



**MINUTES OF THE PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO (PAO)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Held on Thursday October 27, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. (EDT)
Location: ZOOM**

Present:

Gail Prior	President
Bryan Merritt	Vice President
Daphne Reid	Treasurer
Vacant	Secretary
Junior Bent	Director-at-Large
Suzanne Penner	Director-at-Large
Helen Pace	Director-at-Large
Mike Barron	Director-at-Large – regrets

Prior to beginning of meeting – Representative from Get Quorum (moderator) went through a number of housekeeping items and then turned meeting over to the co-chairs – Daphne Reid and Bryan Merritt

1. Welcome and call to order: Daphne

Daphne welcomed everyone to the 2022 Pickleball Ontario (PAO) AGM and thanked everyone for taking time to join us this evening and called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm EDT.

28 Delegates (list attached) in attendance at this time, plus the PAO Board members (6).

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest - Bryan Merritt

None indicated.

3. Approval of Minutes –2021 AGM - Bryan Merritt

Motion 1 to approve the 2021 PAO AGM minutes
Moved by Bryan Merritt and seconded by Daphne Reid.

Vote results:

All those in favour: 81

All those opposed: 0

Abstentions: 16

MOTION CARRIED

4 Approval of Agenda – Bryan Merritt

Approval of the 2022 AGM Agenda (Proposed)

All those in favour: 20

5. Introduction of the Board– Bryan Merritt

The 2022 PAO Board currently consists of:

Gail Prior

Bryan Merritt

Junior Bent

Daphne Reid

Suzanne Penner

Mike Barron

Helen Pace

6. Report certifying eligible voting – Gail Prior

Each affiliated club is given one delegate, and # of delegate votes dependent upon membership. Noted by Get Quorum - 112 is quorum number for today's meeting.

7. Report of Nominating Committee – Daphne Reid

Daphne noted that PAO began advertising in July to replenish the board and needed additional directors-at-large. After reviewing submitted resumes and conducting online interviews with questions seeking out candidate's interest, time commitment – which at times can be considerable, previous experiences. The board is pleased to put forth three worthy candidates that fill these positions, keeping in mind regional needs and concerns as the board feels this is very important moving forward as the board is representative of the entire province. Candidate bios are available in pre-meeting packages.

Of note: we are currently looking to fill the secretary position if you know someone who may be interested, please contact a current board member.

Bryan began introducing the board candidates for approval. Bryan spoke to each of the candidates and asked each of them to offer a few words prior to the nominations.

Motion 2: moved by Bryan Merritt, seconded by Junior Bent to nominate and accept Suzanne Penner as a Director to Pickleball Ontario.

Vote results:

All those in favour: 101

All those opposed: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Welcome Suzanne.

Motion 3: moved by Daphne Reid, seconded by Gail Prior to nominate and accept Helen Pace as a Director to Pickleball Ontario.

Vote results:

All those in favour: 101

All those opposed: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Welcome Helen.

Mike Barron provided a video clip prior to nomination.

Motion 4: moved by Bryan Merritt, seconded by Junior Bent to nominate and accept Mike Barron as a Director to Pickleball Ontario.

Vote results:

All those in favour: 98

All those opposed: 0

Abstentions: 6

MOTION CARRIED

Welcome Mike, Bryan will contact with Mike after the meeting.

Bryan congratulated all the newly installed Directors.

Q&A – (Steve) asked if there were nominations from the floor?

Bryan thanked for the questions and replied - that is not the current process.

8. President's Report - Gail Prior

Gail commented on a few highlights over this past year.

COVID has affected PO and many municipalities had different approaches to closures and re-openings. We have learned our PAO members are very resourceful and found popular places to play during this time.

Accomplishments – we have had a number of new outdoor facilities providing places for people to play and access lots of courts. Now if we could find more indoor facilities for play during the winter that would be great. Membership grew more than we have thought – 1000 in OCTOBER! We have more than doubled our affiliated clubs.

PAO has completed the Trillium Grant and forwarded Pickleball Canada (PCO) information regarding coaching modules. Currently NCCP Level 1 courses have been offered with Level 2 courses to begin soon.

Other activities that have continued or started this past year include:
Let's Get Started Initiative, Paddle Loaner program, Referee Certification,
PCO National system includes - member data base, website, mass emailer and event registration.

Marketing – Cosmos

New Bylaws – special thanks to Bryan Merritt and the Governance committee for their hard work

COVID – cancellation of provincial tournament

A copy of the President's Report was distributed last week; report will also be attached to these minutes.

There were no questions from the floor.

9. Membership Report - Gail Prior

As of October 16th we had 7,385 active members

We now have twice as many affiliated clubs over the past year.

43 of clubs over 6 regions.

Smaller communities contributing towards this- we anticipate a huge growth over the next few years.

One of PAO goals is to move towards being recognized as a Provincial Sports Organization.

10. Treasurer's Report - Daphne Reid

a. There was a need for a Review Engagement Report

Motion 5: moved by Daphne Reid, seconded by Gail Prior to accept draft report by auditors.

Vote results:

All those in favour: 96

All those opposed: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED

Question from Gil Metcalfe is the \$102,000 the amount we had at the end of the fiscal year.

Daphne shared that the auditors had a big learning curve to familiarize themselves with our operations. This is a very good firm and so would like to make a motion to retain for next fiscal year.

b. Appointment of Auditor

Motion 6: moved by Daphne Reid, seconded by Bryan to retain MNP LLP as auditors for fiscal year 2022-23

Vote results:

All those in favour: 101

All those opposed: 0

Abstentions: 3

MOTION CARRIED

c. Budget 2022-23 (Draft)

The draft budget was shared and will be attached to these minutes.

Daphne explained it is a balanced budget as we are a Not for Profit organization and we try and give back to our membership with various activities and initiatives.

The proposed Championship Series will have a budget of its own, each region to host and winners invited to the final series. Would like to subsidize and help with costs for athletes who win so that huge travel costs do not permit them from attending.

Other activities – provide instructional webinars – i.e. Pickleball Brackets, assist new clubs with resources, increase paddle loaner program, and we continue to pay current PCO transfer fees for each club.

We want everyone to feel like they belong to Pickleball Ontario no matter what part of the province that you live in.

11. Governance Committee – Bryan Merritt

Highlights – the Special Meeting held to present and vote on newly revised By-Laws. There was a policy review prior to this meeting to align with ONCA regulations. This type of policy review will continue on an ongoing basis, of particular mention is that local clubs can use the provincial policies vs. re-creating their own, i.e. reporting and conduct policies (with a reporting provision), looking at practices in regards to tendering, procurement etc.

Each registered member of Pickleball Ontario had the opportunity to attend the meeting virtually and Get Quorum provided the platform and voting capabilities.

As a result of the special meeting each affiliated club is able to designate a delegate to attend AGM and any Special Meetings and provide allotted number votes on behalf of their clubs.

Priorities for the coming year are to have every club feel that they are part of this provincial organization. Completion of the incorporation documents that will reflect the changes to our By-laws, reflect on our V-Club re: delegates and strengthen, engage local clubs with accountability and name change.

12. Marketing – Junior Bent

Junior submitted the Marketing report, which was distributed last week.

Highlights – Cosmos Entertainment Strategy, sponsorship and marketing, support for the growth of the operations, in-depth report and training.

Over the next 12 months – expand and grow sponsorship and marketing, look for future sponsorships, engage municipalities.

We want local clubs to get some value from these activities.

There were no questions from the floor.

13. Questions & Answers – Bryan Merritt

Asked if it is possible to share information regarding building courts.

Also how to get more indoor facilities.

14. Volunteer Awards - Gail Prior

Wayne Roswell Builder Award winner for 2022

Congratulations to Malinda Hebert

Merrie Lee Ambassador Award winner for 2022,

Congratulations to Kim Porter and Gil Metcalfe

Community Award winner for 2022

Congratulations to Tom Keane

Our final winner is the **Officials Award** winner for 2022

Congratulations Ian Campbell

Please join us in congratulating all our volunteer award winners, those who are not in attendance this evening were contacted prior to the start of the meeting. Each recipient will be presented with their award at a later date by the person who nominated them.

15. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm EDT by Bryan Merritt.