
Date June 30th, 2023 12:03pm ET

From Cochrane Pickleball Club (cochranepickleballclub@gmail.com)

Subject June Update

Hi All,

I hope you were one of the lucky ones who attended the club social at Ducks on the Roof on the 21st. Over seventy of us had an evening of great food and great fun. Huge kudos to the social committee who pulled it off despite the original planned venue closing just days before. Stay tuned as I'm told the next event is planned around the Club Championship.

Speaking of which, I'm pleased to announce the dates will be August 29,30,31. This is one of the highlights of the year so try to plan your vacations around those dates.

Bill and Joanne had a recent meeting with the Town of Cochrane(Minutes attached). Good news and bad from it. Mostly good. They accepted our new schedule(attached). Bill and Joanne were able to negotiate our May court fees down to \$848 which will save us close to \$2,000. We used very little court time the first couple of weeks between rain, smoke and scheduling issues and so the town forgave most of those charges. Well done Joanne and Bill!

With regard to parking they are now saying we can park on the south side of the street in front of the courts but not the north side. Thank you for complying with that. Court maintenance is scheduled for week of July 10. We don't expect many scheduling disruptions.

So now the bad news. They are not willing to relent and let us use the second tennis court for casual play. They will post a sign there indicating no one is to use that court for pickleball. We must comply with this. No exceptions.

Club activities are running smoothly now for the most part. We've adjusted some round robins to accommodate everyone. Our goal is to not turn anyone away from RR play. I'm told there are some exceptions lately but with vacation time coming hopefully that wont be an issue. Many thanks to Lorraine and all team captains.

Tony has a team of over 20 who are running skills and drills. I'm told this is very popular and members are appreciating the learning opportunity. He's also got the ladder running smoothly with about seventy players each week. Your time is very much appreciated Tony!

Les, Steve and their team have completed over 50 skilled ratings. I'm told the wait list for new ones is now very short. If you've ever had a 3.5 plus assessment from Les and Nikki you can appreciate what a huge task this is. I saw one recently that was over two pages highlighting strengths and weaknesses and what is required to move ahead. You don't get that from DUPR. Its a number only.

I'm happy to announce that with our reduced usage we expect our town court bill for the year will be under \$10,000. We expect that will leave us with a budget surplus around \$5,000 at year's end. These funds will allow us to spruce up our new courts and maybe we'll finally get the ball machine I've been after.

Speaking of new courts our grant application has been submitted to the province and we hope to get the good news some time in December. I recently saw an article in the Calgary Herald about Cochrane's incredible growth and announcing twenty new courts for the Town. This may have been somewhat premature but maybe they know something we don't.

One last announcement. We are planning a Food Bank Friday for July 7. If you're playing that day or even not scheduled please consider bringing either a non perishable food item or cash donation to the courts. We have arranged court time from 3:00-5:00 to run a fun 2.0-3.0 mixed round robin challenge. Eight teams will play one game vs the others(7 total) and then some playoffs. Please email me your name and your partner's name if you are interested in playing (gypargolf@gmail.com). If you don't have a partner we will try to find you one. I expect this will fill up so please act quickly. If you miss out on this one you will be first on the list for the next event. We hope to run this for 3.5-4.0's later in the month.

So all in all things are looking very positive. Again thank you to all volunteers. You keep us going and flourishing!

See you on the courts,

Greg
