



2021 AGM MINUTES

September 28, 2021

AGM Meeting

Submitted by Sara McNeill

Secretary

Recording Secretary: Sara McNeill

Meeting called to order at 7:08pm

1. In Attendance: 9 Board Members. Kirk Jensen, Haddow Thul, Brenda Feser, Garand Jones, Brad Hurshowy, Blair Morton, Dani Wu, Beverly Walker, Sara McNeill. Regrets: Dwight Chalifour

Appointed Zone Voting Delegates – 13. See delegates by zone at end of report.

Participants - 31

2. Adoption of Minutes from 2019-2020 AGM Meeting* - Sept 23 distributed to the PB AB membership. **Motion: Rita Fournier - Strathcona County. Second: Garand Jones - Parkland Pickleheads. Carried unanimously.**

3. President's Year-In-Review Report
 - o Attached at the end of Minutes.

4. Treasurer's Report

Kirk presented the unaudited financial statements as produced by PA Treasurer Dwight Chalifour. The Revenue and Expenses line items were gone through. It was noted that we had \$50,000 in the bank in part to COVID and inability to run programs.

- a. Motion: *The 2021 Unaudited Financial Statements of September 28th, 2020 be approved as presented.* **Motion: Dean Edwards - Camrose. Second: Mike Gray - Edmonton. Discussion: Healthy bank balance - \$50k balance. Carried unanimously.**
- b. Motion: *The 2021-2022 Budget be approved as presented.* **Motion: Bob Phillip - Red Deer. Second: Dave Penkman - Calgary. Discussion: Rita Fournier said with the new board members the budget might change - is that allowed? Yes. Carried Unanimously.**

5. Amendments to Bylaws

- a. Article 2 Past President Amendment

Motion: *Whereas the role of Past President provides for continuity and mentorship to new Directors and is a beneficial option.*

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that article 2 of the by-laws be amended as follows:

2.1 The Board of Directors of the Society (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") shall consist of the following Director positions:

- a. President*
- b. Past President*
- c. Vice President*
- d. Secretary*
- e. Treasurer*
- f. Membership*
- g. Communications*
- h. Up to five Directors appointed by the Board of Directors*

2.14 It shall be the duty of the Past President to:



- a. *Continue in an advisory capacity to the Board after completing his/her term as President during the incumbency of the next President.*
- b. *Attend meetings of the Board for the purpose of providing advice and guidance on previous Board initiatives and proceedings.*
- c. *Chair the nominations committee for the purpose of communicating the nominations and election process, identifying and nominating candidates for the Board of Directors.*

Motion: Eileen McClean. Second: Deb Widdis. Carried unanimously.

b. Membership Year End

Motion: *Whereas Pickleball Alberta Organization (Pickleball Alberta) shall continue to operate as the governing body for the sport of Pickleball in Alberta.*

*Whereas a common, January 1st membership anniversary is a beneficial option.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that article 1.4 of the by-laws be amended as follows:
1.4 The membership year will commence on January 1st and continue for twelve months.
The anniversary for membership year may be changed by a majority vote of members at a General meeting.*

Motion: Rita Fournier - Strathcona County. Second: Bob Philip - Red Deer. Carried unanimously.

6. 2021 Board of Director Elections

Nominations for 2021 - 2023 Term

Kirk Jensen - President

Haddow Thul - Vice President

Dwight Chalifour - Treasurer

Ray Keroack - Director Membership & Technology

Wanda Lazar - Director Competitions

No further nominations from the floor.

- a. *Motion: That nominations for the Pickleball Alberta Board of Directors be closed and the nominees as displayed be elected .*

Motion: Mike Gray - Edmonton. Second: Dean Edwards - Calgary. Carried Unanimously.

Directors continuing into the second year of their term:

Sara McNeill – Secretary, Brenda Feser – Youth, Brad Hurshowy - Director at Large, Garand Jones – Officiating, Danica Wu – Communications, Beverley Walker - Past President

7. Open Floor - Rita Fournier - Strathcona County. Acknowledges the Board of Directors are forward moving and appreciates that.
8. Question and Answers
9. Adjournment 8:44 pm



**Annual General Meeting
September 28, 2021
President's Year-In-Review**

Year in Review

1. Pickleball Canada National System (PCNS) installed across Alberta. Pickleball Brackets for tournaments and ratings.

PCNS was successfully launched for Pickleball Alberta (PA) and the affiliated Alberta clubs. The PCNS assists all three tiers of the association for member management, fees and communications. Of our 24 affiliated clubs, 20 have enabled registrations and are using PCNS for their membership management and in some cases for their website. Beverley Walker and her team did an incredible job successfully moving the data from PAWA to the PCNS.

Pickleball Brackets was used for both the Provincials and Nationals. After a few setbacks during registrations, the system was successfully implemented onsite at the championships. A *Canadian Player Tournament Ranking (CPTN)* will be calculated by the system and increase in accuracy as more tournaments are played using the system.

2. I choose President of Pickleball Alberta and step down as President of Pickleball Canada.

An ad hoc group at Pickleball Canada formed and this group felt that there was a conflict of interest for me to hold both President roles, even for the few months until the PA AGM. In considering the options presented to me by this group, I chose to resign from the Pickleball Canada and the President's position and stay on as the President of Pickleball Alberta. I enjoy the team we have on the Pickleball Alberta Board and look forward to continuing the momentum the team has developed and strong strides we are making in Alberta.

3. 2021 Pickleball Alberta Provincial Championships

Parkland Pickleheads hosted the Provincials August 6-8th with over 300 players competing on the beautiful Spruce Grove courts. The event was run by Tournament Director, Marcel Letourneau and his incredible team of volunteers.

The tournament was officiated by accredited and were all in fine form with the Level 1s wearing the blue Pickleball Alberta polos and the Level 2s wearing their yellow. The quality of officiating and the professional image that was shown to the players was set to another level. Thank you to Garand Jones and Brian and Julie Sribney for getting the referee team to the level where so many were able to attain their accreditation.



Live streaming was setup for some of the gold medal matches. Play by play was done for the games with myself and Garand Jones, with many comparing us to Ken Hodge and Howie Meeker! There was a steep learning curve for the livestreaming and a lot of lessons learned for the next event.

4. 2021 Pickleball Canada National Championships

The Red Deer Pickleball Club hosted the Pickleball Canada National Championship 2021 August 10-15 and was a huge success with 792 players. Special recognition to Brenda and Dick Feser and Tournament Director. Gene Vollmin.

Players and volunteers from across the country were excited to get back to tournament play and warmly shared their kudos to the host team. The generous support of Pickleball Alberta and planning by Brenda Hawryluk for Pickleball Alberta Night added a festive evening that we hope will become a tradition at future Nationals.

The competitive play, evening entertainment, formal medal presentations all provided for very inspirational and meaningful championship for the participants, volunteers and spectators. The event helped to ensure the growth of pickleball in the Red Deer community, throughout the province of Alberta, and across Canada and was the significant theme throughout the week and acknowledged with gratitude by many who attended.

5. Referee Program goes to new levels with training, awareness and numbers accredited.

Pickleball Alberta made officiating a major initiative with the goal of accrediting referees for Nationals. Clinics and evaluations were done in four Alberta Cities. The accredited referees were recognized with Level 1 and Level 2 polo shirts. Safety Vests were acquired with PA logo for Line Judges. With the leadership of Garand Jones and his team, Alberta leads the country in Accredited and Certified referees.

Level 1: 47 Accredited referees

Level 2: 7 Accredited referees

Level 3: 8 Certified referees

Provincials: 33 Referees, 484 Matches

Nationals: 80 Referees, 1606 Matches

Pickleball Alberta is proud to announce that Brian and Julie Sribney, our Alberta Certified Referee Trainers are going to Atlantic Canada September 22d – Oct 4th, 2021 to help their referee program.

6. *Pickleball with Youth beginning to grow and becoming more accepted with younger players.*



A number of clubs organized programs and camps for the youth. Pickleball Alberta assisted and supported at different events. Schools were using club courts pickleball units teaching the rules and skills of the game to students.

A Youth Division was included at both the Provincials and Nationals where the experience was well received by the players.

Youth will be one of the focuses for Pickleball Alberta's in 2022.

7. Communications

We continue to have a strong Facebook presence with analytics from Facebook over the last 30 days shows

- 43 posts
- Posts reaching approximately 4,800 people (400% increase)
- Post engagement was 5,105 (490% increase)
- 100 new followers, bringing our page to 695
- 231 link clicks, bringing coming to our website update

A YouTube channel (@pickleballalberta) was setup for livestreaming with Garand and Kirk doing on-site posts and video content, live video and commentary during Provincials. It was a big hit with viewership reaching 1,400!

For 2022, one of the major initiatives we will be looking at is a total review and revamp of our website. We will be working on updating the look and flow, links with all our social media platforms, include all past and future newsletters, upcoming tournament schedules, an updated club list, and much more. If you would be interested in assisting with this initiative please contact president@pickleballalberta.org

8. Pickleball Alberta Monthly Newsletters – continue to be popular with membership.

The monthly Pickleball Alberta Newsletter now called Around the Post continued its popularity with the Alberta membership with an average open rate over 70%, which is top in any industry. Around the Post keeps kept the members abreast of what was happening around the province and increased visibility of the provincial body.

It included upcoming clinics and tournaments, Pickleball Canada updates, male and female Player Power Rankings, a feature called Faces Around the Court that looked at the different contributors and personalities around the province. Those featured this year included: **Blair Morton**, Director of Technology and part of the implementation team for the National System in Alberta. **Judy Bohn**, the Treasurer of the Barrhead Pickleball Club and part of the team that introduced and continues to grow the game in Barrhead. **Mike Cooper**, a 5.0 player and national champion, coach, and past director with Pickleball Canada and Pickleball Alberta. **Wanda Lazar**, from Medicine Hat, one of the most passionate, influential, pickleball volunteers in the province. **Marcel Letourneau** from Stony Plain, the Vice President and



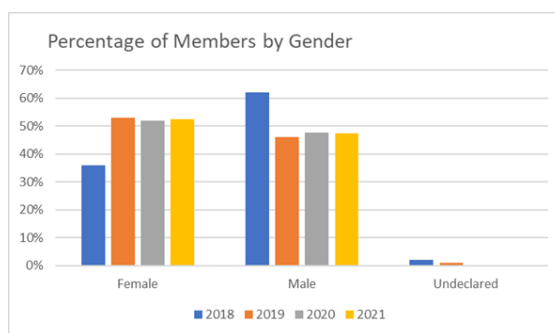
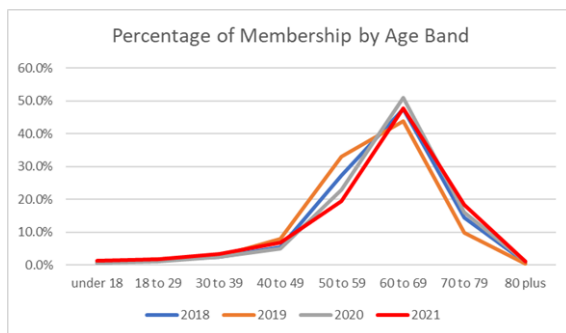
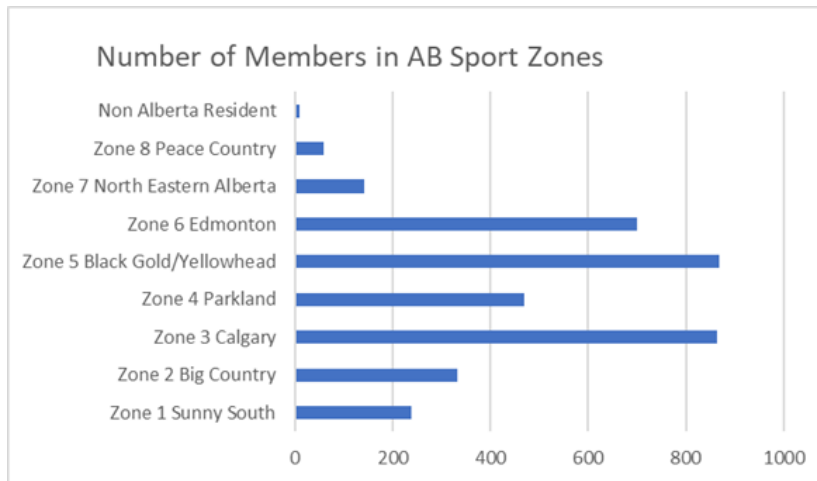
Tournament Director of the Parkland Pickleheads and host of the Pickleball Alberta Provincial Championships. **Ben Gibb** and **Rafe Prince**, two up and coming Alberta youth players, who won gold medals in the Youth Doubles Divisions at both the Provincials and Nationals.

9. Membership highest ever and continuing to grow each month.

Strong leadership in the clubs, the work of volunteers, and the encouragement and inclusiveness of our membership towards new players, has seen our membership grow each year*.

September 2021	4409
September 2020	3705*
September 2019	4060
September 2018	3024
September 2017	2600

*COVID Year



The Pickleball Alberta Affiliated Clubs and Presidents:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Airdrie Pickleball Club | Norm Vienneau |
| Barrhead Pickleball Club | Marcia Moon |
| Calgary Pickleball Club | Tony Tighe |
| Camrose Pickleball Club | Dean Edwards |



Coaldale Pickleball Club	Valerie Boras
Cold Lake Pickleball Club	Rob Barrett
Drayton Valley Senior I Club	Lorrie Cameron
East Rocky View Pickleball Club	Terry Hillestad
Edmonton Pickleball Club	Mike Gray
Edson Pickleball Club	Dean Huntley
Grande Prairie Pickleball Club	Clarence Lindblom
High River Pickleball Club	Brian Popowitch
Lethbridge Pickleball Club	Klaus Witzke
Medicine Hat Pickleball Club	Ken MacPhail
Mighty Peace Pickleball Club	Richard Walisser
Okotoks Pickleball Club	Dave Sinclair
Parkland Pickleheads	Garand Jones
Ponoka Picklers	Janice Mackie
Red Deer Pickleball Club	Bob Philip
Rocky Mountain House	Darren Rogers
St. Albert Pickleball Club	Eileen McClean
St. Paul AB Pickleball Club	Bob Deacon
Strathcona County Pickleball.	Barbara Mullen
Strathmore Pickleball Club	Marilyn Rappel
Yellowhead West Pickleball Club	Don Kelly

10. 2020 Pickleball Alberta Board proves to have hard working, results-orientated team that continues to attract top level expertise and pickleball experience for 2021-2022.

2020-2021 Pickleball Alberta Board of Directors

President	Kirk Jensen	Edmonton
Vice President	Haddow Thul	Calgary
Past President	Beverley Walker	Calgary
Treasurer	Dwight Chalifour	Spruce Grove
Secretary	Sara McNeill	Edmonton
Competitions	Haddow Thul	Calgary
Membership	Brenda Feser	Red Deer
Youth	Brad Hurshowy	St. Albert
Officiating	Garand Jones	Spruce Grove
Technology	Blair Morton	Red Deer
Communications	Dani Wu	Edmonton

Leaving the Board – Thank you for your valued contributions!

Technology	Blair Morton	Red Deer
Director	Ian Miller	Spruce Grove



Pickleball Alberta AGM 2021 Appointment of Voting Delegates

Zone	Club	Names of Delegates from Clubs (Max 3 per zone)
1 Sunny South	Coaldale Pickleball Club	Dave Hansen
	Medicine Hat Pickleball Club	Deb Widdis
	Lethbridge Pickleball Club	none
2 Big Country	Airdrie Pickleball Club	Peter Wuntke
	East Rockyview Pickleball Club	none
	High River Pickleball Club	none
	Okotoks Pickleball Club	none
	Strathmore Pickleball	none
3 Calgary	Calgary Pickleball Club	Tony Tighe David Penkman
4 Parkland	Camrose Pickleball Club	Dean Edwards
	Ponoka Picklers	none
	Rocky Mountain House Pickleball Club	none
	Red Deer Pickleball Club	Bob Philip
5 Black Gold/Yellowhead	Barrhead Pickleball Club	none
	Drayton Valley Senior Pickleball Club	none
	Edson Pickleball Club	none
	Parkland Pickleheads	Garand Jones
	Strathcona County Pickleball Association	Rita Fournier
	St. Albert Pickleball Club	Eileen McLean
	Yellowhead West Pickleball Club*	n/a*
6 Edmonton	Edmonton Pickleball Club	Mike Gray
7 Northeastern Alberta	Cold Lake Pickleball Club	Sandy Cumby
	St. Paul AB Pickleball Club	none
8 Peace Country	Grande Prairie Pickleball Club	Clarence Lindblom
	Mighty Peace Pickleball Club	none

Notes: * Yellowhead West Pickleball Club, while affiliated has no active members as of Sept 18, 2021