



## NOTES: 9/22/19 BPC Development Meeting

2829 Lynn St Bham

### **Present:**

Catharine Vadar, Peter Homann, Ed Goebel, Barbara Goebel, John Worlund, Gail MacDonald, Steve Nelson, David May, Maggi Kriger, Lola Hudson, Dotti Berry, Mark Livingston, Bob Hei, Margen Riley, Pat MacDonald, Darcy Riggins-Schmidt,

### **Save the Date: Next Club Development Meeting:**

**Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>** @ 5:45pm (Potluck @ 5pm) Gail & Pat's; 2829 Lynn St (near Yeagers)

### **THANK YOU to the "VOLUNTEERS of THE MONTH"!**

**PicklersPalooza Planning & Hosting Team** (Dotti, Paula, Melinda, Jill, Carol Lo, Heidi, & Heather); Amazing! **Lockbox "Guardians" (All 20 of them)**. Thank you for providing access AND security! **John Hatten**; Your volunteer spreadsheet development is a true blessing. Thank you!

### **Feedback on Highlights of the Season:**

New Cornwall Courts, including camaraderie, teamwork, organization, & development to make the dream a reality!  
Addition of newbies to the pickleball community; Range and variety of classes; Classes with Byrd @ YMCA;  
4D skill-drills assessments (4D= Deep serve, Deep return, Drop-shots and Dinks);  
Multitude of volunteers stepping up to accomplish so much.

### **Updates/ Input/ Planning (Abbreviated)**

Amazing! Looking back at LONG "to-do" list from spring, it's all been completed except one item. Wow!;

BPC will soon have a battery powered blower to be kept in lockbox, but keep bring your blower too if you have one. A few folks have volunteered & been authorized to take batteries home to recharge. Contact David May if you'd like to be added to the list: (David, Pat, Ed, Beth).

To request to become a "Lockbox Guardian" to have access rights to the box , email [bellingshampickle@gmail.com](mailto:bellingshampickle@gmail.com) .

Adults with special needs are scheduled for Fri Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 - 3:30pm to play at the "Happy Court", in collaboration with Max Higbee. Contact Bob Hei if you'd like to help out [bobhei55118@yahoo.com](mailto:bobhei55118@yahoo.com) . There will be more in the spring.

Fairhaven Middle School Thursdays 6 - 9pm for drills then play (for members only) \$3 - 8. (2.0-3.0, & 3.25-3.5+). Tuesday 3.75+ Carsten on 3 courts. Lots of spirited discussion about concerns of using .25 intervals, as there is no criteria for them. All valid points. Even though there was lobbying to just go with 0.5 intervals, in the end permission was given to the hosts to set the levels where they choose. We will re-evaluate as time goes on to see whether that needs to be revised. If anyone wants to volunteer to host another session of your choice, talk with Barbara or email [bellingshampickle@gmail.com](mailto:bellingshampickle@gmail.com) . Thursday is 2.0-3.0 with Darcy & Margen on 3 courts. Mark Livingston & helpers will conduct periodic 4D Drill Skill Assessments. Thursday Kim 3.25 - 3.5+ on other 3 courts. Will send an email to the entire email list letting people know it is available and they need to contact the host in order to receive the weekly "Spond" invitations.

Mark and Dotti are both being trained to be trainers (separately). Mark is also being trained to be a rater. He has a vision of people being trained to help coach. Contact Mark if you have interest in being trained to coach.

[mdllivingston@gmail.com](mailto:mdllivingston@gmail.com) .

Spring Cornwall: We will change the “All Level” tags to “Mixed Levels”, and encourage people to play Mixed Level games. Not initially, but we might give priority to Mixed Level games (if they are truly mixed) if needed.

We want to encourage many skill-level sessions, so that the courts are used more throughout the day rather than having everyone come during the morning drop-in time when it gets so crowded. We'd like all skill level sessions to refer to the BPC Rating Scale Descriptions and do drills so people know what they should be working on next.

Bellingham Park Department: (“Multi-use courts”, PRO Plan meeting, Cornwall: fence extension/ locking rack);

YMCA: Bham, Ferndale, Lynden;

Saturday afternoon sessions: Meridian High Gym;

PicklersPalooza; 130 people, lots of fun, plus lessons learned.

Exploration for multi-court covered facility (NOT led by BPC board)

## Highlights of Survey Results

### Snapshot:

130 respondents; 20% snowbirds; Lots more novices than ever before!; 3.0 is biggest level; Most people know their general level; People are mostly getting the correct amount of info (or they want more); Email is preferred way to get info; Opt-in system for sharing info is desired by most; People like the meetings, but some thought they could be shorter (especially earlier in the year); Most wouldn't use Twitter for court condition update (but it could be imbedded in website to all to check);

### Cornwall:

85% thought court hosts found a good balance (3x more said they were too hands off, than too controlling).

Scheduled skill level sessions were LOVED!

People want to keep level tags. 30% also want challenge courts on some days. 20% also want mixed play. 30% said don't fuss about ensuring correct levels.

Folks mostly know their levels but bump up into next level tag group primarily for three reasons:

- 1) Players in the group below them have bumped up, so they bump up.
- 2) They see players of similar skill bumping up, so they do so too.
- 3) They just want to play with higher level players.

LOTS of novices commented that folks don't join them for a game in a timely manner if they choose a “beginner/novice” tag or “Any level”. So then they often bump themselves up just to get a game.

As a result, we are going to encourage more mixed level games next year at Cornwall & add challenge courts on some days.

### Understanding Levels

Drill skill assessments were chosen as best way for local folks to gauge level (followed by optional ratings, & shootouts/ladders).

### Volunteers

John Hatten volunteered to make a useful volunteer spreadsheet. Yay!