



BRITISH COLUMBIA PICKLEBALL NEWSLETTER

Dec - 2013

“Looking forward to 2014”

Last year, British Columbia Pickleball Association promised a new look to our website, renewed efforts at communications with all other provinces and the two federal organizations; The Canadian Pickleball Federation and The Pickleball Canada organization. These have been done.

I attended two tournaments in Ontario last summer, one in London and one in Windsor and met the Ontario heads, Mr Dave Hall and Mr Bill Furse who was also a founding member of Pickleball Canada with me. I also attended and competed in the Canadian National tourney in Montreal; Repentigny, which was well attended and run by Marcel Lemieux – President of Pickleball Quebec.

There have been more than 60 tournaments this year in BC alone. This augurs well for our sport. So, if your center has not had one yet, go for it! It does not have to be a “ sanctioned “ tournament. Just do a round robin and arrange for some simple prizes. All will have fun and enjoy the day! Most Tournaments in the USA are social, not competitive/sanctioned, and as a fledgling sport, that is where our emphasis should be. We want to welcome all players; let them improve; don’t shun them because they use a “Canadian” paddle or other adapted paddle, these are not important factors. The similarities in paddles are greater than any differences.

The social tournament in Courtenay last summer with BC Pickleball board members in attendance, as well as USAPA members, was a great example of inclusiveness and being welcoming to all players; the mantra that I gave to Pickleball Canada when I started it.

Well what about 2014? I foresee even more tournaments as we have many more centers now in BC, approaching 200. A Canadian Provincial and National tournament Rotation is being scheduled to balance the IFP USAPA / Pickleball Canada effort repeating in Abbotsford in July. Links to Mexico are present on the www.bcpickleball.com website. Initiatives have been made in Turkey, which might, over time hook up with Amsterdam on the River cruises. How exciting EH – India with Sunil Valavalcar who asked for our help in forming his organization (We sent him free jugs balls which he had never seen before.) is doing his first multi province tournament; World Pickleball is forming.

Rita and I wish you the very best of Xmas

(see welcome home flash mob video on the website from Ireland)

And a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Chuck Lefaive – Founding director – bcpickleballassoc.

