

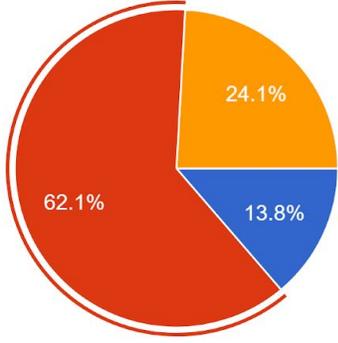
In February 2019, the Bellingham Pickleball Club surveyed the activities, interests, and needs of the local pickleball population. In particular we focused on the plans for utilizing the Cornwall Park courts, and newly organized winter indoor venues. This report summarizes the responses.

Key findings from 114 respondents were:

- > Over 75% wanted either a simple membership fee of \$25 including liability insurance, or had no preference. 18% preferred to keep the fee @ \$20 and charge extra for liability coverage.
- > In addition to drop-in play, top priorities to schedule at Cornwall Park are social play mixer, level-based focused competitive play, and drill sessions.
- > Most (75%) want to volunteer to help the club.
- > Email is the most effective way to communicate about pickleball updates in Whatcom County.

	Who took the survey: 114 people (compared to 96 in October) Primarily BPC members & many wanting to become members.			
	Choice	Members (BPC total 134)	Not members yet but interested	Not members
	Responses	91	13	9
	% Responses	80%	12%	8%
	Oct Responses	62	23	11
	All “Not yet but interested” responses were added to the mailing list and sent a personal email with link to member form.			

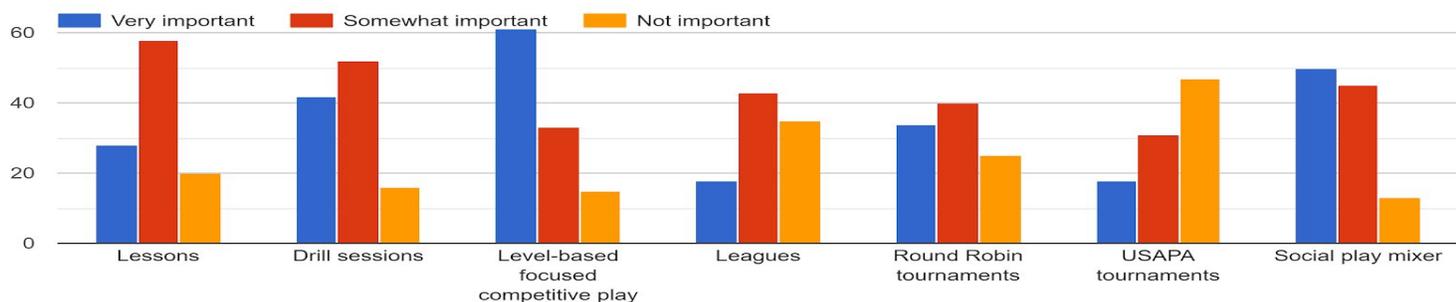
	Skill Level Self-Rating	# Responses
	Beginning	9
	Novice (under 3.0)	5
	Lower Intermediate (3.0 - 3.5)	30
	Mid-intermediate (3.5)	25
	Upper Intermediate (3.5 - 4.0)	24
	Lower Advanced (4.0 - 4.5)	7
	Upper Advanced (4.5+)	4
	Don't know	10

	How should we charge for Membership ? The majority wanted a simple, flat charge.	# Responses
	Keep membership fees as they are:\$20 a year for all, plus \$5-10 a year for those who use the rented gyms.	26
	Keep it simple. Charge everyone \$25.	63
	No preference	20

Effective ways to learn about Pickleball events in Whatcom County	# Responses	%
Email	106	93%
Whoozin-type Invitations (via email)	54	47%
Text messages	52	46%
Facebook posts	35	31%
Friends	24	21%
BPC website (bellingshampickleball.org)	22	19%
Flyers / posters / handouts	12	11%
Other websites	6	5%

Why they play pickleball	# Responses	%
Exercise	110	96%
Social connection	96	84%
Just want to have fun	95	83%
Challenge - work hard to improve	85	75%
Competition	64	56%
Write in comments included ... Preparing for tournaments; a bright future; helps me feel young; to learn a sport I can participate in; to help others get acquainted with the game and improve.		

In addition to drop-in play, the top priorities for scheduled play at Cornwall Park are: level-based focused competitive play, social play mixer and drill sessions. Lessons, round robin tournaments and leagues were next in importance. USAPA tournaments were not as important. This was in line with October’s results.



Some people were aware of **new possible places to play in the winter**. We didn’t ask about Meridian because we had invited everyone. But for Birch Bay Activity Center and Bellingham schools, the invitations were only sent to those who had expressed interest.

68 knew we had started new indoor winter play, while 34 did not. The number of people not receiving invitations who now want them.		
Birch Bay Activity Center for 3.5+ where we unlock / lock up for \$3 per session pp		Bellingham schools week nights for 3.25+ where we tape / untape (\$3-5 per session pp, plus \$5-10 annual liability)
Sunday 6:00 - 9:00 pm	Tuesday 7:30 - 9:30 pm	
13	6	18

Volunteers are how BPC grows & thrives. Most people want to volunteer to help grow pickleball.	# Responses	%
Might volunteer if a task is the right fit	69	61%
Yes, contact me about volunteering	18	16%
Not currently inclined to volunteer	26	23%
BPC is in the process of listing the volunteer opportunities, and will soon make them known.		

General Comments or Questions:

- > How can I know my level? (We have a committee working on that now. Additionally a self-rating link was sent to this respondent.)
- > Have sessions for less than 3 hours or more opp’ty to rotate out to rest. (We implemented that at 2/23 & 3/23 Meridian sessions.)
- > Could we use under-utilized mall spaces?
- > Can we find places to play in East County such as Deming, Acme, etc?
- > Have mixed-ages play-days for grandparents / kids, etc.
- > Easy to find places to play; need more times scheduled for lessons and drills to improve.
- > How will we deal with various levels of play, so it’s fun for everyone?
- > I commend everyone who is doing all of this wonderful work to make BPC such a well-organized, inclusive, and fun group!
- > And NUMEROUS other comments of thanks & appreciation...!!!

Thank you for participating in the survey and for helping to implement these great ideas. For more info, or to offer to help, contact us at Bellinghampickle@gmail.com or checkout BPC website www.bellinghampickle.org .