**Indoor PickleBall 2016**

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Registrations for the indoor season (September, 2015 – June, 2016) numbered 50 individuals at $10 per person. In addition, 23 - $5 memberships were sold for total revenue of $615. Expense was $100 for rental of the nets and balls from APCA. Eight to 20 people would play on any given Tuesday or Wednesday.

On May 19, the Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association Regina District tournament was held at the South Leisure Centre. It was a great success. There were 34 players entered (many in multiple events). Four individuals who play regularly at the South Leisure Centre continued on to the Provincial games held in North Battleford July 5 – 7. The SZRB sponsorship of the facility rental and door prizes was greatly appreciated.

The number of pickleball players in North America is expected to quadruple in the next two years (Source: “Pickleball by the Numbers: Growing Across the U.S.” article published March 28, 2016 by the American Sports Builders Association). We experienced this explosion in numbers when indoor pickleball resumed in the fall of 2016. By the end of October, 60 people had registered at $10 per person and 37 - $5 memberships were sold. Total revenue = $785. Despite obtaining a third day to play (Friday afternoon), all three days see from 20 – 30+ players. This is roughly double the numbers experienced in the 2015-2016 season. Only 12 people can play at a time on the three courts which makes for long waits between games.

Due to congestion in the gym and in order to provide a good playing experience for the people who had originally committed to our program, we decided to not take any more new registrations as of October 31, 2016. Requests to participate continue to be made and a different approach to registration will be considered for next year. e.g. allow south zone residents first opportunity to register; register for each day of play separately, etc. We are allowing a limited number of drop-in players during the months of January, February and March – while quite a few of the registered players are away for the winter.

Starting in September, 2016, we set aside the first 20 minutes of play each day for warm-up and skills/drills. Also, during open play, one court is set aside for ‘recreational’ players with two courts for the more advanced players. This has encouraged new players to take up the sport and provided an environment where people can play with others of similar ability. We have approximately 10 new players this season.