

AGENDA INFORMATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Meeting	Date: April 22, 2024
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Date: _____

Dept. Manager	GM/ Director	CAO

The District of North Vancouver
REPORT TO COUNCIL

April 10, 2024
File:

AUTHOR: Catherine Pope
SUBJECT: Pickleball Courts Expansion

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT Council direct staff to identify sites where new, outdoor pickleball courts could be located and where current courts could be expanded in the District of North Vancouver.

REASON FOR REPORT:
There are not enough pickleball courts to meet current and future demand in the District of North Vancouver. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America and based on regional and world-wide trends, its popularity will continue surging exponentially.

While adults aged 55+ popularized the sport, players aged 18 to 34 represent the largest growth in numbers. In fact, well over 2000 North Shore students plus their teachers have been introduced to pickleball in the last 3 years alone and local schools are acquiring paddles and teaching pickleball as part of their curriculums.

Pickleball Hubs:
A pickleball hub is a group of dedicated pickleball courts. Pickleball is, by nature, very social and players enjoy gathering in groups and playing lots of games with different partners and opponents. Pickleball hubs are relatively easy to build because 8 pickleball courts have a footprint comparable to that of 2 tennis courts.

Countless research findings espouse the exceptional physical and mental health benefits of racquet sports, and especially for older pickleball players, who may no longer be able to engage in other, more physically demanding sports.

Many BC municipalities have already recognized the value that a pickleball hub brings to their community. Purpose-built pickleball courts with permanent nets and proper playing surfaces make playing pickleball in these communities very attractive to local and out of town players.

A hub also provides the opportunity for tournaments and the economic benefits they bring. Pickleball hubs can be found in: Penticton (6), West Kelowna (12), Kelowna (12,4), Vernon (12 indoor), Cranbrook (8), Prince George (6) North Saanich (4), Delta (8,4,3), Terrace (4), and Christina Lake (6).

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The critical message here is that a single hub can have a positive impact on a community.

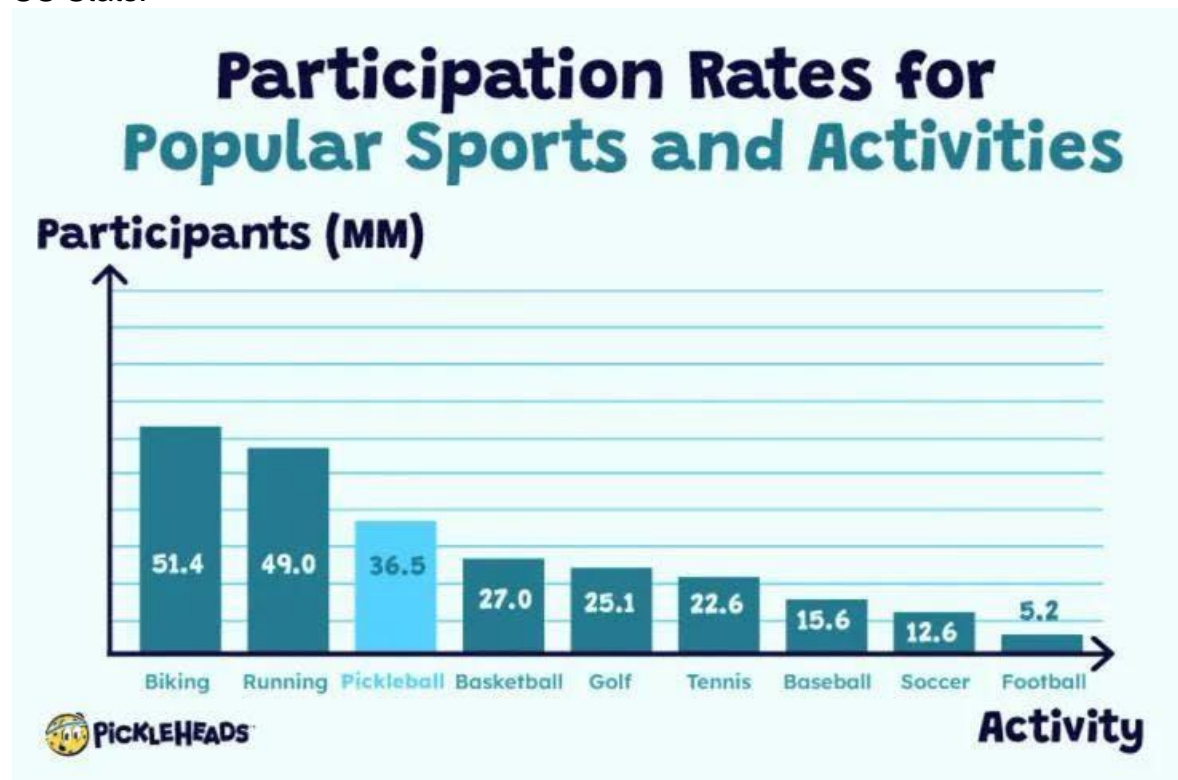
SUMMARY:

The North Shore Pickleball Club has identified a number of sites where pickleball courts could potentially be located, including (but not limited to):

- Murder Fraser Park (old Hydro station area)
- Kirkstone Park in Lynn Valley
- Little Cates: 2 more courts could be added to the current playing area
- Delbrook: - Old lacrosse site south of the Community Centre
- Mount Seymour Parkway: McCartney Creek Park
- InterRiver Park
- Maplewood and/or Seylynn areas

BACKGROUND:

US Stats:



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EXISTING POLICY:

Below are the outdoor courts currently on the North Shore:

District of North Vancouver

- 5 - Murdo Fraser, plus one court with no net
- 4 - Little Cates
- 2 - Myrtle Park (Deep Cove)

City of North Vancouver

- 4 - Tempe (shared with tennis, no nets)
- 4 - Mahon
- 1 - Grand Boulevard (no net)

District of West Vancouver

- 4 - Normanby (British Properties)
- 4 - shared with tennis being phased out
- 4 new courts recently announced in Ambleside (Fall 2024)

ANALYSIS:**Financial Impacts:**

Costs include painting new lines on current courts that would be expanded, labour costs, the design and build of new pads and parking.

Liability/Risk:

Same as current courts.

Social Policy Implications:

As mentioned above, the sport is popular for many reasons, including the social aspect. Many players say pickleball has significantly enhanced their lives, opened up new networks of friends, and improved their fitness levels and overall health. These factors are especially important for seniors.

Environmental Impact:

Factors to be considered include the impact on surrounding neighbourhoods due to the sound of the ball during play and parking.

Conclusion:


It would be beneficial to direct staff to identify sites where new, outdoor pickleball courts could be located and/or where current courts could be expanded and report back to Council with details and costing.

Options:

1. That the motion, as presented, is supported;
2. That the motion, as presented, is not supported.

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Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

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Catherine Pope
Councillor, District of North Vancouver

REVIEWED WITH:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Business and Economic	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	_____	External Agencies:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bylaw Services	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Services	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Library Board	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's Office	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum and Archives	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Climate and Biodiversity	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NSEM	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NS Health	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> ITS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NVRC	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Engineering	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> RCMP	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Operations	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Review and Compliance	_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Environment	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitor	_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities	_____		