

April 9, 2019

PCOC meeting

Doug Hastings, Mary Helen Benaphl, Sharman Owings (Christy Marazon, Mike Cooper)

Guests: Marty Hoffman, Ruby Pugh, Charlie Pugh, Forrest Franz

Next meeting: TBA

COMMITTEE CHARTER

The PCOC is an oversight committee reporting to the Sequim Picklers Board through the Director of Court Operations (DOCO). PCOC provides continuity for court operations as the board members and DOCO change over time. Oversight and action by the committee takes the burden and power away from single individuals. PCOC is an advisory group responsible for everything to do with pickleball courts and court operations including input on court construction as it impacts court operations. Working on behalf of the club, we have accountability to make sure club interests are solicited and represented in all court operations issues and decisions. We will make decisions by consensus or when consensus cannot be reached, by motion and vote. Items of importance will be presented to the board via motion by this committee and presented by the DOCO.

Summary of Action items from 4/9/2019

1. Doug will call Forrest to discuss further his proposal and the PCOC position
2. Sharman and Mary Helen to compile a list of potential candidates to fill the PCOC vacancies. Candidates should be players that are using the courts, preferably one 2.5/3.0 and one 3.5 or higher, one male, one female. Contact them to discern interest
3. Sharman to make a new sign for the drill court that includes instructions on use of white board and time limits

Summary Action items from 02/26/2019

1. Christy: take questions to the board about the health and status of ratings Positive response.
2. Mike Cooper: research and design a paddle system using flexible tape to be woven into the fence at each gate Done and turned over to the board. It was given to the amenities committee (Mike will get back to AC to determine status)
3. Christy: return to board the need for them to handle disciplinary protocol Some of the board thinks this is already covered in the by-laws, some of the board thinks the consequences need to be flushed out. The board wants the PCOC to that or a new committee be established for that purpose
4. Dave: revise Spring schedule. Translate it to Christy done
5. Sharman: type member lists by rating, laminate and deliver to Mary Helen to be used on rated play days done

Doug presided over the meeting.

Deferred to Forrest Franz for first agenda item. Invited him to share his concerns, open discussion and then guests could have the option of staying for remainder of the meeting or taking their leave.

Forrest presented a nine paged document he developed to help demonstrate his proposal. The document was titled "PCOC, mentor play". A one-page summary was provided later in the discussion:

Mentor Play: Recognizes the special needs of tournament players and players interested in improving at higher levels.

Restictions/Rules:

Must be led by a Mentor (any member that notifies the PCOC of intent to mentor and agrees to:

1. Follows the Mentor Play restrictions and rules
2. Use the most western open court
3. Hangs the "Practice" sign near the court entrance and put the sign back in the shed afterwards
4. Watches for four or more Open-Play players waiting (court then follows Open-Play rules)
5. Is accommodating, kind, and courteous to play inquiry about the practice
6. Reports any issues to the PCOC

Schedule by Mentor to find a day/time and practice length that works given the restrictions:

1. Schedule Plan and Events have priority over Mentor Play
2. There must be an unused court at start of Mentor Play (also see sub-bullet4 above)
3. Limited to the number of "Practice" signs available
4. Larger mentor groups have priority over smaller mentor groups (otherwise 1st come 1st served)

Note to Mentors: Encourage the use of non-club court times where club schedule restrictions do not apply. Also, if using non-club dates/times, please consider using the sign to help advertise the club.

The longer document and subsequent discussion identified his want as the ability to organize a court for play with handpicked court partners, uninterrupted by other members

Doug opened the discussion.

The term "mentor" immediately came into question. An alternate term was considered (competitive? Organized?)

Forrest contends the SPC has no venue for players wanting to improve their game. He also does not see the current status as "conducive for doubles practice", "conducive for learning to play up".

Table discussion followed. Concerns were voiced over the exclusion of other members. Forrest feels it should be given a trial.

Questions arose surrounding different scenarios.

It was suggested that this would be the equivalent of groups using club time to establish "private courts" for exclusive use. Forrest and Charlie disagree.

Charlie voiced frustration over lack of opportunity for him and his tournament partner to practice together in a competitive environment. Since he and his partner are rated at different skill levels, rated play does not fill this need.

Use of the courts during public time was offered as an alternative several times during the discussion.

Ruby interjected that Saturdays are now rated play with courts designated for each level. Once novice players are done with novice training there seems to be no place for them to go.

Christy made it clear that no one can exclude a court from play during club time to accommodate 4 players.

We (club) are trying to leave "Open Play" behind and replace it with "Choice Play". If Choice Play is understood better it will improve the level of competition for all players.

Doug likes the idea of another venue to use unoccupied courts and improve. He suggested using the drill court (we already have a sign for this) for use of a ball machine, drills, aggressive play ; " a learning court". However it can not be done at the exclusion of other club members. The biggest hang up is court exclusive.

This may resolve with time and change in weather. More players will be on the courts, better players will be on the courts, more rated play will be implemented.

Doug suggested use of a court for ball machine use or drilling to enhance specific skills

The guests were thanked for their suggestions and input. PCOC needs time to think, redefine and have a vote. The subject was tabled for further discussion at the conclusion of the PCOC agenda.

Prior to the guests departure the question was posed about implementing the same criteria for upper level play as the club uses at BGC. Christy said it already exists (if there are 7 or more "upper level players on premises a court can be designated for their use)

Accidents/injuries: Mary Helen reported on a Novice player hitting their head. Ice was applied. Christy will get more ice packs from BGC to have at CBP.

Saturday rated play is progressing. Visitors are currently self rating. That seems to work at this juncture.

Summer schedule begins in June. Mike will provide updated copy. With recent suggestions at the member meeting, more rated play will be incorporated.

Discussed whether to add more members to the PCOC. Currently there are 3. It was determined that there should be 5. Mary Helen and Sharman will compile a list of potential candidates. Doug suggested we add another male due to gender differences in vision, wants etc.

Discussed ways to convey information to the membership about Choice Play and the use of the drill court. General consensus was the not enough members read the newsletter so maybe an email as well as blurb in the newsletter would be advantageous.

April 13, 2019

Follow up meeting

Doug Hastings, Mary Helen Benaphl, Sharman Owings
New members, Kendal Wake, Robert Olson

Kendal and Robert were provided notes from the original PCOC meeting regarding Forrest Franz proposal.

Determined that the PCOC should focus on the proposal only. Any tactics, emails etc. not directly concerning specifics of the proposal will be left to the board.

Doug feels that Forrest and Charlie made good points. He reports having a good meeting with Forrest at Forrest's home. Forrest reiterated his frustration with the lack of opportunity for anything besides Choice play during club morning hours.

Robert Olson asked for clarification about Choice Play. Informed him a mass email was going out to the membership to educate everyone on the the process. Gave him a brief explanation. Robert said he feels the light play and lack of utilization of courts is a direct result of it being winter.

Doug gave an illustrated explanation of his proposal to be considered. At the beginning he proposed that slow days/times be identified and in those spots we implement a plan where ½ of the courts are Choice Play and the other 4 are Alternative Play (the term we agreed upon). Alternative play would be first come, first served. The members using those courts could use them as they see fit. Drill, practice for tournaments etc

If and when there are 4 or more members quued up for the 4 Choice Play courts the Alternative play courts would begin to revert to Choice Play.

Kendal said he was in favor of anything that gets more people playing at the courts. He said he can't imagine himself asking anyone, even non members, to leave.

*Many scenarios/obstacles were discussed. In the end the **final proposal** put to vote was to have courts 7 and 8 deemed Alternative Play on Mondays only. If at any time 4 or more players are waiting to get into a game in Choice Play both the Alternative Courts would immediately revert to Choice Play. This would be done on a trial basis. The vote was 3 to 2 in favor of moving forward.*

The PCOC determined that it is outside of their purview to implement such a plan. It was a unanimous opinion that this is a decision the Board should make.

Needed: guidelines, signage, member information email, inception date, exit strategy should it be found to be unpopular with the majority of members. Doug will provide Christy Marazon a synopsis of what was decided so she, as a board member, can presented to them.

Robert thinks a suggestion box should be placed in the shed so members can weigh in on this and other matters. Kendal agreed.

Discussed status of the 5PM ladder leagues on the schedule. Kendal reports having participated last year and found them successful. There is a need to promote them better.