



GUELPH PICKLEBALL COURTS

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

WHAT IS NEXT?

GUELPH PICKLEBALL COURTS

THE ROADMAP

1. Let's Start With the Finish
2. The Sport of Pickleball
3. Robust Interest Deserves Robust Action
4. The Guelph Pickleball Courts
5. Guelph is Open For Pickleball
6. Where Do We Go Now?

LET'S START WITH THE FINISH

The City of Guelph is one of Canada's fastest growing cities and ranked as one of the best cities to raise a family. The catchment area is significantly under serviced when it comes to meeting the high demand for dedicated outdoor and indoor pickleball courts. There is inadequate playing capacity to the point that there is a large wait list at the senior level and there is no opportunity to service a younger demographic.

Pickleball courts are, for the most part, located in municipally-owned and operated parks and gymnasiums which accommodate a numerous variety of other sports each with a demand on the available space. Outdoor pickleball courts in Guelph are shared with tennis and are not generally bookable.

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.

Dedicated pickleball facilities will provide:

- health, well-being and social engagement of all players
- recreational play and competitive play at all levels
- training and skills development
- tournaments and leagues
- economic development

The City has an opportunity to service the unfulfilled demand for pickleball courts as well as pave the way for future growth of this wonderful sport.

THE SPORT OF PICKLEBALL

PICKLEBALL BACKGROUNDER

- Widely acknowledged to be the fastest-growing sport in North America
- Pickleball in the USA has grown 650% over the last 6 years
- Pickleball in Canada has grown 300% since 2019
- An all-ages sport that is easy to learn, engaging and highly social
- New courts (USA) are being added at the rate of 65 - 75 per month
- There are national ([Pickleball Canada](#)) and provincial governing organizations ([Pickleball Ontario](#))
- Most larger municipalities have pickleball associations ([Pickleball Guelph Association](#))
- Pickleball has become a significant economic development engine
- Professional pickleball has become a legitimate career.
- Playing facilities are now an integral component of healthy-living and social engagement
- Pickleball is in the conversation as a potential Olympic sport for 2028.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

| Municipality | Location | Population | Indoor | Outdoor | Opened |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------|---------|--------|
| Municipality of Corbeil | Corbeil | 4,750 | | 3 | 2022 |
| North Bay Granite Tennis Club | North Bay | 52,000 | | 2 | 2020 |
| Kingsville Pickleball Inc. Group | Kingsville | 22,000 | | 8 | 2021 |
| Brighton Pickleball Club | Brighton | 12,000 | | 4 | 2022 |
| Municipality of Barrie | Barrie | 155,000 | | 14 | 2023 |
| Soo Pickleball | Sault Ste Marie | 75,000 | | 8 | 2021 |
| Municipality of Stouffville | Stouffville | 46,000 | | 8 | 2022 |
| Tecumseh Pickleball Association | Tecumseh | 23,000 | | 10 | 2022 |
| Kenora Pickleball Club | Kenora | 15,000 | | 8 | 2019 |
| Blackwell Park Pickleball Hub | Sarnia | 72,000 | | 6 | 2019 |
| Municipality of Huntsville | Huntsville | 20,000 | | 4 | 2021 |
| Municipality of St. Thomas | St. Thomas | 40,000 | | 8 | 2017 |
| RA Centre | Ottawa | 1M | 7 | | 2021 |
| Kingston Pickleball Club | Kingston | 137,000 | 7 | | 2022 |
| Municipality of Milton | Milton | 133,000 | | 3 | 2022 |
| Municipality of Chatham-Kent | Chatham-Kent | 106,000 | | 10 | 2022 |
| Grimsby Pickleball Association | Grimsby | 27,000 | | 4 | 2022 |
| Forest Glade Optimist Park | Windsor | 340,000 | | 10 | 2022 |

ROBUST INTEREST DESERVES ROBUST ACTION

The Making of a Partnership

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. The PGA will engage as an active partner striving to establish dedicated pickleball courts in cooperation with the City of Guelph.

The PGA and the City will form and co-chair a project team to source out playing locations and collectively manage opportunities and issues. There are numerous options for outdoor courts that can be considered and acted upon immediately.

A funding model would be created to support the City's funding initiative. Sources such as grants, sponsorships, donations, naming rights and PGA fundraising. An operational model will be created to establish programming, player development and scheduling.

The PGA will introduce programming to engage players of all ages and deliver family and community-based programs. Importantly, the City of Guelph will expand its sports and recreation services to include pickleball as a means to encourage and support healthy living, well-being and social engagement on a broad scale.

THE GUELPH PICKLEBALL COURTS

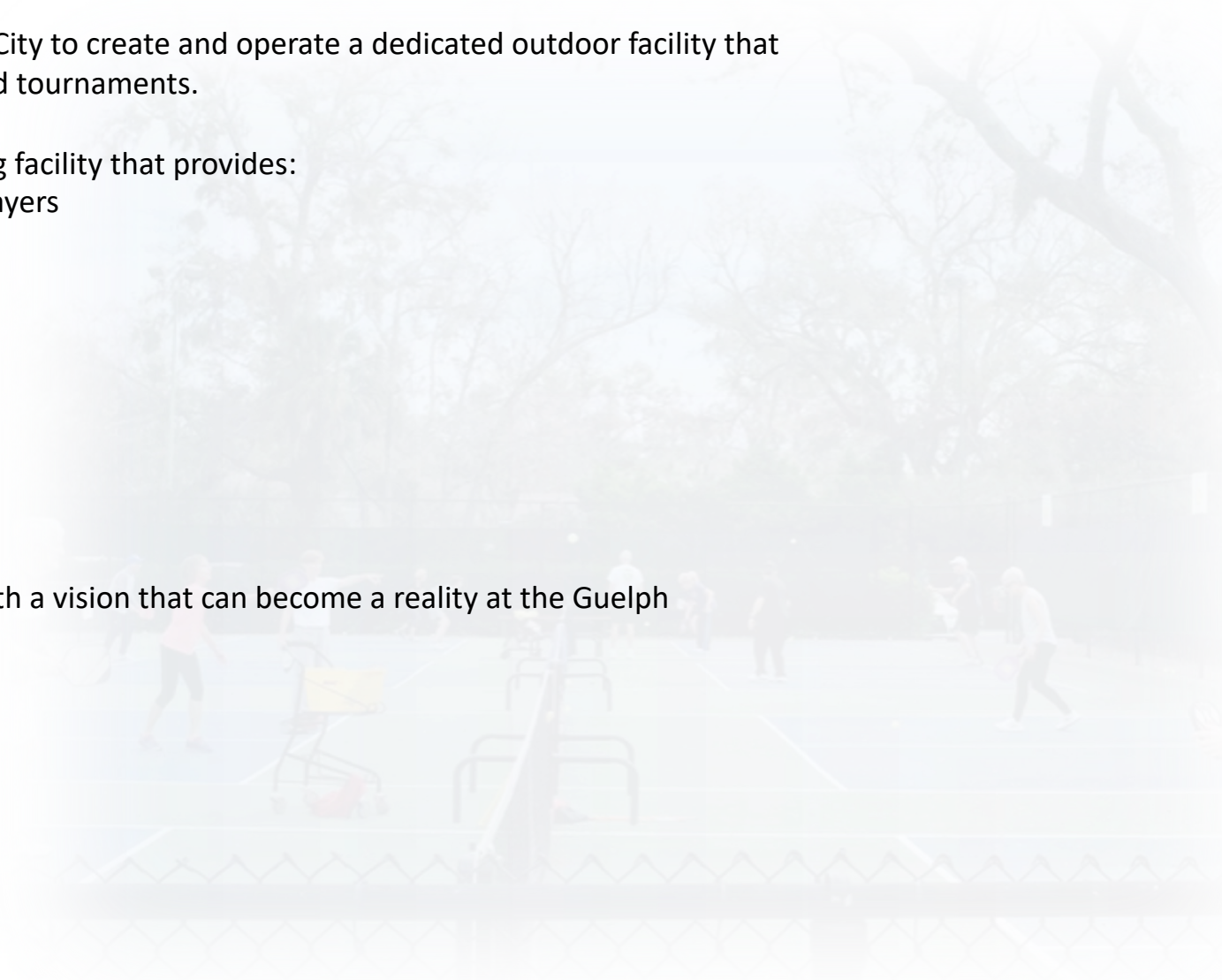
The Pickleball Guelph Association will work with the City to create and operate a dedicated outdoor facility that provides courts as well as training services, clinics and tournaments.

The Guelph Pickleball Courts will be a premier playing facility that provides:

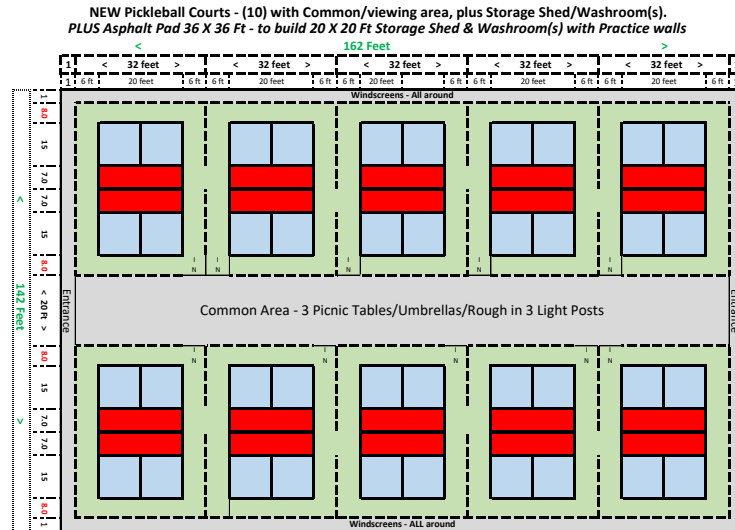
- enjoyment, health and social engagement of all players
- membership program
- recreational play and competitive play at all levels
- scheduling and booking
- clinics, training, equipment demos, camps, etc.
- tournaments and leagues
- court rentals and special events

Pickleball will continue to grow at a robust pace.

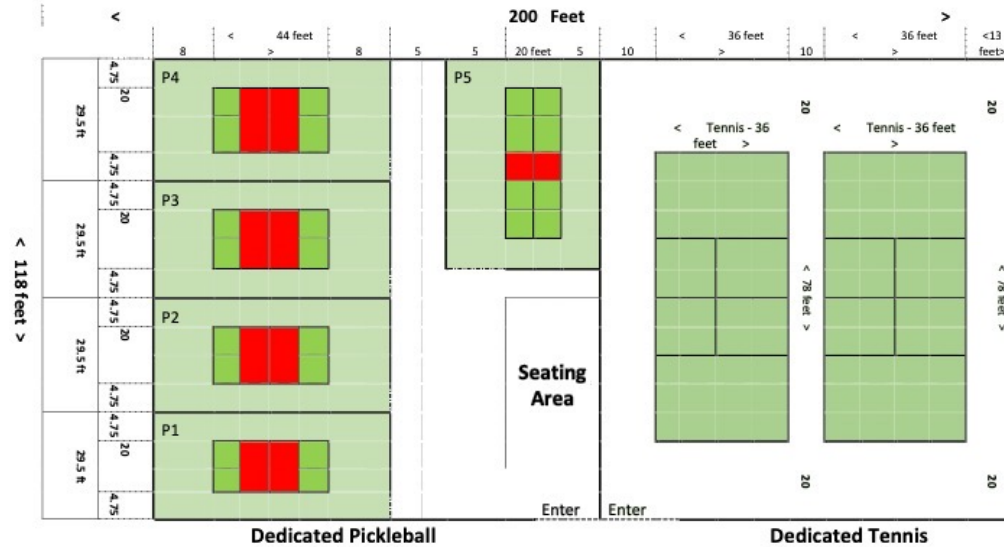
The door is open to new initiatives and it all starts with a vision that can become a reality at the Guelph Pickleball Courts



LAYOUTS FOR OUTDOOR COURTS



PickleBall & Tennis Courts -- Margaret Green



GUELPH IS OPEN FOR PICKLEBALL

SUMMARY

- There is an identified demand and Guelph is clearly underserved
- Pickleball growth is strong with no signs of abating
- Joint venture funding and operational models can be developed
- The door is wide open for the City of Guelph to lean in and take the lead

GUELPH IS OPEN FOR PICKLEBALL

- New recreational services for Guelph
- 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
- Alliance with the PGA
- Operational and programming support provided by the PGA

- **FUNDING SUPPORT IS NEEDED!!**

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