



Newsletter – March 2022

Here's the latest update on what's been happening over the past few weeks.

SPRING TOURNAMENT

There has been huge enthusiasm for the March 26 spring tournament. Currently, the women's and mixed events are full with just a few spaces still remaining for the men's event. The tournament will be held at Brentwood Community Hall according to the following schedule:

Women's Event:	9:00 am to 12:30 pm
Men's Event:	1:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Mixed Event:	5:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Additional information on the tournament, including how to register for one of the few remaining spaces, is available on the website:

<https://www.saanichpeninsulapickleballassociation.com/>

If you have registered please remember the following:

- Please arrive half an hour in advance of the posted start time for your event.
- While masks are not required, feel free to wear one if it makes you feel more comfortable.
- Remember to bring your own water and any snacks you require as nothing will be available on-site.
- This will be a round robin tournament with two divisions in each event. Prizes will be awarded in both divisions for first and second places.
- Balls will be supplied but remember your paddle and please bring a pair of indoor shoes for playing in to protect the wood floor at the hall.

FACILITY INFORMATION

We are continuing to follow-up with both Sidney and North Saanich concerning the need for more pickleball venues on the Peninsula. This includes communicating our support of the idea of locating dedicated pickleball courts within Rotary Park. Meanwhile, we thought it would be useful to summarize the indoor and outdoor venues currently available for play:

Indoor Venues

- The second set of beginner classes starting April 14 at **North Saanich Middle School** apparently filled up in less than five minutes. In addition, the slots set aside for open play have also all been fully booked.
- **Greenglade** play can be reserved for the upcoming week each Friday morning at 7:30 am. Please see Panorama's website for more details. If you haven't used the reservation site before here's a link to a PDF file that details the steps to make a booking:
https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/panorama-pdf/how-to-reserve-pickleball-online.pdf?sfvrsn=ef0c8dca_0

Outdoor Venues

- **Centennial Park** has two courts delineated in the lacrosse box along with a shared court across the street in the tennis area. Central Saanich is waiting to hear the results of a grant application they submitted to redevelop the current lacrosse box. If approved, their plan is to develop a multi-sport facility with work starting in the summer. As a result, access to the courts during the summer months is still unknown and, therefore, Panorama is not currently taking reservations. They are however, available again on a first come basis with the nets being located in the wooden box near the entrance to the court. Please note that you are responsible for setting up and taking down the nets when you play. We can use the courts anytime from Monday through Friday up until 4:00 pm each day. From now until the summer, lacrosse play takes precedence after 4:00 pm and on the weekends.
- **Iroquois Park** also has a court available for outdoor play (shared with tennis). In addition, lines for a pickleball court are painted on the basketball court.
- The new multi-sport facility at **Panorama Recreation Centre** opens March 21. The number of pickleball courts and their availability has yet to be confirmed.
- With the recent change to Daylight Savings Time just a reminder to respect the posted hours at **Wain Road Park**:

Monday, Friday and Saturday: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Open House and Social: We are planning on holding an Open House on June 4 from 2:00 pm through 4:00 pm toward the goal of introducing more people to the sport of pickleball. This event will be followed by a social for SPPA members and guests. More details on this to follow over the coming weeks.

BC 55+ Games: The games will be held from September 13 – 17, 2022. Greater Victoria will welcome participants from across British Columbia for the 33rd 55+ BC Games. This will be the first time Greater Victoria will be a Games host featuring more than 30 sports, including tennis, hockey, soccer, lawn bowling and pickleball at 30 venues across Victoria, Langford, Oak Bay, Esquimalt and Saanich.

The organizers of the games are actively recruiting volunteers in a variety of areas including: Volunteer Management, Results, Technology, Protocol, Hosts, Medal Operations and Ceremonies, Venue Operations, Transport, Medical, and Sport. For more information visit go to their website – www.55plusgames.org and click on the **VOLUNTEER NOW** button to register.

Questions about the games can be emailed to: volunteer2022@55plusgames.ca

Your questions, concerns and suggestions are always welcome.

The SPPA Executive

Cathy Becker, Ann Blyth, June Curtis, Rod Ellis, Annie Fearon, Roger Fox and Sid Greenner