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Jul 25, 2014 | Vote 0 0

**Waterloo lands pickleball championships**

By Record staff

WATERLOO — Waterloo has secured the provincial and eastern Canadian championships for one of North America's fastest-growing sports.

RIM Park will host the Ontario pickleball championships this September and the sport's eastern Canadian championships in 2015.

Pickleball is played on a doubles badminton-sized court with the net lowered to 34 inches. The players use solid paddles to hit a plastic ball that is slightly smaller than a wiffle ball over the net.

"There is a great deal of pickleball programming going on within Waterloo and even more within the local region," Laurence Bishop, director of the Regional Sport Tourism Office, said Friday in a news release.

"Winning the rights to host both the provincial and national championships will help further the growth of the sport within our community."

The provincial championships, to be held Sept. 17-18, will be organized by the Pickleball Association of Ontario and are open to association members only. There will be men's, women's and mixed divisions in various age groups.

Players can get membership and registration information at [www.pickleballassociationofontario.org](http://www.pickleballassociationofontario.org).

Details about the eastern Canadian championships still have to be worked out.

News of the championships was announced Friday, the same day the City of Cambridge opened a pickleball court in Lawrence Park. The court will be open for pickleball Monday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

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