

Hello Everyone

At PMI's October 2018 Annual General Meeting, the topic of rental of the association's Tudor Pickleball Machine (TPM) arose. At that time, PMI undertook to consider this matter at a future meeting of Directors and advise PMI members of the outcome of the discussion.

By way of background, the TPM is an instructional aid that throws pickle balls at various speeds and trajectories. Other instructional aids owned and used by PMI are, entry-level paddles (8), portable nets (6) and numerous pickle balls. The TPM is particularly attractive as a potential rental item as it benefits instructors and learners alike: consistent pickleball feed to learners allows practice of proper stroke mechanics; and instructors are freed from the task of pickleball feed to closely observe and provide feedback to learners. The TPM was purchased in the summer of 2017, at a cost of some \$1,400. and since then has been used at a number of PMI clinics.

In keeping with its undertaking, the rental of the TPM to PMI members was discussed at the Directors meeting of December 4, 2018. At this time, as discussion evolved, it was broadened to include all PMI instructional aids.

It was unanimously agreed that instructional aids, such as the TPM, nets, paddles and balls, would not be made available for rental to PMI members.

This decision was arrived at after considering the risks and rewards of a rental program, including: the volunteer burden of training renters in the proper usage, and post usage cleaning, of the TPM; ensuring proper use of the TPM during rental (excessive pickleball feed speed could result in injury, potentially violating the terms of PMI's general liability insurance coverage); ensuring proper post usage cleaning of the TPM; difficulty in having the TPM repaired (repairs are only done in the USA); the increase in probability of need for repair with increased usage due to rental; potential amount of repair costs vs. the initial purchase cost of the TPM; and loss of the instructional aid during repair down time, thus degrading the value of the learning experience. These same factors can also be applied with regard to the rental of nets and paddles. The totality of the above factors, plus

the administrative burden of a rental program vs. the potential income to be earned, rendered the development of rental policies and procedures unnecessary.

PMI clinics have been well received by the pickleball community. We are grateful for this positive reception. For clinics as a member service to continue to be well received, the quality of our instructional aids needs to be maintained, and when necessary, replaced or upgraded. PMI Directors encourage the pickleball community to keep them informed regarding instructional needs and ideas for clinics.

Should there be questions regarding this topic please feel free to contact us, via the PMI contact link <https://pickleballmanitoba.ca> (scroll to bottom of page).

Thank you. All the best.

On behalf of the PMI Directors
Doug Cable
President, Pickleball Manitoba Inc.

December 18, 2018