

Nareka Jacques

From: Cindy PCPC <[REDACTED]>
Sent: April 7, 2026 9:59 AM
To: Municipal Hall; Municipal Hall
Subject: Letter to Mayor & Council

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mayor and Council,

April 7th, 2026

For the past three years, PCPC has worked collaboratively with the Central Saanich Parks Department to arrange reserved court space for our 235 members throughout the summer months. Typically, we have booked 4-6 hours per day for June, July and August, which afforded outdoor summer recreational play for our 235 members. Central Saanich staff have stated to the council that there have never been any complaints from the public about our summer court reservations.

In May, 2025, PCPC also worked with the local tennis community and Central Saanich to reach agreement on the expansion of court facilities at Centennial Park. On May 26, 2025, Central Saanich council approved the following motion.

*That Council direct staff to **work collaboratively with representatives from the local pickleball and tennis communities to develop an implementation plan for re-lining Court 1 to accommodate four pickleball courts, and report back to Council with timelines, associated costs to the District if applicable, and any outstanding issues.***

PCPC also pledged to donate \$35,000.00 to Central Saanich, which was the estimated cost to convert the existing courts from two to four. In exchange PCPC asked for nothing. We made it very clear that we would not seek to book any additional time when the conversion completed and the number of pickleball courts doubled. Our goal was to see expanded court inventory for everyone to enjoy. Appreciative and grateful for the excellent relationship we “had” with Central Saanich, we just wanted to give back. We spent many hours liaising with tennis, and helping to resolve their concerns so the project could go ahead. We secured a joint pickleball-tennis agreement, and showed council that the two sports were working in harmony allowing the project to move forward. We met with Kyle Motiuk, and we collaborated in every way possible, every step of the way. Which makes the events of the last two weeks particularly troubling.

On Thursday March 19th, 2026 we received an email from Kyle Motiuk advising that our previously approved 4-6 hours per day would not be approved this summer. We were further advised that we would be restricted to the same booking restrictions as an individual person. We were advised that no consideration could be given to the fact that we were booking on behalf of 235 players. The only explanation we were given was that it “was necessary to ensure fair and equitable access to courts for all users”. Which by the way, is exactly what PCPC does by booking efficient organized play while overseeing sportsmanship, etiquette, and safety.

I immediately responded asking for an explanation, a meeting, or at least a phone conversation to better understand this shocking decision. **I received a reply from Kyle saying “I will plan to follow up with you by phone next week, as my schedule allows, so we can talk this through and ensure you have a clear understanding of the rationale and constraints we’re working within”.** (As of the writing of this letter, almost 3 weeks later, I have had no return phone call despite emailing to ask for it.)

On Monday March 22nd, 2026, I received notice that all of our summer 2026 booking requests had been declined and cancelled. At the same time, many other booking requests were approved, and hundreds of summer hours were given away to “individuals”. We scrambled to frantically book whatever two hour blocks we could salvage. But the resulting impact on our club, and the summer recreational play of our members, has been devastating.

We reached out to the District CAO Christine Culham. I received an email stating **“I understand that staff have been in communication with you and had committed to following up directly. That conversation remains the appropriate next step to ensure you have a clear understanding of the District’s approach and the options available within the current system as required”**.

We also reached out to council, and were told that based on communication with your Chief Administrative Officer, this council person was “assured that dialog is ongoing.” And that our best suggestion was “to approach the conversation with staff as an opportunity to understand any past challenges and concerns and work together to find a solution.”

Notwithstanding those assurances from your Parks Manager, the CAO and council, three weeks later, we have had no dialog whatsoever. We have repeatedly approached staff to have a conversation but have not had any verbal contact from the staff, dialogue, or verbal communication. Meanwhile, all of our previously requested reservations were cancelled and many given away to other users. Our entire spring / summer play plans were washed away, and our growing, thriving, community club of three years is now on life support this summer.

We are concerned about this decision, but we are more concerned about whether this incident will be the format for all our communications going forward. We have had no interaction with staff about the development of the new courts, we have no idea how they will be managed going forward, and we are concerned that we may somehow have lost our ability to cooperate with Central Saanich on behalf of our members. We were ready to continue our collaboration including a significant financial contribution, and now we feel that we are no longer recognized or respected partners.

We are a primary user group who has gone above and above to collaborate with Central Saanich staff and council. We have always displayed exemplary gratitude, stewardship, and respectful dialogue. A significant percentage of our members are tax payers in Central Saanich. PCPC represents each of them. We are the **only** Pickleball Association on the Saanich Peninsula, representing 235 local players (restricted from growth only by a lack of court inventory) and our club has played only in Central Saanich for the past 4 summers. Being arbitrarily restricted to the identical booking policies as a single individual without warning, consultation, discussion, or any reasonable explanation – feels punitive, prejudicial, and blatantly unfair.

I am writing to ask council to intercede with the staff on our behalf. We ask simply asking for the communication with the staff that we have been repeatedly promised, and a respectful collaborative approach moving forward.

Sincerely,
Cindy Barton

Cindy Barton
Peninsula Community Pickleball Club
President



<https://communitypickleballclub.org/>



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Nareka Jacques

From: Municipal Hall
To: Pamela Martin
Subject: RE: Unanswered Emails & Cancelled Play

From: Christine Culham <Christine.Culham@csaanich.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 8:28 AM
To: Cindy PCPC [REDACTED]
Cc: Dale Puskas <Dale.Puskas@csaanich.ca>; Kyle Motiuk <kyle.motiuk@csaanich.ca>; Jarret Matanowitsch <Jarret.Matanowitsch@csaanich.ca>
Subject: Re: Unanswered Emails & Cancelled Play

Hi Cindy,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Peninsula Community Pickleball Club's request for administrative review.

I have reviewed the information provided, along with the District's current policies, procedures, and established practices related to park bookings and facility access.

The District operates outdoor courts as shared public assets, with time-limited bookings and staff-administered permits intended to support equitable access for the broader community. Based on this review, staff actions to date have been consistent with the District's current framework, including the Fees and Charges Bylaw, Park Booking Terms and Regulations, and established administrative procedures.

You also raised questions regarding regional practices. A review of comparable municipalities, including North Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Colwood, Oak Bay, and Esquimalt, indicates that outdoor courts are consistently managed as shared public amenities. Access is either open or time-limited, and ongoing block booking allocations for adult recreational clubs are not standard practice.

Within the District's framework, priority is given to youth non-profit recreation. This includes no-cost access and the established practice of block scheduling for youth field sports such as soccer, baseball, and softball. While this practice has been consistently applied, it is not currently clearly articulated on the District's website. We will be updating our public information to ensure this is more transparent.

The District has also taken steps to respond to growing demand for pickleball. This includes the planned 2026 conversion of tennis courts to pickleball use at Centennial Park, increasing overall capacity. In addition, the District has made a significant investment in the development of the multi-sport box, including provision of land and the fieldhouse, securing grant funding, and establishing a service delivery partnership with the Capital Regional District.

For groups seeking structured or recurring bookings, the Capital Regional District (CRD) provides this type of allocation through its recreation services, including Panorama Recreation and the multi-sport

box, which is under CRD care and control. These facilities operate under a different service model, with formal intake processes, allocation frameworks, and requirements for organized group use.

While the District recognizes the role that organized groups play in supporting community recreation, as mentioned, the current municipal service model does not include recurring or extended block booking allocations for adult recreational clubs.

I understand that staff have been in communication with you and had committed to following up directly. That conversation remains the appropriate next step to ensure you have a clear understanding of the District's approach and the options available within the current system as required.

The District has provided significant support to the pickleball community and has been responsive to increasing demand, including through the development of the shared multi-sport box and the expansion of dedicated pickleball courts.

The District will continue to work with the Capital Regional District, the Town of Sidney, and the District of North Saanich to explore opportunities identified in the Peninsula Recreation Facilities Needs Assessment (2025), including consideration of sub-regional consistency, cross-jurisdictional access, and overall system coordination.

Thank you for taking the time to raise your concerns.

Sincerely,
Christine Culham
Chief Administrative Officer
District of Central Saanich

Sent from my iPhone

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Pamela Martin

From: Cindy - PCPC <[REDACTED]>
Sent: March 22, 2026 10:05 AM
To: christine.culham@csaanich.ca
Subject: Urgent: Formal Appeal for Review

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

To: Chief Administrative Officer, District of Central Saanich

Subject: Formal Request for Administrative Review: Court Allocation Policy for the Peninsula Community Pickleball Club

Dear Christine Culham,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Peninsula Community Pickleball Club (PCPC), representing 235 active residents on the Saanich Peninsula to request your urgent intervention regarding a recent Parks and Recreation department decision.

Effective this summer, the District has moved to restrict our pickleball court bookings from 4 hours per day to just two hours. The rationale provided is an effort to "align" our organization with the "single person use" policy.

We believe this is a significant administrative oversight that results in a profound injustice to a major segment of your tax-paying constituency. Categorizing a structured association of over 200 people as a "single person" is not only logically inconsistent but also contradicts the "fair and equitable" standards practised by our regional peers.

Our request for your intercession is based on three critical points:

1. **Administrative Inconsistency:** Neighbouring authorities, most notably Panorama Recreation, maintain policies that specifically provide for larger block bookings for high-volume user groups. Central Saanich is currently an outlier in failing to recognize organized sport associations as distinct from individual casual users.
2. **Inequitable Treatment:** Established sports in our District—such as lacrosse, softball, and lawn bowling—rightfully enjoy block booking privileges to facilitate league play. As the Peninsula's only official public pickleball association, we are seeking parity, not preference.
3. **Community Impact:** This 50% reduction in access effectively displaces 235 residents from their primary source of physical and social wellness.
4. **Lack of Fairness:** This policy is being implemented without warning, and will devastate the future of our club as well as the lives of 235 people. We have been transparently enjoying 4+ hours of advanced booked court time at Centennial Park court #1 for 3 full years and had no advance notice of this change. We have now missed out on deadlines to apply for court time in alternate locations.

While we have submitted a revised booking request to Kyle to show our willingness to comply with current directives in the short term, we do so under formal protest. We are asking you to intercede to rectify this policy application before the summer season begins, ensuring that organized community sport is supported rather than hindered by municipal definitions.

To bring context to this request, I will forward to you under separate cover, the notice we received regarding this on Friday.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you briefly to discuss how a more nuanced "Large User Group" designation could satisfy the District's goals while preserving the viability of our club.

Sincerely,

Cindy Barton
Peninsula Community Pickleball Club
President



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