

BPC CLUB DEVELOPMENT MEETING: Tuesday April 13 @ 6:30pm

All welcome. RSVP is appreciated, but not required.

We need your input on next steps for Cornwall and this season's Skill-Development Sessions.

We also invite you to send us questions, feedback, or input via bellinghampickle@gmail.com

MEETING INFO:

Tuesday April 13, 6:30 – 8:30pm

(Meeting can be joined any time after 6:15pm)

JOIN ZOOM Meeting <https://swsd.zoom.us/j/84982471414>

No password needed. You can check the link ahead of time.

In order to make the best use of our time, we request that you review this agenda and the links. That way we can spend more time answering questions and hearing your input, rather than communicating all that detailed information at the meeting.

AGENDA SUMMARY

INTRODUCTIONS

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:

UPDATES AND REMINDERS:

[Potential New Courts Summary](#)

[Renew or Join BPC \(good through June 2022\)](#)

Treasurer's Report

DISCUSSION:

Bellingham Parks- Cornwall

Skill Development Sessions led by volunteers

Flex-Ladder

AGENDA

INTRODUCTIONS

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:

Thank you Carol Lo, Ed Goebel, & John Hatten who continued our BPC-Hosted Skill-Development sessions all year. Now Dirk Vermeeran, Liz Parker, and Shirley Erickson have joined them in continuing the sessions.

UPDATES AND REMINDERS:

NEW COURT POTENTIAL:

Review the [New Courts summary](#), as there are positive developments. We have been busy networking behind the scenes to add additional courts.

RENEW OR JOIN BPC:

Membership period will be good through June 2022 and you can opt-in or out to the shared Member Directory. Membership includes liability insurance. BPC has 254 current members. Some hosted sessions and events will be open only to members. Please update your information when you renew.

We are working on a way for you to update your own shared information, but for now if you want to update your info during the year, email us at bellinghampickle@gmail.com

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Our current balance = \$6212.59. Major purchases since last report have been: ongoing liability insurance; a \$500 donation to the Pickleball Museum on Bainbridge Island with a paver in BPC's name (approved by membership at a prior meeting); \$155 for new skill development materials for volunteers; and a \$250 donation to the Lori Turley's Memorial Fund.

Lori Turley passed away March 21. She is the wife of our awesome webmaster, Keith Turley, and a treasured BPC member since the club's start. If you are a WECU member, you are also welcome to donate personally to WECU account #401705936; Call 360-676-1168 #3; or mail a check to Keith's business address. Donations will go to supporting Keith's goal of spreading Lori's ashes throughout all U.S. National Parks that he & Lori had dreamed of visiting together. Both Lori and Keith volunteered to create and maintain our beautiful BPC website.

Imagine Design Studio; 1050 Larrabee Ave, Suite 104-820; Bellingham, WA 98225

BPC PORTABLE NETS are available for members to check-out for use at Fairhaven Park, Birchwood Park, and Cornwall multi-use, or elsewhere,

DISCUSSION: Input Requested

1) BELLINGHAM PUBLIC PARKS

The current agreement with the Park Department is based on guidelines restricting play to pre-arranged groups up to 5. Despite the board's repeated attempts, we have not been able to connect with staff to update the court guidelines due to overwhelming staffing demands related to the pandemic. What we need from our members is input on what we want to propose to them.

Starting Proposals for Input and Consideration

a) Keep the current plan?

b) Allow pre-arranged groups of 10 to rotate on two adjacent dedicated courts, or on two multi-purpose courts? Waiting policy as it is now. This change could start as soon as BPC can modify signage, plus communicate the message via email and Facebook. Hopefully it would go into effect by Tuesday 4/20. (One week from the meeting.)

What do you think of this idea?

c) Other suggestions?

d) Are there ways to resume some form of "Drop-in Play" and stay within required guidelines?

Official scheduled court sessions will likely not be allowed until the beginning of June at the earliest, which is when the Park Dept is resuming outdoor facility scheduling.

Bellingham Park Department criteria for official scheduling of outdoor facilities includes mask wearing when within 6 feet and a limit on capacity. This is most relevant while not playing since that is when people tend to be close for extended times.

Are we ready soon for any type of drop-in that can stay within those guidelines?

If not, is it feasible to do it with an alternative approach?

If so, what might that look like?

If there aren't hosts, how would it work?

If we arrange something that is dependent on a having volunteer "Court Hosts" present, when and how could we recruit enough?

The Mt. Vernon Pickleball Club has arranged with their Park Department for scheduled drop-in on Monday and Thursday morning 9 – noon. Three courts are for levels 2.5 - 3.0ish and three courts are 3.5ish and above, with a simple player rotation of next 4 paddles to play one game. There will be club leadership present in the first few days to make sure it gets off to a good start, but no hosts planned after that.

Mt Vernon is different from Bellingham in that their Park Department doesn't require a "Host" for scheduled sessions and recently stopped requiring masks.

e) Other Ideas?

2) There is now a [BPC Skill-Development 1-3 Year Planning Charter](#).

We will be seeking people to lead “Skill-development Groups” and “Play Groups.

What support would make it more attractive to commit to leading a group?

A “Skill-Development Library” is in development with links to skill instruction and drills, some with videos.

Train-the-Trainer: Mark Livingston has offered to provide a session on how to lead a 3.5 and up group and offer constructive feedback. Rick Anderson has offered to teach a two-session instructional series on how to teach beginners.

3) **A Flex-Ladder** is being planned to start by the end of April, on a trial basis. This will be coordinated by John Hatten, and then expanded if successful.

Because we cannot yet reserve courts, individual participants will be matched up weekly in groups of four, and will decide when and where their group of four will play at least three games that week. The group records scores and one group member reports them to John. The weekly outcomes determine who moves up or down on the ladder for the following week’s match-ups.

John will provide more info on levels and timing

Would you be interested in participating in this?

Your Input is always welcome.

If you can’t attend, please email us with your thoughts and questions.

Sent by:
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www.bellinghampickleball.org