

**Bellingham Pickleball Club
Board Meeting
November 13, 2023 6:30 pm
Zoom**

Board Members Present:

Barbara Beer, Eric Roeder, Jodi Mackey, Laura Sanderson, John Bailey, Steve Gibbs, Stephen McDowall, Nancy Molinaro, and Molly Hammar.

Others Present: Maggie Kruger and David Imburgia

Quorum:

President Barbara Beer noted there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Minutes of October 9, 2023 Board Meeting:

It was noted that the minutes of the October 9, 2023, board meeting were approved by email.

Old Business:

Jodi made a motion to remove Barbara Goebel, Erica Kulm, and Terri Vossbeck as signers on the bank account and Jodi Mackey, Steve Gibbs and Barbara Beer be added as signers. The motion was seconded and carried without dissent.

Stationery will be ordered; cost will be considered club supplies and will be available for all to use.

Should we have a negotiating group separate from any current committee? The Pavilion committee already has board approval for those preliminary negotiations. Jodi made a motion that we form a negotiating team. Jodi amended her motion to state the negotiating team should be a group of three. The motion was seconded and carried without dissent.

Our implementation of TrackItHub (TIH) has resulted in some difficulties. It was suggested that a spread sheet be put out on TIH for concerns and one or two people go through the list each week and prioritize the concerns then communicate to TIH. We do not pay for TIH, so we need to be careful how we communicate. A main concern right now is that TIH is not requiring payment from members at time of sign up to sessions, for those venues that require payment in advance. This payment situation is currently being addressed by Marieanne, Barbara, Eric and Stephen.

New Business:

Barbara introduced guests Maggie Kriger and David Imburgia who were present to voice their concerns regarding the procedure for making changes to the by-laws. Currently the by-laws state changes to the by-laws can be accomplished by a vote of the board as opposed to changes being voted on by the general membership at a membership meeting. Maggi and Dave request that the By Laws be revised so future By Laws changes must be passed by a vote of a majority of a quorum of members at a member meeting. Maggi asked that the number needed for a quorum be the same in all instances where members were concerned, and voting for board members be for individuals not for groups or blocks of people on the ballot for the Board. Finally, the current procedure for removing a member be reviewed. After much discussion it was decided these issues will be taken into consideration at another time. First, we need to investigate how our non-profit status might dictate our procedure for making changes to the by-laws.

With the goal of shortening our monthly board meetings it was suggested that we get together informally between meetings for discussions and/or that each board member review the agenda prior to the board meeting time and be ready to make a motion or discuss the issues after review. The agenda should be available to board members a week in advance of board meetings, this means the committees would need to get their reports to Barbara at least ten days in advance of board meetings for the agenda to be available to the board a week prior to meetings.

Should officer reports be posted on the website? It was suggested that the reports can be distributed with the minutes. No decision was made.

Nancy will store the logo merchandise for the winter since sales have slowed down, then bring the merchandise back out in the spring or at an event.

Pickleball recycling will be discussed at a later date.

There being no further business Molly made a motion to adjourn. Seconded and carried without dissent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Molly Hammar

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SKILL DEVELOPMENT:

So far, a relatively small number of skills sessions have been offered this winter due to lack of gym time. Those at the 2.5 and 3.0 level have been well attended. The 2.0 level sessions less so but it could be that the weather hasn't deteriorated enough to get people active indoors.

Come January, sessions at Sunnyland on Friday nights for levels up through 2.0 will begin.

A challenge seems to be having people attend sessions at the correct level. Doug and Bill found that many of those attending the 2.5 clinic were really 2.0 level; Doug and Bill adjusted the program accordingly, but it would be better if the participants had signed up for a 2.0 session. The committee plans to brainstorm about this issue at their next meeting.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:

No change from last report. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the next committee meeting was moved to the week of December 12. Both of the club's major tournaments that occurred last year are also planned for next year.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Dale has been working with Peckie Peters on a more streamlined and comprehensive process for both volunteer management and board member recruitment. Peckie has created a preliminary draft (which she hopes to refine by mid to late December).

The committee will review the proposed process in January with intent to have it implemented by mid-February. Once we have a working document to review, Dale will distribute and call a meeting for people's review and input.

OPEN PLAY COMMITTEE:

FMS calendar of play dates for December are posted on TrackitHub.

FMS calendar for January will be posted mid-December.

Tub with nets, balls and tape has been successfully moved to a member's house.

Ferndale Middle School (FMS) is going just "ok"; I think it is because the weather has been so nice - cold, but dry.

Next year should winter play be limited to January - April?

Laura is monitoring the numbers at FMS and there is a question in the survey about FMS Open Play. When the Mall opens in January, what will the impact be on FMS?

Bellingham Fitness is open now and is especially cost effective for Silver Sneakers and similar health plans for retirees. The cost is \$20.00 every other week.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE:

The Facilities Committee had nothing to report; however, there is a gate missing in the chain link fencing between the pickleball courts and the tennis courts at Cornwall.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE:

A tremendous amount of time has been spent supporting the implementation of TIH, the club's new management software.

Where a member had signed up for more than one skill level the highest was removed from 40 players.

Moved survey questions for both members and non-members into Google surveys.

Updated the website to invite comment to the Parks Department regarding its public questions regarding the tennis courts at Cornwall Memorial Park.