

Facility/Event Opportunity Information Sheet

Contact Name: Brad Harris

Company Name: Barrie Pickleball Association

Mailing Address:

Phone Number:

Provide a description of the facility/event opportunity under evaluation, whether this is a new or existing facility/event opportunity, provide a snapshot of the assumptions you are using in the evaluation (example: what and why).

- 1) To provide Barrie residents a dedicated place to play North America's fastest growing sport, in the social environment it is known for, we would like to request the City construct a Pickleball Centre. We propose the City build a Pickleball Centre which has 12 dedicated pickleball courts with bleachers, a clubhouse and court lighting, all in one location.
- 2) As the sport continues to grow, we ask the City to repurpose underutilized tennis courts, etc., where appropriate, into pickleball courts. We understand the old Lacrosse Box at Assikinack school may be repurposed as pickleball courts and we encourage that rebuild.
- 3) We realize a request for dedicated pickleball courts is a longer-term undertaking requiring capital funding. Therefore, in the short term, we would like to request the City paint 2 pickleball courts on each tennis court at both the East Bayfield Community Centre Park and Eastview Park courts early this summer.

Is funding needed or already acquired? Please describe:

As pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America, we would ask the City to incorporate planning for pickleball courts in all future City parks just as it plans for tennis courts.

The Barrie Pickleball Association will work with City staff to help secure federal and provincial grants to aid in funding this project.

It is our hope that the City will approve the relatively minor costs (\$400/pickleball court for non-city staff labour and supplies) to have pickleball courts painted on both ends of the:

- i. 4 tennis courts (resulting in 8 pickleball courts in total) at Eastview Park and;
- ii. 3 tennis courts (resulting in 6 pickleball courts in total) at East Bayfield Community Park

Population serviced (Neighbourhood Community City-wide, Regional):

Dedicated outdoor pickleball courts would service the neighbourhoods, community, city, regional and provincial populations.

A Pickleball Centre such as the one being proposed would put Barrie at the forefront of outdoor pickleball facilities in the province. Having the courts in our community would ensure Barrie residents remain in their community to play. A state-of-the-art Centre would also attract players from outside of the community for both recreational and competitive, tournament play.

Number and types of spaces; size (sq. feet), anticipated participants and / or attendees:

The dimensions of each pickleball court are 20'x44', minimally, laid out on a 30'x60' space and optimally constructed in a 34'x64' area (<https://www.usapa.org/asbausapa-pickleball-construction-manual/>).

The Barrie Pickleball Association currently has approximately 150 players. There are new faces appearing at the City run drop-in programs every day. Pickleball Canada is adding members at a rate of 400 per month. More and more schools are adding pickleball instruction to their physical education curriculum. The number of players will continue to rise exponentially.

It is not uncommon to have 50-60 people playing on 27 spaces at East Bayfield and Holly Community Centres during the winter months.

Date(s) anticipated for the facility/event (if applicable):

- 1) We recognize the construction of a pickleball centre will be a longer-term undertaking, however, we would ask it be constructed as soon as possible and within the next 3 years.
- 2) The City has indicated a desire to repurpose underutilized existing facilities and has identified the lacrosse box at Assikinack school as an example, therefore, we would anticipate construction and completion of pickleball courts at that location to be a shorter timeframe than a new build.
- 3) To respond to the immediate need for outdoor courts, we request the city paint pickleball court lines on the Eastview and Hanmer park tennis courts as soon as weather permits. In addition, we request the city supply portable nets at an approximate cost of \$2,800 (\$200 per net x 14 courts) to be stored in locked storage containers at each location.

Description of current/future use and user groups (types of community groups, overall idea of usage including number of participants and attendees):

Pickleball is appealing to all ages, and in particular to people between the ages of 8-100. It is an intergenerational sport with players of all ages and abilities able to play together.

As noted in Barrie's Outdoor Recreation Facility Study, February 19, 2019, Barrie's "population across all age groups [is] anticipated to increase, with the most growth expected to occur among adults between the ages of 35 and 54, as well as seniors 70 years of age and over."

The popularity of pickleball has recently surged among younger demographics due to an increase in TV contracts, professional endorsements, larger prize purses and incentive pools as well as former tennis pros taking up the sport, however, the core of the sport remains Baby Boomers.

Wheelchair pickleball is a growing trend as well. A team can be made up of an able-bodied player and **wheelchair** athlete (called Up-and-down) or two **wheelchair** athletes versus teams made up of the same combinations.

Pickleball is a sport which can be played by all members of a family and is therefore a great family sport.

As mentioned previously, more and more school groups are being exposed to the sport.

As the popularity of pickleball continues to grow and awareness of the sport increases, the number of participants and attendees will grow as well.



Pickleball for All

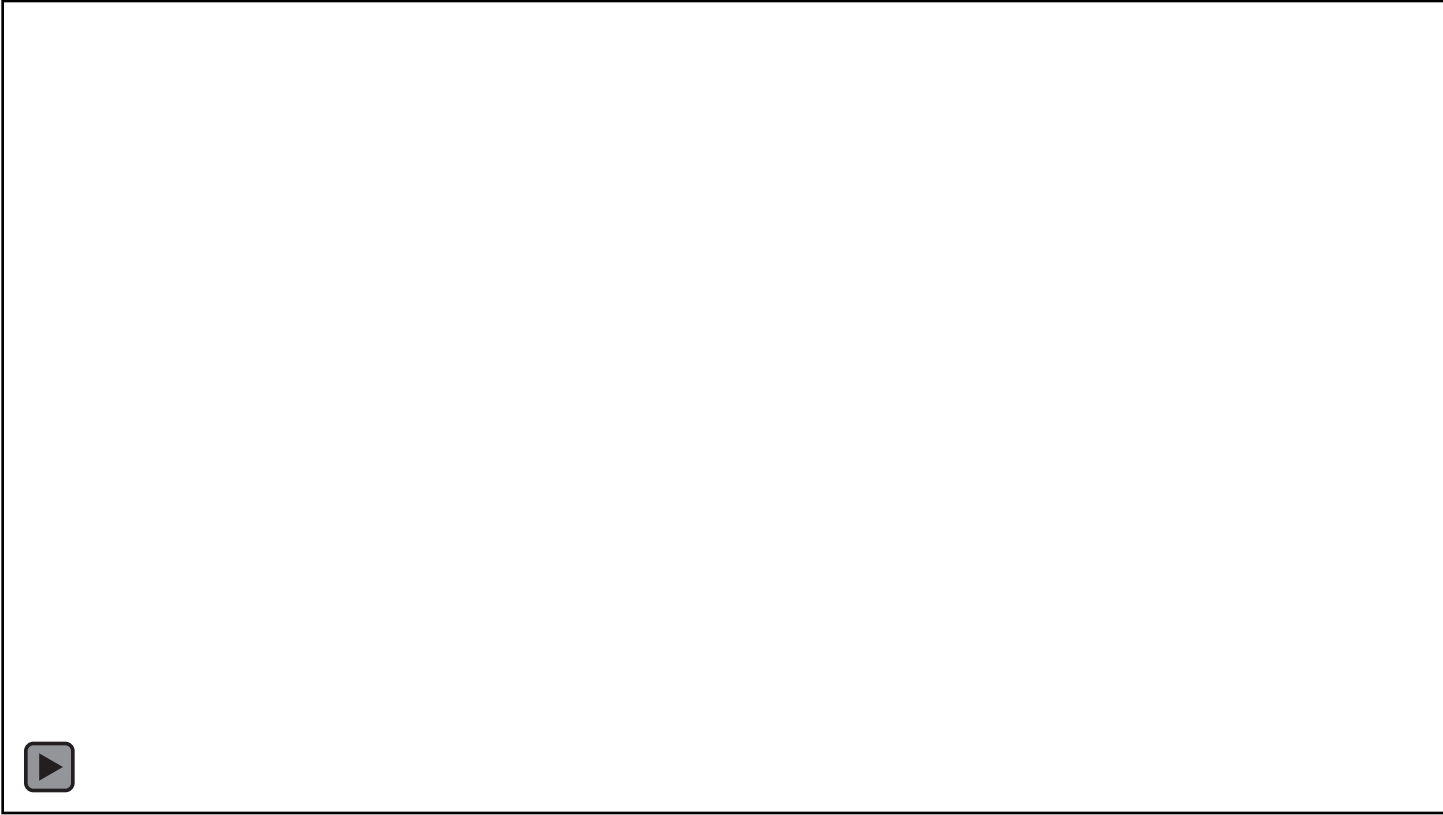
Barrie Pickleball Association

City of Barrie Sport
Events/Facilities
Committee Meeting
January 15th, 2020

Agenda

- ▶ What is Pickleball?
- ▶ Who's Playing?
- ▶ The Benefits/Advantages of Pickleball
- ▶ The Barrie Pickleball Association
- ▶ Pickleball in Barrie
- ▶ Equipment Required
- ▶ What Other Communities are Doing
- ▶ Places to Play (Long, Mid and Short Term Vision)

What is Pickleball?



What is Pickleball?

- A paddle sport created for all ages and skill levels. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players.
- A fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong.
- Played both indoors or outdoors on a badminton-sized court and a slightly modified tennis net.
- Played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes.
- Played as doubles or singles, standing or sitting.

Who's Playing?



Who's Playing?



The Benefits/Advantages of Pickleball

- Anyone can play (Ages 6 to 100+)
- The lifecycle of a pickleball player can lead to or from many other racquet sports
- Combination of exercise and socialization are good for the body and mind
- Low risk of injury
- Cost to play and equipment costs are minimal
- Increased court utilization
- Pickleball tournaments provide for a great source of tourism dollars for the host cities

The Barrie Pickleball Association

The mission of our association is to promote and assist in the growth of Pickleball in the Barrie area as a sport accessible to all ages and abilities.

Our mandate as pickleball ambassadors:

- Work with our local municipalities to acquire/develop more places to play, indoors and out
- Introduce new players to the game
- Provide regular activities and events that provide physical and social interactions amongst the pickleball community
- Assist with skill development for those who wish to improve their play
- Provide an opportunity for tournament play at all skill levels

Pickleball in Barrie

- Currently offered indoors at the East Bayfield and Holly Community Recreation Centers
- Pickleball lines painted on existing tennis courts (Sandringham Park and Strabane Park)
- 6 seasonal indoor courts utilizing the Eastview Arena in the Summer months when East Bayfield and Holly are occupied with Summer programming
- 2 dedicated courts at Painswick Park and one at Redpath Park
- Our association currently has over 150 players and is growing daily.
- In 2018-2019 60 players completed the Parks and Rec “Learn to Play Pickleball” program. A “Learn to Play 2” class was launched in the fall of 2019 and since then an additional 39 people have registered. Four more classes are scheduled from Feb-May 2020 with an intermediate level clinic coming in the Spring of 2020.

Pickleball Equipment



What Other Communities are Doing

Community	Population	# of dedicated courts
Wasaga Beach	20,680	4+4
Orillia	30,550	2
Midland	16,860	4
Penetang	8,962	4
Elmvale	2,314	4
Newmarket	84,220	8
Smith Falls	8,780	12
Sudbury	161,500	6
Stratford	31,470	4
Naples, FL	21,948	54 in one community park 10 more under construction
Barrie	141,434	3

Meeting the Need - Long-Term



Meeting the need – Long-Term



Pinafore Park St. Thomas, Ontario

Meeting the Need -Mid-Term



Court Repurposing - Stratford, Ontario



Meeting the Need - Short Term



- Request the City of Barrie paint 2 pickleball courts on each of the 10 tennis courts at Eastview, East Bayfield and Lennox Community Parks
- This would yield capacity for 20 additional pickleball courts with an 80 player capacity
- Approximate cost would be \$600/court (\$400 for line painting and \$200 for portable nets)
- Total cost - \$12,000 plus 3 storage boxes and 3 white boards to organize play

Thank you for your consideration!