




# GUELPH PICKLEBALL COURTS

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF GUELPH AND THE PICKLEBALL GUELPH ASSOCIATION

# WHAT IS NEXT?

## GUELPH PICKLEBALL COURTS

### THE ROADMAP

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# THE PICKLEBALL GUELPH ASSOCIATION

- Formed (incorporated) in April 2022 to provide a collective voice for pickleball in Guelph

## **Mission**

Foster growth and promote pickleball for all ages, skill levels and abilities

Provide safe and suitable playing venues and programming through existing and new facilities

Be a fulsome resource for services, information, equipment, training and development

- Current membership (fees paid) - 133
- Mailing list - 330
- Facebook Group - 162
- Affiliated with Pickleball Canada and Pickleball Ontario
- Affiliated with Guelph Wellington Seniors Association Pickleball Club
  - 300 members (180 active players, 120 waitlisted)

## Activity to date:

- Introduction to pickleball (May)
- Clinics (September & November)
- Twice weekly play sessions (UGDSB facilities)
- Ongoing introductory sessions for beginners
- Applied for grants (2023)
  - New Horizons for Seniors
  - Guelph Community Grant

# THE WORLD OF PICKLEBALL

## PICKLEBALL IS A BIG THING

- Widely acknowledged to be the fastest-growing sport in North America
  - Sports & Fitness Industry Association, Pickleball Canada, Pickleball USA
- Projected to grow (USA) from 5 million players to 40 million players by 2030
- Canada currently has 1 million players
- Pickleball is in the conversation as a potential Olympic sport for 2028
- An all-ages sport that is easy to learn, engaging and highly social
- Low cost of entry
- It has become a significant economic engine
- Professional pickleball has become a legitimate career
- National Pickleball Day (August)
- There are national (Pickleball Canada) and provincial governing organizations (Pickleball Ontario)
- Most municipalities have now built dedicated pickleball facilities
- Pickleball associations (ie: PGA) exist in virtually every municipality
- Playing facilities are an integral component of healthy-living and social engagement

# THE GUELPH PICKLEBALL STORY

## What We Know

- Guelph has a total of 95 parks: 34 parks have baseball diamonds, 20 parks have basketball courts, 77 parks have soccer fields, 12 parks have tennis courts and 6 parks have sand volleyball courts. *There are no dedicated outdoor pickleball courts*
- There are anecdotally 700 + players in Guelph, not including school-age players
- Pickleball growth is strong in Guelph with no signs of abating
- The catchment area is significantly under serviced when it comes to meeting the high demand for dedicated outdoor and indoor pickleball courts
- There are waiting lists for indoor play and outdoor play can't be organized given the multi-use situation and City booking policies

Pickleball will continue to grow at a robust pace. The door is wide open to new initiatives and it all starts with a vision that can become a reality at the Guelph Pickleball Courts

# ROBUST INTEREST DESERVES ROBUST ACTION

## Making It Happen

This Pickleball Guelph Association (PGA) proposes to enter into a relationship with the City of Guelph to create a dedicated outdoor facility as well as pursue opportunities to create an indoor pickleball performance centre

### What Does That Mean?

- Receive endorsement from Council to proceed with development
- Form a project team to source out playing locations and collectively manage opportunities and issues. *There are options for outdoor courts that can be considered and feasibility work can begin in 2023*
- Acquire funding through the City and acquire support from other sources such as grants, sponsorships, donations, naming rights and the PGA
- Create an operational model for programming, player development and scheduling.
- Introduce programming to engage players of all ages and deliver family and community-based programs
- The City has an opportunity to service the unfulfilled demand for pickleball courts and pave the way for future growth of this wonderful sport

# THE GUELPH PICKLEBALL COURTS

## CONSIDERATIONS

### Outdoor

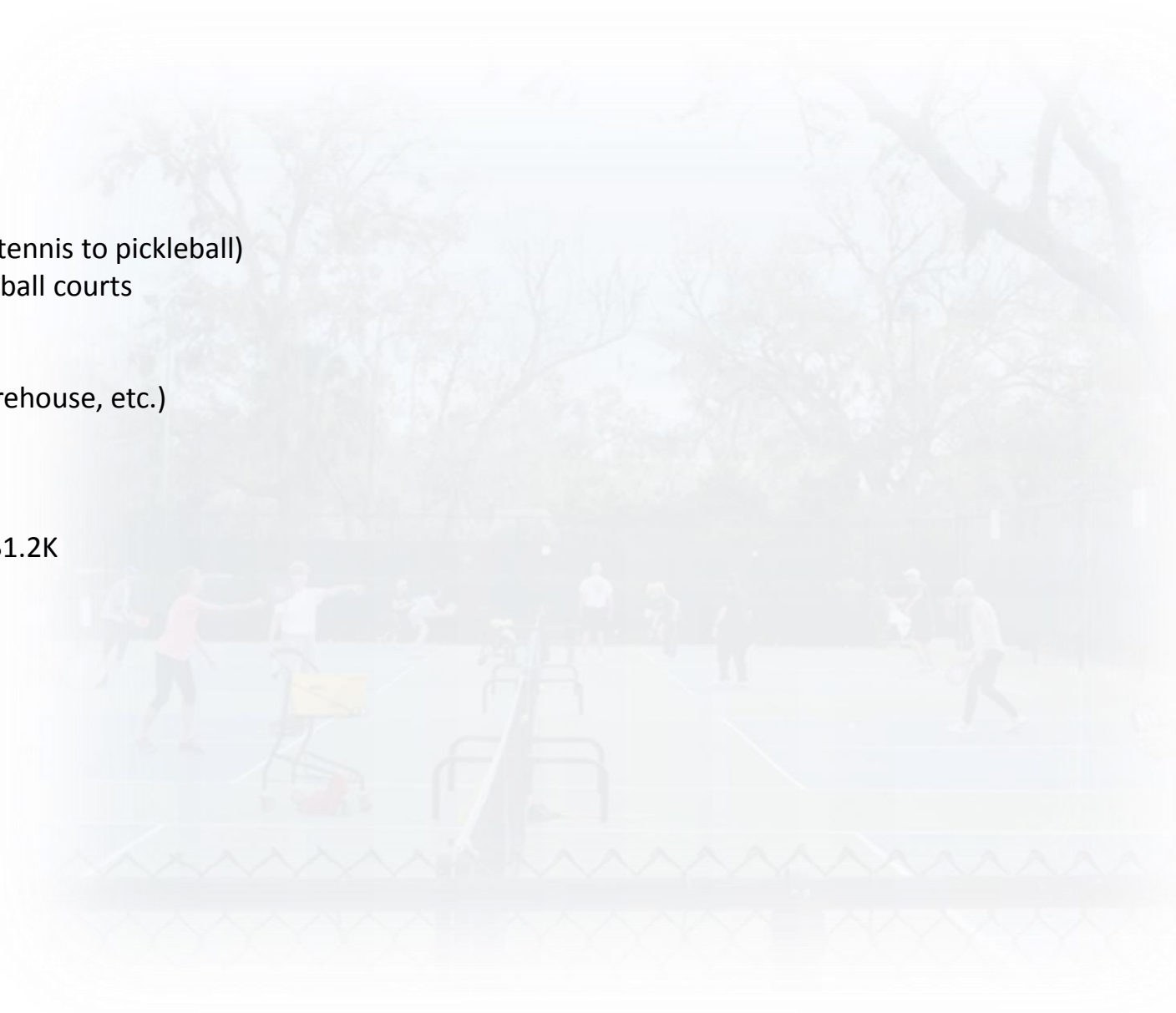
- Construct a new dedicated outdoor facility
- Repurpose existing outdoor courts (convert tennis to pickleball)
  - one tennis court converts to 3 or 4 pickleball courts

### Indoor

- Construct a new dedicated indoor facility
- Repurpose an existing facility (ice arena, warehouse, etc.)

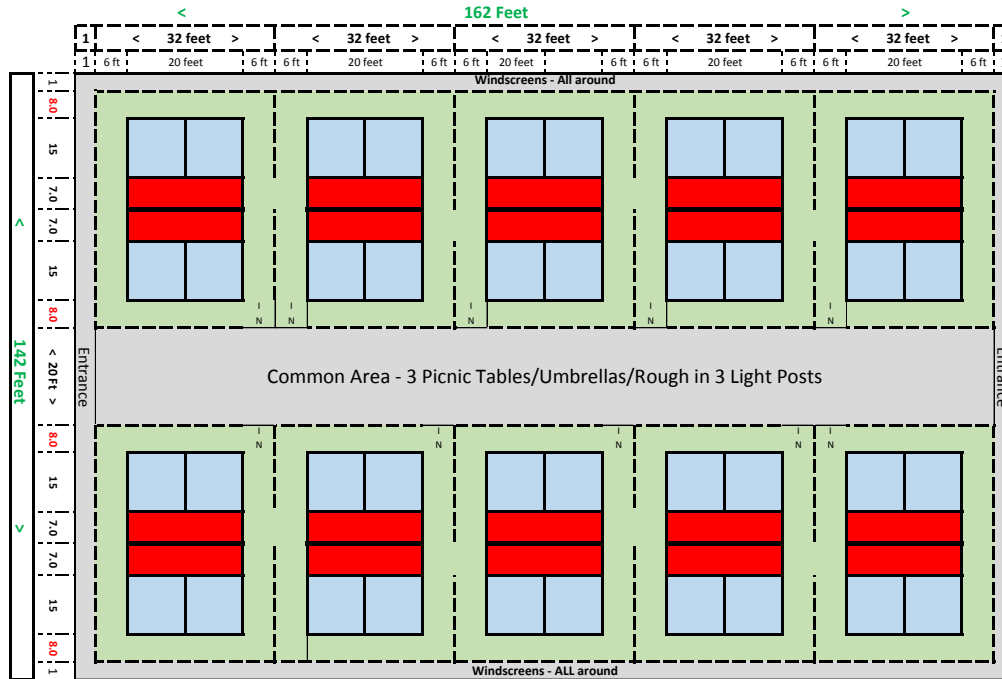
### Funding Estimates (outdoor courts)

- Repurpose (5 - 8 courts): est. \$250 - \$500k
- New construction (10 courts): est. \$800K – \$1.2K



# LAYOUTS FOR OUTDOOR COURTS

NEW Pickleball Courts - (10) with Common/viewing area, plus Storage Shed/Washroom(s).  
 PLUS Asphalt Pad 36 X 36 Ft - to build 20 X 20 Ft Storage Shed & Washroom(s) with Practice walls



## The Guelph Pickleball Courts

- ❖ 10 outdoor pickleball courts
- ❖ Seating (players and spectators)
- ❖ Washroom facilities
- ❖ Windscreens
- ❖ Lights
- ❖ Storage
- ❖ Capacity to expand



# GUELPH IS OPEN FOR PICKLEBALL

- New recreational services for Guelph (address the demand)
- Family-friendly facility and community-oriented
- Positive reputational impact (great place to live and play)
- Enhanced awareness of Guelph through players and events
- Significant enhancement of available sports facilities
- Economic development that is sustainable
- Establish strong foothold in the fastest growing sport in North America
- Operational and programming support provided by the PGA

# WHAT IS NEXT?

**GUELPH CITY COUNCIL - WHERE DO WE GO NOW?**

**How will the City of Guelph take the lead?**

**The Pickleball Guelph Association Is Here To Help**

**THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE GUELPH PICKLEBALL COURTS**