

Bellingham Pickleball Club
Board Meeting — May 13, 2025
Via Zoom

1. Call to Order / Quorum

In attendance: Cathie Badalamenti, John Bailey, Shelley Booth, Steve Gibbs, Viviano Gutierrez, Jodi Mackey, Bill Miller, Kay York.

Absent: Molly Hammer.

A quorum was in attendance and the meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the April board meeting were digitally approved by unanimous vote.

3. President's Report

Open Board Positions and Candidates

Viviano reported on his meeting with Matthias Lapino, a software engineer interested in joining the board. Viviano recommended him as a strong candidate.

Four board positions will be open in August, with elections scheduled for July. Current candidates include Bill (seeking re-election), Matthias Lapino, Ron Goodell, and Sean Cool. The board discussed the recruitment and vetting process. All candidates will be asked to submit bios to be shared with members in June ahead of the election.

Covered Courts Committee

The committee continues to explore potential locations, including existing buildings such as Joann Fabrics and Bed Bath & Beyond. They requested an estimate of the financial contribution BPC could provide.

Board members expressed concern about the club managing an indoor, membership-based facility. Viviano will inform the committee that the board has concerns about expanding the club's scope to include renting, leasing, or managing an indoor facility. Additionally, the board indicated it has limited financial and operational resources to contribute to such a project. The board emphasized its desire to prioritize the community-oriented, participatory nature of any such endeavor.

Open Play Courts at Cornwall

Viviano has worked with Melissa from the city parks department to secure six courts for Open Play at Cornwall. Starting July 5, the existing tennis courts will be converted to three pickleball courts and one tennis court, with construction expected to last about eight weeks (weather permitting). The current courts will be closed for cleaning from June 4–7. A sign indicating the closure is posted at Cornwall.

Melissa will reassess BPC's court allocation in August. Viviano will maintain communication with her. Open Play rules are currently posted at the facility.

Open Play Levels

The board agreed to combine the 3.5 and 4.0 Open Play sessions. Cathie will ask David A. to update the schedule in TiH.

5. Treasurer's Report

Jodi reported that Claude Blackburn has donated the remaining \$1,191.78 from his previous feasibility study contribution to the BPC. The board discussed the use of these funds and agreed they should remain in the general fund for now.

6. New Business

a. Ball Machine

The board discussed purchasing a ball machine. Bill is researching the idea and consulting with experienced contacts. He will also reach out to Tristan at the Armory as part of his investigation and will report back in June.

b. Orca Classic Tournament

An e-blast will go out to members requesting tournament volunteers. Viviano noted that John Hatton is looking for a PA system for the event.

7. Action Items

1. Viviano will continue vetting board candidates; other board members will assist.
 2. Viviano will notify the Covered Courts Committee that managing a membership-based indoor facility is not aligned with BPC's mission or resources.
 3. Cathie will ask David to change the 3.5 Open Play sessions in TiH to joint 3.5/4.0 sessions.
 4. Bill will present ball machine recommendations at the June board meeting.
-

8. Adjournment

Viviano moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Jodi seconded. Motion passed

unanimously. The next meeting of the board is scheduled for **June 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.**