**Minutes of the Melaque Pickleball Steering Committee**

**January 25, 2025**

Present: Lorna, Ken, Lori, Mary, Norva, Tom Call to order: 1:10 pm

Treasurer update – Income as of January 24 is: 81,340. Expenses 37,778. Profit: 43,562.
Total: bank balance and cash = 86,534 pesos.

Ken mentioned a couple of expenses: 4 metal posts. 2 LED lights – 3,800. Electrician – 7600. There may be additional costs to run line to catch new lights. There is a dispute with the Tennis group as to who is paying. The committee agreed that the tennis group pays for their expenses. About 20 players.

Maintenance update

* Equipment take-down on New and Old courts - Problems. Message needs to be clear to people. Please lock the gates and put stuff away on New Courts. Will be solved when electrical is complete. On old courts – need combo locks. Major problem that the caretakers are not on-site much of the time.
* Lighting project – need asap. Currently, breaker box. Contractor is too busy. Emmanuel will be asked on Monday.
* Gravel – Monday at 11 work party to spread gravel at New Court gate.
* Permanent nets – good idea. 13,800 pesos each installed.
* New equipment bags. 450 total per bag. Need 5 repaired. Net repair also. Bertha is repairing bags with her commercial machine.
* Key and combination access – issue of locks (see above). Wait to give out codes. Ken has set of old locks. Tennis players or volleyball players don’t need keys after the lighting is fixed.
* Electrical change requests from tennis players. Tennis group uses the pump.
* Washrooms need to be cleaned on a regular basis.
* Ray asked for new black wire. 400 pesos. 1/16th wire for the black divider net. The old orange divider net is in the storage.

French group update

* Use of New courts on T/W/Th/S from 3 to 5 pm.

Membership/Hosts update

* Current capacity and possible “capping” of membership. Signup Genius indicates a membership of 211. Manual check of the member list shows: Seasonal = 85. Monthly = 40. Drop-ins = 40 (1 or 2 games per week). Not here = 30. In reality – about 165 memberships. Planning for the “what-ifs.” Ideally, we want the option of playing at least 3 times a week. Evenings are a possibility once lighting is installed.
* Lori presented a new membership proposal
	+ Seasonal membership: 1000 pesos - possibly increase next season. Signup privileges included for the season, the same as it is now.
	+ Temporary membership: 400 pesos includes up to one month of signup, use of club facilities and equipment. Name is deleted after one month or earlier if notified of earlier departure (e.g., 1 or 2 weeks). This is about $28 Cad.
	+ Just as a gym or golf membership, you are buying the benefits; how many games you play is up to you.
	+ 50 pesos drop-in. No signup privileges. To be true drop-ins, as is the case in most other clubs. Arrive at the club and if there is a spot, then you pay and play. A person could also ask a member to look and see if there are openings available.
* Saves a lot of administrative costs. Streamline. Host job is currently very busy with drop-ins. It isn’t likely that we will lose the drop-in funds. The committee will table the new membership proposal until next year.
* Training session for hosts. Lorna sending out info. There are about 10 Hosts.

Signup Genius

* Use of courts
	+ Beginner/Novice category – multifunctional court – anyone can sign up buddies. Skills/drills/lessons. Old courts. Problem – novice/I and I/A. Playing in wrong group. Novice – 2.5. The majority of this club’s membership is at the Intermediate level. Players need to self-access. It was noted that 70% of the income comes from the broad Intermediate group.
	+ Use of 11 am shift. A beginners' class can be set up by a volunteer who is a registered member, or someone brought in to offer classes. Non-registered players can be signed up and sponsored by an accompanying member.
	+ Sunday play has started. Evening play will start once the lighting is completed.
	+ Signup Genius has reduced to 12 players max on New courts. 20 players max on Old courts will remain, pending further evaluation of court usage.
	+ Advisory board. A suggestion was made to create a subcommittee to the Steering Committee to advise on best practices. A guest is welcome to join a future Steering Committee meeting and speak on his/her experiences with a club back home.
* SUG concerns
	+ booking for others/not cancelling – not able to use the app.
	+ tutorial on SUG – Lorna to add notes to the website.

Miscellaneous

* Fundraising – The idea of creating Club T-shirts was well received and it was agreed to wait until next year. Lori to talk to Grant. Logo ideas, pricing, style of shirt. Maybe hold a contest for logo ideas.
* Lori has spearheaded a 50-50 fundraiser at the Thirsty Thursday gatherings and the money will go toward lighting for the volleyball courts.
* Tournaments – Ideas set forward: Team events. Women’s doubles, Men’s doubles, mixed doubles. Joyce passed her info on to Cathy.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

The next meeting is Saturday, February 22 at 1 pm at Tom’s house.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary, Norva Osborn.