

**Date** May 24th, 2023 12:13pm ET

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**From** Cochrane Pickleball Club (cochranepickleballclub@gmail.com)

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**Subject** Survey/President message

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President Message May 23, 2023

Hi to all.

We've certainly had an interesting first three weeks to kick off the season. Between rain and smoke, play has definitely been sporadic. Poor Tony has had to cancel all ladders organized to date. A big thanks to all who have stepped up and volunteered for various positions. You are the life blood of the club. I'm sure many more opportunities to help will arise over the summer for others to pitch in.

We had our first board meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. There were some tough decisions to make with regards to budget and ratings. We were not comfortable moving forward with a plan that left us with a near zero bank balance at the end of the year. A revised budget will follow in another email. The town has been great and is very flexible in how we rent court time so it will be changing on the fly. Round Robin play has been sporadic thus far but we realize many are still playing indoors so we have chosen not to modify those much.

Ratings are a huge issue wherever you go. After discussions with the board and our ratings committee we have made the decision to go back to skilled based ratings. We feel this is a much better evaluation of skill and are putting together a team that should be able to accommodate anyone looking for a new rating within a reasonable time. DUPR has spent a lot of money in promotion and despite that most clubs in both Canada and the U.S. have chosen not to go that route. It is new and has some flaws. I've had several emails from the membership telling me it has taken the fun out of your play. We will continue to offer DUPR time for those who wish to pursue it and continue using it for ladder play as well.

It is an exciting time to be a member of this club with the potential new courts coming next year. Hats off to the committee who have put a ton of work into this application. The grant application will be submitted at the beginning of June and we will not hear of the results until Dec 31. If we are successful with the full grant then the construction will begin May 1, 2024 and should be completed by August of that year. If we are not awarded any funds or partial funds, there will still be some courts constructed but we do not know how many at this point in time.

Thank you for your patience with court scheduling and ratings. This will hopefully be our last full season of dealing with such precious court time.

For now, we would like you to complete the below survey so that we can get a good feel for the direction you, the members, would like this club to follow.

Please click on the link below to complete and if you could do this within the next 3 days then we can get the ball rolling much sooner.

<https://s.surveypal.com/dltbm31c>

Paddle On! Greg Y

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