players to put the balls in the tubes at the end of play or the end of the day to increase the life of the balls.

Player Improvement: Dian McGee

Diane McGee said we have lessons Mon.-Fri. with signups on Court 16 and (other courts not audible because of wind noise). Jane Gilmore talked about the beginner & beginner+ classes. She said 52 people came (signed up?) and 69 showed up. These classes started in January. Only one beginner+ class has been held because of wind issues. It's time consuming to reschedule these classes. Nine of the ten people who signed up came to the lesson. She also asked for volunteers to get trained to assist or teach the classes, especially for next year. She has only two people for the beginner classes and three people for the beginner+ classes. These lessons are Mon. & Tues. 11-12:30. Karen Tratiak volunteered to get the training. Bethel also mentioned that she was conducting a four-week mentoring program.

Diane said Wed. & Thurs. classes are full. Algorithm play participation has been good with over 40 people participating. Bryan added that all 16 courts will be available for algorithm play on Tues. afternoon and Friday morning and there may not be courts available for open play at those times. It was noted that skill ratings are still being offered by the Rating Committee. Bethel handed out a Rating Committee Activity fact sheet.

Diane made a motion that if not all courts (1-6) are being used for algorithm play on Tues. & Fri. that courts 3&4 be available for open play. Bethel seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Tournament Chairman: Karen Tratiak

The Dec. tournament information was discussed at the Dec. Board meeting. Added information today was that the tournament referees were paid \$5 per game (instead of Voyager gift certificates).

Structured Play: Jon Phipps

Jon noted that participation is down 20-30% this year (no structured play the last two seasons). Windy days affected play. There are 20-25 players in the 3.0-3.5 groups but no one is signing up for the 4.0 group. This may be due to the late afternoon scheduling. The 4.0s seem to just come out and play on their own. Karen Tratiak, who does the sign ups for the 4.0 group, asked whether we should discontinue this level but in the end it was decided to continue it for another couple of weeks.

Social Coordinator: Karen Paurus

Karen said the Welcome Back Burger Night was a great success. She thanked all those who volunteered. She handed out a report on the event. We had a budget of \$500 and spent \$637.37 for supplies. She noted that many of the items purchased will be used for other social events. There are 2 sleeves of burgers left of which Karen is buying one and the other one is for sale. We made \$170 on the 50/50 also. She will continue to mention the event on the website, Facebook page and through e-mails. It was suggested we do the 50/50 on all Thurs. nights so we can make more money. Someone made a suggestion that we buy a Corn Hole game instead of borrowing one. Diane suggested we ask someone at the woodshed to make one for us but it was noted that the game is inexpensive to buy. Karen T. will contact Char if she would be willing to donate or sell the Jenga game to us. We will continue to do the outdoor happy hours on Thursdays with people bringing food to share and include a 50/50 and games. There will also be a social after the in-house tournament in March.

Bryan made a motion to authorize the additional \$173 expenditure for the event supplies. Jon moved to approve it and Karen T. seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Bryan also asked for a motion to spend up to \$125 to purchase a Corn Hole game. Karen T. made the motion and it was seconded by Diane. The motion passed unanimously.

Bryan brought up the the need to form a nominating committee to fill the positions that open up in 2022. Bethel said she would form a committee. The positions due to expire are Bryan Rickman, President, Fran Groot, Secretary, Diane McGee, Player Improvement Coordinator, Darwin Pugmire, Court Maintenance and Karen Tratiak, Tournament Director.

Bryan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Darwin made the motion which was seconded by Karen T.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16.

Note that the swirling wind, chirping birds and outdoor play made it difficult to hear conversations.

