

## December 2023 Newsletter from the SPPA

### 1. Calling all current members and past members of SPPA!

SPPA and PickleballBC and Pickleball Canada memberships expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Renewals done anytime in December will be active until December 31, 2024. If you have let your membership expire, please consider renewing and joining the association again. We would love to see you at our holiday social on December 14<sup>th</sup> as well as our members-only tournament slated for January 2024! In addition, there are many exciting (and some concerning) changes on the horizon for pickleball on the peninsula. We would appreciate having your voice in our association!

### 2. Holiday Social

The SPPA holiday social is just around the corner! Join us for some food and drinks, dancing, socializing and the exchange of 'best pickleball ever' stories! Please consider bringing some finger foods to share! We would also appreciate if you would RSVP via the registration button on the new SPPA website!

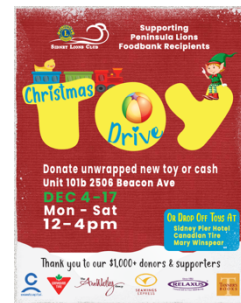
#### Essential information

Date and Time: December 14<sup>th</sup> 6-10pm

Location: Sidney Army and Navy

Admission: A toy or \$ donation to the Sidney Lions Club

Bar: CASH ONLY.



### 3. January Tournament

We are excited to announce the club tournament will be held on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Brentwood Hall. There will be three events, ladies, mens and mixed. Registration will be via pickleball brackets and as soon as we have the registration date and time set we will send out an announcement and post it on the website!

#### Ladies and Mens events

Registration: individual

Format: Individual players will be placed in groups of 4 for initial round robin play. Partners will be assigned based on round robin results and will play together in the elimination event.

#### Mixed event

Registration: team

Format: Registered partners will play together throughout the event.

### 4. Update on Wain Road Courts

The executive of SPPA attended the North Saanich Council meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> as

a staff report was being presented by the engineering department ranking eight potential pickleball venues if the Wain Rd courts are decommissioned. The top four were Cy Hampson Park, Blue Heron Park, and Pat Bay Park and Hospital Hill by the airport. SPPA executives asked that Blue Heron park not be considered the original proposed site at Blue Heron was moved to a new site located only 25 meters from the Pat Bay highway. Pickleball players would not be able to hear each other on the court and the fumes from heavy car and truck traffic would be unsafe to breathe especially when exercising. Cy Hampson Park will receive a lot of protest from dog owners as this is the only off leash park in the area. The two airport options look to be the best alternatives at this time. Council is **finally** considering sound mitigation at Wain Park. This would lower the noise from pickleball by 50% for surrounding neighbours. Even if Wain Park is closed in a year or two the sound mitigation material is portable to a possible new venue.