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We’re so glad that we’ve been able to provide a safe place to be with friends and get some exercise!** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **COVID**  As of April 3, 2021, the province is implementing additional restrictions on the lockdown. Based on guidelines from the government, **we are allowed to continue playing pickleball**. We will update you if there are any changes.   See Ontario website for additional information: https://www.ontario.ca/page/enhancing-public-health-and-workplace-safety-measures-provincewide-shutdown?fbclid=IwAR09Z2DQ36guBltJIh8qDciZdnWNE2g3tatmh1JzT\_qrO8nf6RQjnU9-Bg4   Due to lockdown, we are **strongly encouraging member to wear masks when not playing.** This is just a reminder that the benches are NOT in use, so please bring your own chair and place it on the designated yellow lines.    It has been brought to our attention that some of our members are becoming lax with the COVID protocols, especially six-foot distancing, avoiding use of the benches and sanitizing when entering/leaving the courts.  Please follow all the rules, encourage others to do so as well and don’t take offence if someone points them out to you.  Thank you for your help in keeping our members and their families safe.    Safety glasses are recommended when playing.   **No washrooms** facilities available until the recreation centre is open. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **How to Play Skinny Singles**  Due to current COVID restrictions, we are only allowed to play singles and cohabitant doubles. If you don’t want to play full court singles, one option is SKINNY SINGLES! You don’t play on the full court so it isn’t as hard as you would think.  Watch the video and give it a try. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TV5C7gbJFnI> | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **What is Happening With the New Courts?**  Due to COVID, there have been many complaints to the city from non-members about a lack of facilities to play at.  The city has decided to make the old 6 courts at Hill Park public this year once we move onto the new finished 6 courts (possibly June).  The city has given us the nets and posts and have ordered windscreens and benches.  Gates will be going up to fill the gaps between the 2 sets of courts.   It was suggested at our Town Hall that some members may wish to make their feelings known to local elected officials or City staff. Thank you to any of our members who have already sent communications, however **we have received a request from the city to ask our members to refrain from further calls/emails sent to Councillor Esther Pauls or Steve Sevor**. If you have any concerns, please send them to the Board. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Membership** **2021**  We have so much to offer this year!  Registration starts April 10th. The summer season will begin on April 17th.   Registration will be online this year (<https://pickleballcanada.org/participate/individual-membership/join-renew/>). When you sign up to become a member of Pickleball Hamilton Association, you will also become a member of Pickleball Ontario and Pickleball Canada. We are changing to an annual membership and will, if required, have additional drop-in fees in the winter to cover facility costs. If you were a prepaid member or participated in the end-of-summer promotion, we are still ironing out some details, but please watch your inbox for an additional email coming soon with more information on how this affects you.   * Adult membership: $150 * Junior membership (born in or later than 2003): $25 to play 2 sessions/week (youth and family)   + If wanting to also play in non-youth/family sessions, membership is $75 and must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.   + Parents/guardians joining the youth/family sessions is $25. * Guests when permitted, must be accompanied by a member: $10   **What are your membership fees used for?**   * Annual court license * Purchase balls and other equipment * Court maintenance supplies including locks, squeegees, cleaning supplies and equipment, zip ties, tools, leaf blower, broom, paint, tape to mark pickleball lines, rope, pliers, scissors, court filler, etc. * COVID PPE * First aid and defibrillator pads * Administration costs, banners, signs, office supplies * Insurance costs * Some costs of social events or other functions * Contribute the 1/3 cost normally expected from clubs when applying for grant-funded projects. * Reserve account for future enhancements and repairs to facility | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Summer Programming**  This will be a fun season with so much planned!  All sessions are subject to changes for tournaments, special events and as needed based on demand and success.   * **Open Play**sessions are back! During prime times (8 -11am and 5-8pm) we encourage all members to mix.  Members can book groups/drilling at any other time but must take their turn at rotating on and off the courts during these open play sessions.\* * **Parapickleball** players are welcome to join all sessions including the youth, family or any other age-appropriate sessions.  Players in wheelchairs can play with standing-up players.  They can let the ball bounce twice and can have their front wheels in the kitchen at anytime. * **Family** sessions will be on Saturdays from 4 to 6 pm. * **Youth**sessions will be on Sundays from 6 to 8 pm. * **Level Play** is available. Self rate (<https://ifpickleball.org/Home/Skills>) and enjoy games with your own level.  Please be aware you will be asked to move out of the level if you are not appropriate for that level.  Your group will make that decision. * **Skills and Drills**sessions are available for members. Bring a partner to work on your skills together (no instruction provided). * A **guest** is welcome to accompany a member.  The waiver must be completed and signed (found on our website), and the guest’s waiver and $10 e-Transfer (guest fee) must be sent 24 hours in advance to [jkawamoto@pickleballhamilton.com](mailto:jkawamoto@pickleballhamilton.com). * **Ladders**(fun and competitive) will start once we get into a COVID-safe level. * **Clinics** for beginner, intermediate and advanced players will be offered.  A **New Horizons** government grant to Pickleball Hamilton Association will allow us to give free beginner lessons to seniors born in 1966 or earlier.  The clinics will be scheduled when we are allowed to play doubles. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | **Lessons** are available with our Pro Matt Kawamoto at anytime. He will only be using 3 balls to limit the balls going to other courts. All **Pickleball Hamilton Play Rules** still apply. Guest fees for all non-members will be added to these fees. Due to COVID, pricing has been reduced to:   Total price per hour       For 1 Hour        For 2 consecutive hours Private                           $70                   $120 SemiPrivate                  $80                   $140 Please contact [m.kawamoto@live.ca](mailto:m.kawamoto@live.ca) if you are interested or would like to book any lessons. **\***Continue to use the comment section in SignUpGenius to indicate a preferred group, for example cohabitant doubles, drilling partner, etc.  You must come off after a reasonable time to rotate courts fairly.  If you are not signed up in a group, then please play with everyone else that is there.  When you sign up, if there are only groups booked, please go on WhatsApp to ask other players to join you.  Do not expect to be able to join any fixed groups.  Please note: if a monitor signs up and there are only fixed groups, they may pull out if they are unable to find anyone else to play.  **Special Event Days** Save the dates for the following events for which we plan to use all 12 Hill Park courts!   * June 5 – National Health and Fitness Day * June 8 – ParticipACTION (rain date June 15) * June 26 – Club tournament (rain date June 27) * July 1 – Canada Day * August 28 – Club tournament (rain date August 29) * October 10 – World Pickleball Day * October 30 – Hallloween/President vs. Vice President tournament (rain date October 31) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Volunteers**  We **NEED**you.  Volunteers continue to make our club great! Thank you to those who have already stepped up to monitor and help with court set up.  We need all of you to think about what you would like to do to make our club better.  We always need volunteers, whether it is monitors, club closing, social committee (COVID-permitting)…the list is endless. Thanks in advance for stepping up. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Buddy System**  We are introducing a new buddy system! Please indicate on your application if you would like to be a buddy.  We will partner you up with a new member, as many new members may need guidance on how our club functions (e.g. fielding questions, how to use SignUpGenius, suggestions for players to drill/play with, etc.).  Please volunteer to be a buddy for a new person coming into Pickleball Hamilton. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Sponsorships**  We are looking for interested individuals/companies that would be willing to sponsor Pickleball Hamilton.  We will put up your banner at the courts. Please reach out to [info@pickleballhamilton.com](mailto:info@pickleballhamilton.com) if you are interested. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Garbage**  All members please pick up any garbage that you see on the courts.  This is a home for all of us.  Let’s keep it clean! | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Rules Correction**  There was an error in the last newsletter. We were correct in saying that there are no lets, however if the ball hits the crossbar, it is now called a replay. The replay applies if the ball hits the horizontal bar either before or after the ball bounces on the court. One exception: a serve that hits the horizontal bar is a fault, not a replay. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Fundraising**  Thank you to those who contributed $20 towards two nets for Jacob McLellan’s school. Ian Campbell from Pickleball365 donated 3 paddles as well. The excess funds (members raised $520 and the costs were $360) will be saved and put towards other similar opportunities to help out the community.   **Spring Valley Elementary Thanks Pickleball Hamilton** *“Rarely can someone send a quick message during a lunch break to a WhatsApp group asking for a line on nets and return about an hour later to see dozens of people donating money, paddles, and balls to a nameless school and faceless students. But that’s just the kind of community Pickleball Hamilton cultivates.  Thank you to everyone who helped bring pickleball to Spring Valley Elementary last week! My students shout to play pickleball whenever we’re outside for phys-ed now. You’ve all helped add excitement to an otherwise difficult year for these kids!”* - Jacob (two year member) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Windscreens**  Thank you to everyone who helped to put up the windscreens last week! What a difference they’ve made on the windy days! Thanks to Brian Sullivan, Doug Niessen, Tom Kawamoto, Haig Saadetian, Ed Krywionek, Jack Jung, Karen Dixon, Jacob McLellan, Ray Munro, Caroline Ingram, Matt Cunningham, Ian Clarke, Matthew Kawamoto and Linda Kawamoto. Thank you also to Ray Munro and Vicki Lynn Landry for putting up the ropes for the windscreens. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |
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