

4/2/19 BPC Development Meeting NOTES

@ Bellingham Covenant Church

Present: Marv Benson, Amy Butler, Peter Homann, Mary Ann Young, Ron Young, Carsten Kroon, Dotti Berry, Barb Francis, Angie Zehnder, Dotty Marston, Marv Marston, Judy Mickel, Barbara Goebel, Rick Anderson, Maggi Kriger, Terri Vossbeck, Catharine Vader, Gabe Drury, Kyle McCrain.

SUNDAY APRIL 28th: NEXT MEETING DATE (focused just on Cornwall): Please join us!
6:00pm meeting; 5:00pm optional potluck before; Gail's Studio, 2829 Lynn St, Bham 98225 (near Yeagers).

Introductions

Board & Club Updates; Finance Report

BPC has 145 members! (78 members have made use of school gym rentals for pickleball sessions.)

Finance summary: BPC has approx. \$5,000 income & \$3,000 expenses (since inception).

Major upcoming expenses will be for secure storage-boxes for the Cornwall courts.

CORNWALL FENCING FUNDRAISING starts NOW! <https://bellingshampickleball.org/help-fund-the-cornwall-fences/>

Please donate today! If everyone chips in what they can, we will reach our \$16,000 goal for the six sideline fences.

Volunteers of the Month; Thank You!

Carsten Kroon: For his vision & work to make “winter” weeknight play in Bellingham a reality!

Dotti Berry: For being a liaison w/ BBAC & hosting Feb. exhibition + Tues. nights; & applying to be a USAPA ambassador!

Thank You 3/17 Clean-up Crew @ Cornwall All 24 who helped with early “spring” clean-up & court chalking!

February Survey Results <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MWYvJayJcAxZsg3SjD6Day3XrVE5lSsEshP0qp7Q0l0/edit?usp=sharing>

Findings were shared (from 114 responses) & input solicited re: next steps. The BPC membership fee will be \$25, including school gym liability coverage, however any pickler is ALWAYS welcome to pay less if that is too much. Top scheduling priorities were “level-based focused competitive play”, & “social mixer play”. Next is “drill sessions”.

BPC Website:

Everyone is very pleased that the new BPC website www.bellingshampickleball.org is working well.

We can never thank Keith Turley & ImagineDS, enough! (<https://imagineds.com/>) Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

BPC Member Business:

Online membership payment option will begin in May @ www.bellingshampickleball.org .

Dues will be \$25, but there will ALWAYS be the option to pay less if that is too much.

The annual membership renewal period & new member drive will be May-June, (good through June of next year).

The first annual meeting (w/board elections) will be held in August 2019.

Self-rating Assessment Guidelines for Local Use: In progress; working to compile documents w/ consistent info.

Volunteer Needs; a spreadsheet of volunteer opportunities is being developed.

“Players Pickleball” BPC Sponsorship

Thank you [Players Pickleball](#) for the continued BPC sponsorship, and for donating \$10 to BPC for every paddle purchased w/ link above, or code **bpc10**. And for the upcoming donation of nets & paddles to the Whatcom YMCA!

> **Outdoor Courts Updates: CORNWALL PARK**

> **3-week fundraising campaign for ball-barrier fencing starts April 2nd. Please give today!**

<https://bellingshampickleball.org/help-fund-the-cornwall-fences/>

> **Cornwall Spring Play:**

After a lively discussion, BPC suggests that the temporary player rotation system be the simple “Paddle Stacking” method, (such as they use at Greenlake). In this system, players stack paddles in groups of four based on level of play, and then go to next open court. The various levels are distinguished by paddle orientation (up, down, left, right). There will be temporary signage with photos at Cornwall that clearly describes & illustrates this.

Gabe will draft; Barbara will review; Dotty M. will format and laminate it for posting.

(Cornwall Spring Play Continued)

We need **VOLUNTEERS** for *chalking/ re-chalking of lines on all courts*. BPC will paint semi-permanent lines on tennis court areas in May for portable nets once surface is pressure-washed. (We can also potentially use spray "Marking Chalk" to "paint" interim lines for the new "courts" after pressure-washing, until resurfacing happens.)

Folks didn't express urgency about developing an additional method at this time for communicating where & when folks are playing. Carsten volunteered to research methods that other clubs use successfully, in order to meet local communication & organizational needs in the future.

> Court Conversion Project Updates

The pickleball nets were re-installed, having been modified by the manufacturer to correct for an initial defect. Bernadette & crew hope to measure and mark court lines during second week of April. The courts will be surfaced & lined in June or July, when there is a string of warm dry days AND 65°+ nights.

Pressure washing will happen after the tree pollen drops, and not earlier than May 1st. The new fence posts will be installed in May. Other related topics: info kiosk, bike rack, benches, job boxes, MOA etc. BPC continues to be responsible for debris removal on court areas.

> "Grand Opening"

When courts are finished, we want to have a "soft" opening w/ribbon cutting for BPC members & "friends". At a later date we also want to have a "Grand Opening" for the public w/ fanfare & events, potentially as part of a "Bellingham Pickle (or Pickleball) Week". We will discuss this at 4/28 "Cornwall Courts" Planning Meeting.

> **OTHER**

> Elizabeth Park: (*Maggi's update 4/10*) BPC has gotten final authorization to paint lines @ Elizabeth Park!

> Lake Padden: Catharine will coordinate with "Painter" Dave for painting permanent lines on one tennis court.

> Bellingham Parks Recreation Program Update

The Recreation Program is in support of BPC checking out Bellingham Park basketball courts to see which ones might be appropriate for some light pickleball lines for portable nets. Volunteers could pick parks to assess for suitability, current under-utilization, & best fit for one or two courts.

> Indoor Court Updates

> Ferndale Y: BPC is supporting the Y in having two portable pickleball nets at the Ferndale location.

> Y- Bham: BPC is hosting pickleball events @ "Healthy Kids Day" on 4/27, 3:30-5pm. Amy B & Carsten volunteered.
2-3 more VOLUNTEERS wanted!

> Birch Bay Activity Center (For more info, see BBAC website @: <https://bbbparkandrec.org/pickleball/>):

> Various Tues. nights w/Byrd Penney for 3.5+. Drills clinic, and doubles play w/coaching.

> Wed. evenings 7-9pm, Tami M. offers drop-in drill clinics & player coaching for *beginners & novices+*.

> **NEW**: BPC & BBAC are hoping to co-host a social pickleball event on Saturday September 14th. Stay tuned.....
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to plan and implement.

> 3.5 rating sessions were offered on 3/23 & 3/30.

> Meridian HS Gym events: 2/23 Drill & Skills, plus games (beginners through mid-intermediate) went very well.
3/23 Women's Day w/drills, mixer, & games was a great time for bonding with 26 sister picklers!

> Tuesdays 6-9pm 3.25+ @ Happy Valley Elementary School (Bham) continuing until Memorial Day, by RSVP.
If you wish to start receiving Whoozin invitations for these sessions, please email BellinghamPickle@gmail.com

> Semiahmoq: Still waiting for the pickleball schedule to be posted on their website.

> Bellingham Fitness: 3 indoor courts will be completed this summer. "Grand Opening" will be in the early fall.
If all goes well with pickleball participation, they'd like to add 3-4 outdoor covered courts.

Cornwall Needs

If you want to help in any way, or have questions, please let us know! BellinghamPickle@gmail.com

Physical Maintenance, Improvements, & Research

Rick A., David M, Mike B, Gaby G, Maggi, Ed, Bernadette, Chuck, Dave S; Who else...?

CORNWALL: Temporary net hosts; Court chalking; Court taping & painting (under supervision of Painter Dave)

Similar to last season, we will need folks to be responsible for transporting nets to/ from the horseshoe shed.

Jake will research to find the FULLY SECURE jobsite-type boxes (to be bolted into ground @ Cornwall courts). Needs to be heavy-duty & tamper-proof; at least 60" long. One for dry supplies, and one for potentially wet (cleaning) tools. The one for tools needs to be big enough for brooms/squeegees etc. (Do we plan to unscrew heads?)

Cornwall court discussion re: "protocols" once the new courts are in

Rick A., Ellen, Maggi, Barbara, Lola, Mary G.; Jean wants to help with etiquette guidelines;

There is also group working on skill level rating self-assessment guidelines.

Help develop the following for when new courts open:

Cornwall Drop-in Rotation/ Levels of Play/ ("self-rating"?)/ Etiquette/ Protocols/ Support for beginners/ Schedule/ Court "host" responsibilities/ Relevant "signage" messaging/ "lost & found" system. Paddle labelling. Bell? Etc.

Coaching/ Drill Sessions/ Instructing/ Mentoring/ Beginning Lessons; ALL levels (would like a group by May).

Angie, Gabe, Bernadette, Rick A., Terri, Maggi, Dotti B., Carol Lo, plus others are needed.

We'd like to have folks available for informal coaching/mentoring, as well as scheduled clinic or lesson times to address needs across the spectrum of levels. BPC will NOT currently be charging a fee @ Cornwall.

>Cornwall Court "Hosts"

Rick A., Barbara G, Maggi, Mary G, Gaby G, Mary E, Catharine, Jill, Gail, plus need 6-8 others (board coordinates).

Board members & committed others to take turns at Cornwall drop-in times. As new systems are experimented with they will diplomatically help with questions, court flow, new folks, beginners, etc. This is a serious responsibility. There will be some type of vest or sash to identify court hosts, and potentially name tags.

Cornwall "Grand Opening"

Seeking folks to help plan/ implement the "Grand Opening" & associated promotion & activities.

Thank you!

Bellinghampickle@gmail.com

www.bellinghampickleball.org