

Cochrane Pickleball Club Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 23/25 **2:00 PM to 4:00 PM** **Location:** SLS Centre

Attendees: Greg Young, Catherine Burdett, Brett Mackey, Ken Little.

Absent: Bob Marescaux, Jerry Shannon, Val Ball, Mary Ellen Martin.

1. **Call to Order:** President Greg Young called the meeting to order at 1:58 PM.
2. **Review and Adoption of Minutes of 8/14/25:** Greg Young moved to adopt the Minutes; seconded by Catherine Burdett. All were in favour. The motion passed.
3. **Bylaw Review/Adoption:** Ken Little led the discussion regarding the ByLaws revisions. As his committee will need further consultation with the Alberta Registries Department, this issue will be tabled until we get further direction, likely the adoption of a special resolution. He further noted that Pickleball Alberta just released their own ByLaws which he suggested we align our Club document with. **Action Item:** Ken Little and Lorraine Makowecki to continue the process with the goal of presenting a revised draft document of Club Bylaws.
4. **Club Championship Debrief/Code of Conduct:** Greg Young, who served as Tournament Director, reported that at the tournament debrief, all committee leads present were happy with the Club Championship overall. They suggested that there would be some things to change in the future. Financially, the event took in about \$3300 in revenue, had approximately \$2500 in expenses, raised about \$800, and accrued \$1500 in assets. From tournament attendees, there was mostly positive feedback, even though it ran a little longer than planned. A suggestion for next year is to leave more courts open for the public, if possible, if we do not need them for player use. Discussion ensued about the need for a clear Code of Conduct to be issued prior to the tournament to all players, spectators, and officials, as one letter of reprimand had to be issued by the Board of Directors.
5. **Ratings Report: Update—**Catherine Burdett provided the Ratings Report for the year to date: Total number of professional coach/raters: 2; Total number of ratings sessions to date:45; Total number of members rated:180; Pass rate for

3.0s = 69%; Pass rate for 3.5s = 76%; Pass rate for 4.0s = 60%; At time of writing, 3 more sessions pending.

6. **4.0 Advanced Players: 4.25 in 2026?**—Brett Mackey led a discussion about the need to find a home for the 4.0 Advanced players in our Club, as far as scheduled events. He stated that if they don't have that, as seen during this past season, they will form their own groups and avoid signing up for scheduled play. If you follow this line of thinking, then membership in the Club is not really necessary aside from playing in the Club Championship at the end of the season. The group decided to look at how this could be achieved, even having a 4.0 Plus category, if a 4.5 rating level was the next available move.

Action Item: Members present to explore avenues of how to “level up” 4.0 Advanced players.

7. **Court Closing/Court Reserve: Update**—Catherine Burdett reported that the *final day of court usage would be Monday, October, 13th*. All organized play will continue up to and including that day.
8. **National Breast Cancer Awareness October 13th:** Catherine Burdett relayed that Club member Brenda Boyd had brought up the fact that Monday, October 13th is National Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Catherine was going to contact Brenda to see what she'd suggest doing for that day. From members present, one suggestion was players that day wear a pink ribbon. Another was having a collection box at the courts for donations for the cause. Details to be forthcoming.
9. **Options for Seating/Shade Structures:** Greg Young led the discussion on seating and shade structures. After a lengthy discussion involving types of seating, the drawings we have on hand, the protocol for getting product in place (approval from developer then Town approval), a decision was made to move forward. **Greg Young moved that the Club request that Joanne Ferster approach Entity One (Developer) with our proposals for permanent shade structures and bolted benches, as selected from options presented to us; seconded by Brett Mackey. All were in favour. The motion carried.**

10. Court Maintenance: Equipment/AED Storage for Winter/Security Cameras for

Courts: Ken Little updated the storage of equipment over the winter. The AED will be removed and stored by Val Ball. The gas blower is going to be removed from the site immediately. Ken also suggested the purchase of “dummy” security cameras to discourage people from vandalizing the black perimeter fencing with graffiti. All agreed.

Ken Little moved that the Club purchase a number of dummy “solar powered” security cameras for installation around the courts; seconded by Brett Mackey. All in favour. The motion passed.

Action Item: Ken Little to forward this proposal to Joanne Ferster for discussion and approval by the Developer with a request to potentially install them.

11. Community Involvement Report: Greystone Community Assoc. Event

(8/23/25)/Family Resource Network (9/9/25): Catherine Burdett reported that the GCA event did not take place on the plaza near the courts as originally planned but at a local park with a barbecue, and was attended by about 140 people. The Cochrane Pickleball Club gave away a family membership for four for the 2026 season which will cover all fees. The Family Resource Network event saw lessons given to twelve young mothers, several expressing interest in joining the Club next season. On Tuesday, October 7th, 19 local Activettes will be at the courts for an event. Val Ball will be hosting this, as an appreciation for donating the AED to the Club. This will involve free lessons, play, and having fun. Waivers will be signed. **Val will be seeking a couple of additional volunteers to assist.**

12. AGM Preparations: Timing/Call for Nominations: The Annual General Meeting is now scheduled for Wednesday, October 15th at Frank Wills Hall commencing at 1:00 PM. Club Secretary Brett Mackey will be sending out the Agenda 14 days prior and a call for nominations for two directors. The Board will also present a Strategic Plan for the Future, as well as membership fees for next year, and additional fees for Ladders, Ratings, and Lessons.

13. Website Opportunities: Discussion— Catherine Burdett reported that Lynda Huot, our Webmaster, is in the process of researching options to support a new, more dynamic website for the club. Two options are the top contenders – Wix

and SquareSpace. More details will be revealed in this regard by the next Board meeting.

14. Strategic Plan Discussion: Course for 2026 and Beyond?--Those present began discussion on a long-term plan and priorities for the Club. All agreed that membership could reach 600 next season. All agreed that a future enhanced pickleball facility should be in the plans. As half of the Board was not present, an additional meeting is scheduled for October 6th, well over a week prior to the AGM, to allow the whole team to provide input on this matter and formulate a strategic plan for the next 3-5 years to present to membership.

15. Year End Social: Saturday, October 18th @ Ducks: Just a reminder that sign up is on Court Reserve for this final social of the year, limited to the first 100 people. Venue: Ducks on the Roof. One guest allowed per member.

16. Financial Update: Brett Mackey provided an update given to him by Joanne Ferster: Joanne cleared out all the funds from the GIC and was going ahead with writing a cheque to the Developer for the amount of \$94, 987.98. The total amount of the GIC for the new courts began with \$1,000,287.00. The total withdrawals were \$1,034,227.29 which means that the Club made \$33,940.29 in interest throughout the term that was paid to the Developer as per the Grant requirements.

17. Set Date/Time of Next Meeting: Board members agreed that the next meeting will be October 6th at 2:00 PM (Strategic Planning) at SLS. The next Board meeting will be the AGM.

18. Adjournment: Greg Young moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:17 PM; seconded by Catherine Burdett. All were in favour. Motion passed.

Minutes prepared by Brett Mackey, Secretary