

## **Minutes September 24, 2017 AGM**

Meeting held at The Pines Community Hall in Red Deer

Meeting called to order at 1:00 PM by President, Bev Walker who welcomed all those in attendance.

The Agenda was projected as part of a presentation which was followed through the course of the meeting (attached).

### **Introductions**

- Bev introduced the current Board and thanked them for their work in the first year of PA. In particular she acknowledged the outgoing Board members – George Frohlich, Secretary; Trevor Burndred, Treasurer and Brian Popowitch, Communications Director.
- Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and identify their home pickleball club in Alberta. Twenty two attendees from nine clubs and seven Sport Alberta zones were in attendance.

### **Minutes 2016 AGM**

- The Minutes of the October 6, 2016 AGM were tabled for discussion. MOTION to approve minutes by Mike Cooper, Seconded by Ruth Mary Hollis. Carried.

### **Official Name of PA**

- The official name of our registered Society is Pickleball Alberta Organization, with Pickleball Alberta as a registered trade name. This was officially approved after considerable communications with Service Alberta. Many thanks to George Frohlich for getting this completed this past year.

### **Membership**

- Brenda Feser, Membership Director reported that 15 clubs and a total of 2100 individuals have joined PA in our first year. Further an additional four clubs are in discussion with Brenda regarding joining.
- Discussion and questions centered around the timing for the PA and PCO membership year, the process for renewing. There were several questions regarding insurance available to clubs and individuals through membership in PCO. Val Vollmin President of PCO and Doug Thomson Director of PCO advised that work is underway to expand and clarify the insurance coverage as well as the use of liability waiver forms. Val confirmed that for a club to be affiliated with PCO all member of the club would need to be members of PCO.
- ACTION – PA to clarify the annual renewal process for clubs as the membership year runs from May 1 to April 30. In particular clarity is needed on how PA and PCO membership renewal is integrated.
- ACTION – PA to coordinate with PCO to communicate the terms of the Commercial General Liability insurance provided to Clubs who are affiliated, and the Player Accident insurance provided to individuals. This includes use of liability wavier forms and wording.
- ACTION – PA to coordinate with PCO to communicate the process for a club to obtain Directors and Officers insurance through the group program.

## Financial

- Bev reported that PA bank accounts are set up with Servus and recently we have added the capability to send and receive interac transfers.
- The Financial Statement for the initial year ending April 30, 2017 was reviewed (attached). MOTION to accept the financial statement as presented by Doug Flowers seconded by Gene Vollmin – approved.
- Bev presented a financial report for the period May 1 to September 20, 2017. During this period PA has received \$15,910 in membership fees of which \$7,695.00 was paid to PCO for all PCO fees collected to date. The bank balance as of September 20 was \$11,144 of this up to \$5,000 is earmarked for the web site development.
- Base line operating costs for PA are projected to be approximately \$2,000 per year.

## Provincial Tournament

- Mike Cooper provided a full report on the Provincial Tournament run by Parkland Pickleheads in 2017 and the learnings from running the provincial sponsored tournament for two years. (report attached and posted on the PA website).
- Key observations and learnings:
  - One of the requirements to become a provincial sports organization is to have a provincial tournament
  - Pickleballtournaments.com is a useful tool for promoting and also running a tournament – a caution that matches took longer on average to complete in actual practice.
  - This year there were 300 entrants from 5 provinces and the USA. Probably not enough to run skill and age brackets
  - It takes a whole club to run a large tournament – use sign up genius or some on line tracking for volunteers
  - It was possible to have a ref for all 463 matches, many volunteers from outside the Parkland Pickleheads Club pitched in to help.
  - Consider changing the order of the events
  - Good idea to have a succession plan for the tournament director position
- Future plans –
  - Parkland Pickleheads is looking to hold their tournament in August vs September – driven by the amount of daylight
  - Parkland, Red Deer and ... have been discussing coordinating tournament dates to promote a 'dink and drive' theme to attract players from around the province and out of province to take in more than one tournament
  - Pickleball Alberta would like to promote both and indoor and outdoor tournament and will ask clubs to submit an expression of interest for 2018. Details to be emailed to all clubs and posted on the PA website. Clubs to contact Mike Cooper by October 31.

## Communications

- Bev reported on developments this past year.

- Logo was agreed to in February – thanks to Chris Wharton a Calgary Pickleball Club member for his creativity and work on this.
- G Suite for not for profits was set up in the summer – there is no cost for this and it provides a powerful tool for the association
- PA website was launched in early September. This is being developed by Good Company in Calgary – the cost is expected to come in just under \$5,000.
- We need a Communications Director and some others to help run the site and communications for the association.

### **Pickleball Canada Update**

- Val Vollmin, President of PCO (and Red Deer Pickleball club) provided an comprehensive update regarding PCO's progress this past year. Highlights are membership is at over 7,000 individuals, planning for attaining Sport Canada funding status in 2020, a lot of work on a membership data base. (complete report attached).
- Doug Thomson, Director of Interprovincial Affairs for PCO was in attendance and contributed to the update in particular regarding the re working of PCO insurance policies, processes and communications
- Val was aske about the status of certified referees in Canada – currently 6 certified refs. The process for mentoring and evaluating referees needs resourcing to put in place.

### **Nominations for 2018 PA Board**

- Nominations for PA Board positions opened for discussion. Bev Walker, Doug Fogg, Brenda Feser and Mike Cooper are continuing for anther year. Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Director open for nominations.
- Terri Hampson from Elk Point agreed to be nominated for the Treasurer.
- Bev called for other nominations from the floor. With no further nominations the 2018 Board will be:
  - President – Bev Walker
  - Vice President – Doug Fogg
  - Treasurer – Terri Hampson
  - Membership Director – Brenda Feser
  - Director at Large – Mike Cooper
- Secretary and Communications Director remain open and are to be communicated to Clubs and posted on the website

### **New Committees reporting to the PA Board**

- PA is establishing three committees which will report into Mike Cooper, Director at Large. These committees will work in collaboration with PCO and will be key attaining provincial sports organization recognition (PSO). Information to be communicated to clubs and posted on the website:
  - Referee/officiating
  - Player Development/Coaching
  - Tournament Coordination

## **Next Steps**

- PA has identified the top priorities for the next year as:
  - Fill vacant positions
  - Participate in PCO player development / coaching (NCCP) development
  - Work towards PSO requirements which includes developing a strategic plan
- Discussion and suggestions from the floor:
  - We need school based education guidelines for pickleball so clubs can approach schools to develop programs for students
  - Look at establishing 'youth' category in provincial tournament
  - Safety best practices for tournaments – post on PA website
  - Share how to get funding from government grants, how to obtain club sponsorships for events, etc

**Adjournment at 2:35 pm**