

## POWWR President's Report – January 2023

This year has seen the growth of POWWR programs and an increase in POWWR members. With COVID still circulating in our community, POWWR worked with the Red Cross to secure masks and Rapid Antigen Tests for its members. In 2022, the POWWR Board took steps to enhance its effectiveness.

This year also marked the loss of one of our Board Members – Garry Dagenais. Garry was a huge pickleball enthusiast and a warm, kind and fun-loving person. His contributions to POWWR and the Pickleball community over the years are immeasurable. Garry will be deeply missed.

Here are some highlights from 2022:

January and February

- offered 10-week Drill and Play sessions at the KW Badminton Club.
- procured N95 masks and rapid antigen tests for POWWR members from the Red Cross. These were available for free at all POWWR events throughout the year.

- held AGM and welcomed a new board member Christine MacTavish, and thanked Linda Sitler who left the Board.
- ran clinic at Hygate senior home in Waterloo.
- POWWR Board developed a Strategic Plan.
- POWWR continues to leverage its website [powwr.ca](http://powwr.ca) to share information with the pickleball community. Coaching Tips are posted on the website.

### March and April

- On March 19<sup>th</sup>, held two skill clinics and four round robin tournaments. Donations were collected for the Women's Crisis Centre of Waterloo Region. Bob's Racquets (our sponsor) was onsite to sell paddles. CTV News covered the event and featured many POWWR members.
- held corporate event for Gengame.
- POWWR participated in the food sorting blitz at the Food Bank of Waterloo Region.
- POWWR Board members enrolled in the Sport for Life 'Effective Board Governance' course.

### May and June

- held a Pickleball Rules and a player clinic in Guelph.
- ran several player clinics at Glencairn Church.

- began offering 1-hour pickleball lessons to POWWR members at the KW Badminton Club. These lessons continued throughout the year.
- organized and ran the District 26 Senior Games Pickleball tournament.

### July and August

- Met with the owner of DUPR (Dynamic Universal Pickleball Rating).
- Established POWWR Coaching committee.
- Began development of POWWR Coaching Manual and POWWR Coaching Program.

### September and October

- Completed POWWR Coaching Manual V1.0 and held first POWWR Coaching clinic. The first POWWR Coach was certified under the POWWR Coaching Program.
- Drill and Play sessions offered for 8 weeks - Tuesday nights and Wednesday mornings. A sub list was introduced.
- POWWR Surge Award was presented to Ann Weber.
- CBC created a feature story on pickleball on its radio and online platforms – many POWWR members were included.
- POWWR Board developed the POWWR Committee structure and POWWR Board role descriptions.

## November and December

- Drill & Play session offered for 8 weeks, carrying into 2023. A sub list continued to be used.
- Coaching Manual V2.0 is published, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Coaching clinic is held.
- A beginner 3-hour clinic and an Intermediate rotational 3-hour clinic are held.
- A food drive is held in support of the Food Bank of Waterloo Region. Mary-Lou Boulanger donated original works of art with all proceeds going to the Food Bank.
- POWWR supports the food sorting blitz at the Food Bank of Waterloo region.
- Volunteer Appreciation Event is held.
- POWWR Board votes to cease affiliation with Pickleball Ontario and Pickleball Canada. POWWR purchases its own General Liability Insurance and Member Registration process is updated.

Looking ahead to 2023, POWWR will once again be positioned to offer a variety of programs and events, in a safe and welcoming environment. A big thank you to all the volunteers who make this possible.

Fiona MacGregor  
POWWR President