

**Mission Royale Pickleball Club Executive Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes February 12, 2025**

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm in Resource Center.

Board Members Present: Ron Olson, Rick Bird, Laurie Gigstead, Alice Scroggins and Jan Santarius.

Others present: Allan Baker, Donna Chimino, Jim Terry, Andrea Terry, Karla Lundstrom, Carmen Piquette, Carrie George, Leslie June, Harlan Lundstrom, Shelley Glass, Nancy McMahan, Ken McMahan, Gord Glass, Trish Dundass, Murray Dundass, Gerry Bertrand, Dale MacDonald, Derek Wilson, Jim Hamann, Kathy Ertz, Sel Sanchez, Virginia Sanchez, Craig Lian, Dan Temple and James Sadler.

2. Approval of Agenda. Motion to approve the agenda. Jan/Rick Approved.

3. Approval of Minutes.

a) January 8, 2025 Meeting of Executive Board.

Motion to approve the January 8, 2025 minutes as presented. Jan/Alice Approved.

4. Old Business.

a) **Continued discussion on Rating Procedures.**

1) Consider point-based round robins. Jan stated that she would like to make a proposal that we continue with our skills testing and move to point-based round robins but throwing out the two lowest scores and then setting the average points somewhere between 6 to 8 beginning next season in October.

Ron asked if it was motion. Alice seconded.

Laurie stated this wasn't a recommendation of the Rating Procedures Committee and the board as a whole has not discussed the options in order to be making recommendations or changes. There is only one more testing session in March and our system should not be changed now. You could

collect point information in March to gather information and assist in setting the point threshold.

Rick stated we need to make a decision. He supports a point-based system but does not want to throw out the two low scores and thinks the average should be 7 or 8.

Alice said throwing out the low scores eliminates weaker games such as when a partner is hurt.

Laurie stated the whole point of an average is to average all the games.

Jan asked Virginia about the process she was familiar with. Virginia stated at Dave White Park they collected scores at the beginning of the season to place players in levels or playing groups and a low score was thrown out.

Alice stated she believes Robson throws out the low scores. Laurie stated Robson has a 96 point threshold, which is an average of 8 points per game and they do not throw out any scores.

Gerry stated this type of system is flawed. He has been here 10 years and there have been three different rating systems. The prior system was point based and was changed because it had become too competitive with candidates pressuring the round robin players. He stated he was part of the Rating Procedures Committee and made a proposal to the committee but it needs to be thoroughly presented to the board. This is a big decision and that is why it has been tabled.

Jan stated she had hoped the committee would have narrowed down the options to two or three.

Gerry stated – shouldn't it go back to the Rating Procedures Committee?

Kathy stated she was on the Rating Procedures Committee also and this wasn't even one of the proposals. She felt they were proposing tweaking the

skills test and continuing with the round robins. It was stated that a point-based system had been presented as a potential recommendation.

Carmen stated she was on the previous committee and point system involved favoritism and that is why it was changed.

Ron discussed his experience under the old system where the weaker player tanked his game and he did not pass.

Sel stated that not everyone is going to be happy about the system and he agrees with a point-based system.

Alice stated the old system had the round robins first at your current level and required 80% results. Then candidates were played with upper group while raters observed.

Laurie stated we need to collect data to be able to make an informed decision.

Rick stated he feels a point-based system would work well for the 2.5 to 3.0. It would be better for the lower levels than higher but he doesn't think we should have two systems. He would support only throwing out 1 low score and testing it out in March.

Laurie stated this system would require more volunteers to assure the scores are collected accurately.

Virginia stated she thought there could be ballots for each game and the score recorded and signed by all players and then put directly in the ballot box.

Rick stated we have to change something. We have been trying for a year.

Motion to use a point-based round robin system and amend motion to only remove one low score. Jan/Alice Approved 4 Yes/1 No

Laurie stated you didn't set a threshold. When will the board set a threshold?

Points will be tracked in March to help determine thresholds.

Ron said let's move to the Treasurer's Report.

5. Board Member and Chair Reports.

- a) **Treasurer's Report.** Jan stated the club purchased a new ball machine in the amount of \$4,078.89 and the revenue from memberships was \$3,750. She stated there are currently 240 members.

Shelley asked if membership was down. Alice stated it is pretty consistent to when she was treasurer. An audience member stated maybe it is because people are choosing not to join.

Jan continued that when it arrives, we will need volunteers to be trained as trainers. Ron stated people can give their names to Laurie if they are interested in volunteering.

Carmen asked if all the volunteers will be contacted or only certain people selected?

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Alice/Rick Approved.

Laurie stated that Ron skipped item 4b.

4. Old Business.

b) Review and Approve Rating Procedures. Laurie stated the document included in the agenda is the edited version of our current procedures reflecting the 4 changes the board has previously approved in November and December, 2024. They were ballot counting, immediate family participating in round robins, removing USAPA, and removing the 4.5 process.

Motion to approve the Rating Procedures as amended. Alice/Jan Approved.

Board Member and Chair Reports – continued.

- b) **Vice President's Report.** Rick reported that the round robins are going well. The cement project is delayed because of a water line issue involving the HOA and golf course. He said he met with Katie Halverson and suggested using pavers similar to the bocce courts instead. Katie will present suggestion to HOA board. Rick said the lighting situation has not been resolved yet and in talking with Priscilla it could cost between \$10,000 and \$12,000 and wondered if it was necessary for a few hours a day.

Harlan stated Palm Creek just upgraded theirs to LED and playing there at night is like playing in the day time.

Trish thought the cost previously reported was \$20,000.

Carmen stated there is a bulb out on court 2 that has not been replaced. Laurie stated that she reported it to the HOA and had talked to Priscilla about it earlier this week.

Ron stated the HOA board has been talking about switching to LED around the community but he thinks the pickleball courts would be lower priority.

Motion to accept Vice President's report. Jan/Alice Approved.

- c) **At Large Member Report.** Alice passed out the schedule for the finals of the in-house tournament on February 15. She asked if Laurie would email it out to the members.

Motion to accept At Large Member's report. Rick/Jan Approved.

Laurie stated she spoke with Linda Rainville and Linda said the February 19th potluck is the last one their group will be coordinating. They are suggesting that the board schedule four potlucks for next season and each level be in charge of coordinating one potluck.

- d) **Ratings Chair Report.** Virginia reported that six members tested and four passed. The round robins are being completed.

The next testing is March 1st and a practice session will be held on February 17th at 4:00 pm. She will post information on the bulletin board and asked Laurie to also email it to the members.

- e) **Training Chair Report.** Alice reported that lessons are continuing and the upcoming sessions are February 22, March 8 and 22. They would like to include a new ball machine training as part of one of the upcoming sessions.

Carrie asked what the lesson times were. Alice stated 2.0/2.5 at 10:00 am, 3.0 at 11:00 am and 3.5 at 12:00 pm.

6. New Business.

- a) **Present names of candidates that have accepted nomination for President, Secretary and Member at Large.** Ron stated the following members have put their names forward for the open positions: Alice Scroggins for President, Andrea Terry for Secretary, Gerry Bertrand for President, Carrie George for Member at Large, Laurie Gigstead for Secretary, and Craig Lian for Member at Large. The election will run March 2-8 and results announced at the March 12 MRPC meeting.

Donna stated in the past bios were emailed out to the members. Laurie was asked when she would need them to be able to send them out. She said there will be a call for candidates from the floor at the potluck on February 19th so she could send them out on the 20th once she has them all.

Trish stated the potlucks used to always be meetings of the members so everyone could hear what was going on in the club.

Jan stated the February 19 potluck is a general membership meeting.

Laurie asked what specific items the board wanted on the general membership agenda. The board listed presenting the candidates, the new pickleball machine, election timeline and in house tournament results.

Shelley stated in the past the club meetings were held October through March and no business was conducted over the summer. Alice stated there is business like collecting dues and purchasing balls.

Jan asked Harlan if he still was able to get X balls at \$1.25 each. He stated that he can.

- b) **Volunteers to be trainers for new ball machine.** Ron asked if anyone present was interested in volunteering. The following people raised their hands or gave Laurie their names: Allan Baker, Gerry Bertrand, Carmen Piquette, Carrie George, Laurie Gigstead, Rusty Gigstead, Harlan Lundstrom, Jim Terry, Leslie June, Dale MacDonald, Gord Glass and Derek Wilson.

Carrie asked if there is information available on the part-time or full-time status of the 240 club members. She was advised we do not have that information. Rick stated the courts are busy in the summer and he would guess 30-35%. Carrie said so roughly 80 members. Rick agreed but said they don't all play in the summer because it is too hot.

Ron asked why she was asking. She replied that there had been discussion that certain officers should be full time but the bylaws only require them to be a homeowner. Gerry asked how important of an issue is this. Rick and Ron stated it was not an issue.

Carmen stated prior presidents Lenny Chimino, Jim Hamann, Craig Simmons and Ron are all part time residents. Donna stated that there was a committee to over see the summer program and the presidents did not oversee.

- c) **Motion to Adjourn Meeting.** Rick/Jan Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm.

Drafted: 2/13/2025

Approved: 3/12/2025