



**PBCA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 14 2026 - 6:00pm – 7pm PDT**

Attendance:

Blair Morton		Sharon MacDonald	
Heather Hood		David Snell	
Rick Folk		Holger Schwichtenberg	Absent
Susan Inkman		Rajat Verma	
Doug McKay			
Robin D'Abreo			

Agenda:

1. Quorum
2. Agenda Confirmation
3. Prior meeting minutes approval – March 10th 2026
4. President's Report
5. AYPBC 2026 Budget Update & Approvals
6. Provincials Update & Provincial Team – Rick
7. Review of New PBCA Website Progress
8. Board Reports' Highlights (attending Board Members)
9. Other business
10. Next Meeting: May 12th 2026
11. Motion to Adjourn

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89285451969>

PBCA April 14th Minutes

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The Pickleball BC board meeting focused on updates and planning for various initiatives. David provided a report on the provincial team recruitment, noting 11 players interested in joining, including eight returning members. The board discussed and approved the 2026 budget, which showed a deficit, though this may be offset by PCO covering unexpected freight costs for Franklin equipment. A significant portion of the meeting addressed a proposed increase to tournament referee funding, with board members debating whether this money should be tied to requiring referees for all matches rather than just medal matches. Rick provided an update on provincials, reporting that construction at The Nest is delayed to late May/early June, with player registration opening April 15th. The website development was progressing well and could potentially go live by the end of May, pending board approval. The strategic planning session was rescheduled to October 2-4 due to scheduling conflicts.

Next steps

- Suzi: Send tournament results to Mel for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter.
- David: Send out a second Mailchimp email to the existing 2025 provincial team to confirm participation and follow up with updates to the board.
- Robin D'Abreo: Reach out to key players (including Tim MacVinnie) regarding provincial team participation and provide a comprehensive update to David.
- David and Rajat: Collaborate on finalizing the AYPBC Use and Distribution Leader's Guide draft and send it to Pickleball Canada and the Global Pickleball Association.
- David: Report to ViaSport by the end of the month on AYPBC statistics; chase statistics from all regions as needed.
- David and Heather: Meet to plan for the upcoming strategic planning session.
- Rick: Organize a meeting of the tournament committee (David, Rick, Robin D'Abreo (he/him), Sharon) to clarify and tighten the criteria and wording for the \$500 referee subsidy, including coordination with PCO and Ryan.

- Suzi: For tournaments applying for the referee subsidy, ensure reimbursement is only for amounts paid directly to referees and verify payments with referees as needed.
- Rick: Discuss with Steve (provincials contact) about the upcoming 60-day-out organizing meeting and ensure board representation at that meeting.
- David (or Rick): Send Heather the details about the Delta by Marriott hotel booking for provincials.
- David: Ask the website team about the possibility of board members previewing the beta website and provide access if possible.
- All board members: Review the beta website (if access is provided) and provide comments before the next meeting.

Summary

Preamble Pickleball Tournament Success Discussion

The meeting began with informal conversations about weather and pickleball activities. Suzi shared her success in a recent tournament where she won a silver medal in ladies 3.5 and above category, and nearly won gold in mixed doubles. David suggested Suzi should inform Mel about her achievements for potential inclusion in the newsletter. The meeting officially started at 6:02 PM with David welcoming attendees and confirming a quorum was present.

AYPBC 2026 Budget and Updates

The meeting began with David confirming quorum and outlining the agenda, which included approving minutes from the last meeting, discussing the AYPBC 2026 budget, receiving updates on provincials, website progress, and board highlights. The provincial team update revealed 11 players interested in joining, with eight being returning members, though there were concerns about conflicts with CNPL events affecting participation. Robin D'Abreo assured the group that sufficient players would likely commit, and David mentioned signing up for DocuSign to streamline contract processes.

Strategic Planning Session Rescheduling

The group discussed rescheduling the strategic planning session to October 2-4 at the Holiday Inn in North Vancouver, with David agreeing to make tentative arrangements for rooms. The Board agreed to postpone the proposed PBCA/PCO provincial league play due to late notice, lack of club participation, and insufficient planning, with Robin D'Abreo and Sharon expressing

concerns about the feasibility and timing. The conversation ended with a brief mention of AYPBC updates regarding Franklin equipment receipt and budget considerations.

AYPPC Phase 2 Program Update

The meeting focused on the AYPPC Phase 2 program's progress and budget. David reported that all regions were performing well, with Victoria and Okanagan making significant advancements, including expanding to middle schools and securing additional grants. The board approved the updated general budget, and David requested a budget versus actuals report from Susie for ViaSport by the end of the month.

Referee Fund Implementation Discussion

The group discussed creating a referee fund in additional membership fees to support refereeing at sanctioned tournaments. Sharon explained that tournaments would pay 20% of referee costs while the fund would cover 80%, making Pickleball BC the first province to implement such a system. Robin D'Abreo raised concerns about using membership fees to support for-profit tournaments, suggesting that tournaments should be required to pay referees from their own profits as a condition for sanctioning. The discussion revealed confusion about current funding practices, with Rick questioning whether the \$500 grants were intended for every match to be refereed rather than just medal matches.

Tournament Referee Funding Mechanism

The group discussed a financial mechanism for supporting referees at tournaments, where Pickleball BC would match up to \$500 of Pickleball Canada's funding after tournaments, with PCO handling all payments and reporting. There was clarification that the funding would be contingent on proving actual referee fees were paid, not just providing general support. The discussion revealed some uncertainty about whether this funding required all matches to be refereed, with Sharon confirming from the documentation that every match must be refereed by a Pickleball BC accredited official, and a report must be submitted to PCO for approval to receive the funding.

Tournament Officials Funding Criteria

The group discussed implementing conditions for tournament officials funding, with David proposing that the tournament committee (comprising himself, Rick, Robin D'Abreo, and Sharon) develop stipulations for the \$500 reimbursement program. The discussion centered on ensuring that tournament funds are used specifically for official fees rather than general tournament expenses, with Suzi confirming she could verify payment details with referees.

The committee agreed to meet separately to establish clear criteria before submitting their requirements to PCO for implementation, with Rick tasked to organize the meeting.

Tournament Certification and Provincial Preparations

The meeting focused on tournament certification standards and provincial tournament preparations. Robin D'Abreo (he/him) emphasized the importance of maintaining high certification standards while acknowledging financial constraints for tournament organizers, suggesting that tournaments could partially fund referee fees through increased entry fees. Rick provided an update on the provincials, noting that construction at the venue is now expected to be completed by late May to early June, with player registration opening on April 15th. The board discussed hotel arrangements at the Delta by Marriott in Tsawwassen, with David and Sharon having secured rooms, while Heather needed reminder about the booking details. The website development was reported to be progressing well, with plans to demonstrate it to the board at the May 12th meeting before a potential end-of-May launch.

PBCA Website Review

A full demo of the new PBCA website was provided by the contractor followed by a Q&A session by the Board. Everyone was very pleased with the progress and the new look and feel. Also the project was on budget.

The contractor agreed to provide another demo next Board meeting and an update on when it could go live estimated to be May/June depending on content creation and last minute changes.

Motion to Adjourn

As there was no other business to discuss, Holger proposed a Motion at 7:15pm to Adjourn which was unanimously approved.

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