



MCDONOUGH PARK

Evolution of Pickleball & Active Aging



Presentation presented by City of Eau Claire Recreation CVPC liaison – October, 2023

“It all started with a paddle and a ball”



THE ROOTS

Indoor Pickleball in Eau Claire

ECPR Lessons, League Play Tournaments, & Open Gym Opportunities

- Four 2-day series, Evening Classes held throughout the Fall/Winter Months 2013 - 2021. Exception for 2020, open play held at the Hobbs Ice Arena.
- Lessons coordinated by ECPR with support of CVPC Volunteers.

ECPR League/Tournament Play Programmed

- Categories: Men's, Women's, Mixed
- 2014 - 2017 League Play Weekly October - March at DeLong Middle School. In addition to league play, an annual Indoor Tournament coordinated by ECPR, was held at DeLong Middle School.

CVPC and ECPR Open Gym Opportunities

- 2015 - 2017, St. Mark's Lutheran Church Pickleball Open Play coordinated by local Pickleball Players.
- 2021 - ECPR Programming ending due to the onset and growth of court availability at Eau Claire Fitness (formerly known as Gold's Gym) and the Indoor Sports Center.
- Advanced options to play at other local gyms continue to grow at Elite/Playmakers, LE Phillips Senior Center, and the YMCA due to continued growth.

Provisions

Equipment provided by Scheel's, ECPR, CVPC at open gyms for new players at sites.

Lessons

CVPC members and volunteers always available to assist with lessons and drop-in beginners!

Organized Play

Though starting with ECPR the initial years, CVPC has taken on tasks of organized play since 2021.

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THE ROOTS

Outdoor Pickleball in Eau Claire

The BEGINNINGS ---

- 2014, Six Outdoor Courts at McDonough Park converted from old tennis courts began the spurt of court growth in the Chippewa Valley.

Lessons & Clinics

- Beginning in 2014, Six 2-Day Clinics Hosted by ECPR and CVPC volunteers with free equipment use for the public use provided by ECPR and Donors.
- ECPR clinics remained in state until 2021, when CVPC committed to continuing the service to the community throughout summer months to present day.

League Play

- 2015 - 2017, Weekly play for Men's, Women's and Mixed was coordinated by the City of Eau Claire Recreation Division.
- Since 2021, CVPC has coordinated Round Robin play.
- Starting in 2023 CVPC has begun organizing various League Play options.

Tournament Play

- 2015 - 2018 Pickleball Palooza Tournament was coordinated by CVPC with support from ECPR Recreation Division.
- 2021 - 2023, Eau Claire Dells and Pickleball Palooza Tournaments (Summer and Fall) coordinated with ECPR with CVPC Support.

Health

Pickleball enthusiasts understand the value of the game for personal health and fitness.

Wellness

Pickleball has provided avenues of social awareness, community growth, and positive benefits for the community well-being.

Social

One can never underestimate the overall benefits of meeting new friends and building community.

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MCDONOUGH PARK

Evolution/Timeline of McDonough Park Projects

2014

The City of Eau Claire and Private Community Partners converted two existing Tennis Courts into the original six outdoor pickleball courts. Project financed by the City of Eau Claire and local donors.

2018 – 2021

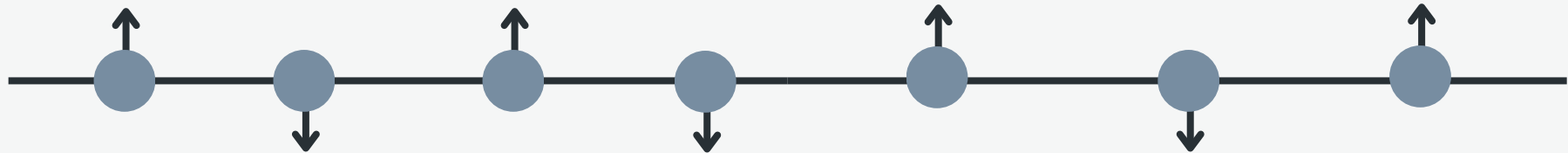
- Community Parks Active Aging Fund Drive
- CVPC member surveys note desires for water fountain, storage shed, bathroom facility near courts.

2020

- DNR Outdoor Recreation Matching Grant, \$204,578
- City of Eau Claire Engineering, Parks, Recreation, User Groups and Neighborhood Associations Representatives finalize construction plans and timeline.

2023

- Resurfacing of the original six courts and other repairs financed by the Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club.



2017

The City of Eau Claire and the Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club (CVPC) coordinate the addition of six new courts totaling twelve total courts.

2019

- Resurfacing of pickleball courts funded by the CVPC and the City of Eau Claire.
- Mayo Clinic Hometown Health Grant, \$20,000 awarded to the McDonough Active Aging project.

2021-22

- Construction of Active Aging Amenities
- CVPC votes to NOT support funding for Active Aging project but focus on future court needs.

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THE ROOTS

Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club — Est. 2015

Funding from members through CPA

- 2015 - 2018, Funding sourced by the Community Parks Association.

City of Eau Claire and CVPC agreements

- 2016 - initial Memorandum of Understanding was signed to initiate future project plans.
- 2018, updated MOU established with CVPC focusing on Park improvements.

Community & CVPC Financial Support

- 2017, Joint effort by the City and CVPC to create an additional six court expansion and pickleball amenities.
- 2019, Resurfacing and repairs funded by the CVPC and City of Eau Claire.
- 2023, Resurfacing and repairs of six original courts funded by CVPC.
- Other CVPC supported area projects include, but not limited to: Chippewa Falls Pickleball Courts, Lake Hallie Pickleball Courts, etc.

Then to Now...

Established

CVPC was established in 2015 as a club. Funding filtered through CPA until a 501(c)3 could be finalized in 2018.

Growth

An official website and Facebook page was created and promoted starting in 2018 and 2020.

Membership

From the grassroots, the Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club has grown to house over 480 members (2023 stats).

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MCDONOUGH PARK

Partnering through Expansions

Since establishing its 501(c)3, CVPC ceased using the Community Parks Association Pickleball Fund. Projects included 2019 resurfacing (\$28,700.00) and resurfacing / repairs in 2023 - (\$38,000). Through the years, several smaller maintenance, equipment and supplies have been supported by CVPC for the courts.

CVPC Non-Profit
\$66,006.60+

CPA Pickleball Fund
\$95,475.00

April 2015 - December 2018
Community Donations from CVPC Members,, non-profits, small businesses,, and the City of Eau Claire Neighborhood Grant. Pickleball Specific Expenses that utilized the CPA Pickleball Non-Profit Fund.
2016 - \$8,998.72; 2017 - \$50,305.64
2018 - \$31,421.00; 2021 - \$1,015.93

Active Aging Fund (NON-CVPC)
\$139,249.00

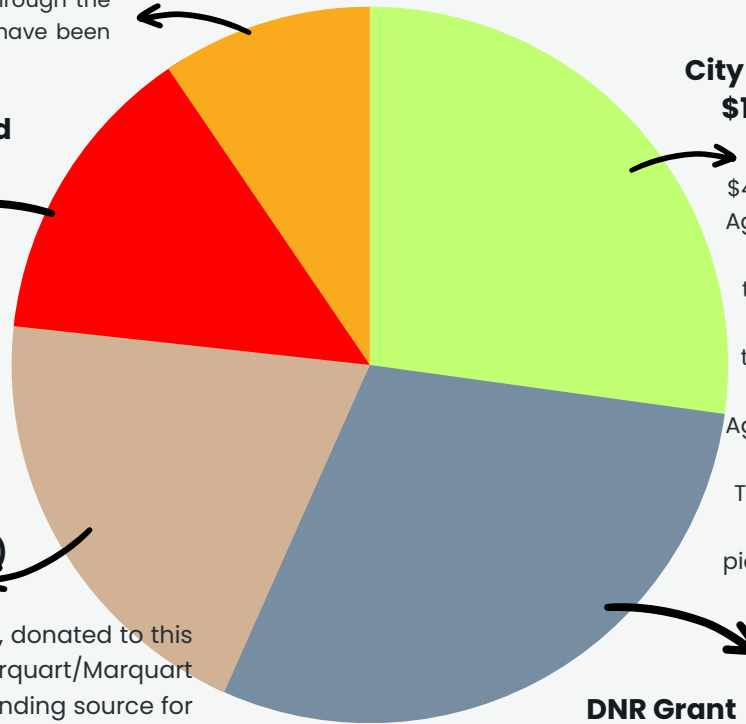
Various community members, agencies, and non-profits, donated to this fund.. \$100,000 of this fund was a gift from Dave Marquart/Marquart Motors. The Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club was *not* a funding source for this grant but they did receive benefits of the amenities noted as most needed in member survey of 2020 - bathroom facility (\$27,325), water fountain (\$5,761.00), storage shed (\$16,750), electricity source.

City of Eau Claire
\$188,654.36

From 2020-2022, the City of Eau Claire paid out \$455,654.01 of expenses for the McDonough Active Aging Projects until the matching fund totals could be applied. After the CPA/DNR funds are noted, total support from the City is \$111,827.01 to date. From 2014 to 2023, the City has put \$24,365.00 towards recreational equipment, programming, and supplies to support Pickleball and Active Aging. Contributions toward the 2019 paving+ was \$23,665.00 with additional funds from CPA. The Parks, Forestry, Engineering and Planning has put forth \$28,797.35 in staffing alone towards pickleball conversion and court projects since 2015.

DNR Grant
\$204,578.00

This grant was awarded by the DNR as a matching. It is currently in an extension phase in order for the City to further complete trails and other amenities in 2024.



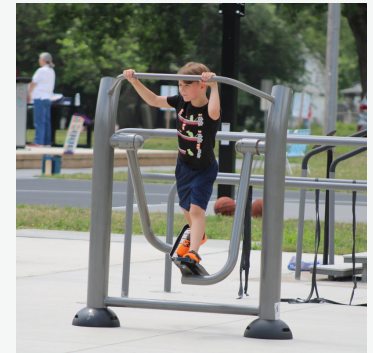


MCDONOUGH PARK

Park Improvements and Available Amenities

Park Improvements

- Expanded Shelter with Prairie Guard Steel Roof
- ADA Water Fountain and Hose Bib
- New Playground, New Grill and Eight New Trees
- Huffcutt Waterless Restroom & Two Huffcutt Storage Buildings w/ electricity
- Crushed Granite Trail along Dells Pond Overlook
- ADA Sidewalk throughout the Park
- 20 Memorial Bench locations available throughout the Park
- Electronic Locks on Restroom & 2 Storage sheds



Park Amenities

- 12 Pickleball Courts
- Large Checker Board
- Two Concrete Cornhole courts
- Two Shuffleboard Courts
- ½ Court Basketball Court
- Two Outdoor Table Tennis Tables
- 5 Established overlooks of Dells Pond
- Playground
- 1/2 mile Walking Trail
- Custom Game Tables
- Outdoor Exercise Equipment
- Two Boccee Courts with ADA access



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MCDONOUGH PARK

Access to Amenities

The general public is welcome to utilize all amenities at any time during park hours. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own equipment, or obtain access to the Recreation Shed -

Access to Equipment

- Pavillion Rentals - Community members who reserve the shelter have automatic option to utilize equipment housed in the recreation storage shed.
- Health Care Agencies can obtain access by signing agreement for use with the Recreation Division and be issued key code for access to health care agency recreation equipment inside the storage shed.
- Community Agencies, groups, individuals can obtain a key from the Recreation Division to access public recreation equipment that is available.

To Reserve Shelters



Have your own group?

Small Group enthusiasts can obtain access by group leader obtaining access to Recreation Shed for program specific equipment (i.e. cardio drumming, shuffleboard, etc)

Contact: recreation@eauclairewi.gov



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THANK YOU!

To all of our generous donors.

McDonough Active Aging (2018-2022)

- Marilyn Skrivseth, Visionary
- Wisconsin DNR - Outdoor Recreation Grant
- Dave Marquart and Marquart Motors - \$100,000
- Mayo Clinic -Hometown Health Grant
- City of Eau Claire Departments
 - Engineering, Recreation, Streets, Parks & Forestry, Utilities
- Other Donors
 - \$10,000+ Marilyn Skrivseth, Carol & Kenneth Olsen
 - \$5,000+ City of Eau Claire Neighborhood Grant
 - \$1,000+ Cathie Christenson-Woita, Jim and Kate Abens, Wisconsin PEO Sisterhood Help Fund
 - \$500+ Royal Credit Union, David and Donna Meier, Barbara Ann Heuschelle, Blackbaud Giving Fund,
 - Forty-Five Other Remaining Individual Donors & Agencies under \$500
- Eau Claire Rotary Club
- Xcel Energy -Day of Giving
- Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club Adopt-A-Park Day of Service



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Community Parks Association Pickleball Funds (2015-2018)

- Mayo Clinic –Hometown Health Grant
- City of Eau Claire Departments
 - Engineering, Recreation, Streets, Parks & Forestry, Utilities
- Other Donors
 - \$10,000+ Marilyn Skrivseth, Michael & Carol Benrud, Michelle Menard, Charter Bank
 - \$5,000+ Judy & Joseph Mirr, City of Eau Claire Neighborhood Grant, Jamf Nation Global Foundation Grant
 - \$2,000+ Nancy Bartusch, McFarlin Painting, Carol & Kenneth Olsen
 - \$1,000+ Ron & Mary Doering, Mike & Kathy Peterson, Mike & Barb Mai, Dave & Cheryl Gavin, Gregory & Joanne Strozinsky, Linda & Scott Nicastro, Chippewa Valley Orthopedics, Margaret Melrose, R L Davis, Rhonda Amundson, William Kruger
 - \$500+ Cletus & Jean Liedl, David & Susan Rowe, Joanne Crapisi, Julie Weber, Rich & Susan Cochrane, Stucky Chiropractic Center
 - 65+ Donors gave \$20-450.00



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Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club (2018-2023) - Post 501c3

- The CVPC has experienced \$4,500 + per year average donations from local supporters above and beyond the major project fundraisers.
- Many other special needs are fulfilled by members and community enthusiasts for various donations annually. Such donations include, but are not limited to donations for nets, pickleball machines, wind screens, balls, paddles, and more.
- 2023 Court Repair Project
 - Complete crack repair/resurfacing/repainting on courts 1-6 at McDonough Park was approved and completed by September, 2023.
 - Fundraising efforts by the CVPC to cover the entire costs of \$38,000 was successful with over 150 contributors. More information on this can be found in the August, 2023 newsletter.



General information of club happenings, history, newsletters, etc can be found on the CVPC facebook page and club website:

www.chippewavalleypickleballclub.com



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THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Adopt-A-Park, Days of Service, and Activities through the years



- Adopt-A-Park
 - In 2019, City of Eau Claire's Adopt-A-Park program was initiated through the Leadership Eau Claire series of special projects. Since its inception, 26 groups have committed to watch over specific parks, trails, and riverways. CVPC has adopted McDonough Park since 2019.
 - Annual **Amazing Eau Claire Clean-Up** held each spring.
 - Over 75 volunteers meet each year to clean-up, rake, build, plant, and prepare for play, the grounds and courts at McDonough Park. This has accounted for over 950 hours of cumulative service since 2019 on a specific spring date.
 - McDonough **Active Aging Days of Service**
 - in 2021 and 2022, CVPC provided volunteers to assist with specific service dates to help the City of Eau Claire and Xcel Energy establish the Dells Pond Overlooks.
- Tournaments, Lessons, League Play, Daily Maintenance, Ongoing Maintenance
 - It seems nearly impossible to quantify the 1,000s of hours volunteers have provided to promote the beloved game of pickleball in the Chippewa Valley.
 - THANK YOU!