



Table Talk

the Play with Your Food newsletter

September 2024

The magic of play

Musings on play and community from Co-Chair Matt Robertson

Play can be transformative. Play helps people set aside the cares and woes of the world and engage in a world of adventure, joy, and discovery. It's truly amazing to see the hobby of tabletop gaming come out of the shadows and get prime-time attention. The old attitude that "games are only for children" has been replaced by a keen desire to gather to play together in camaraderie at any age.

Play takes many forms, and games come in many varieties. There are the games we played in our youth, such as Monopoly, Payday, Clue, and Careers. There are games that have been played for decades or even centuries, such as Cribbage, Poker, Crokinole, Chess, Backgammon, and Go. Thousands of games are released every year, featuring new and exciting ways to play.

There are no bad games – only bad attitudes about games.

[Read more of Matt's thoughts...](#)

Tea & Obsession: an event report

By Chelsea Low (Dominant Duo)

Upon entering the opulent drawing room, one is immediately enveloped in an atmosphere of refined elegance, for it is here that the esteemed tradition of high tea is upheld.



The players really got into the spirit!

The soft glow of candlelight creates a warm ambiance, inviting all to partake in this most civilized of repasts. As the tea is poured and the conversation flows, one cannot help but feel transported to a realm of luxury and refinement, where the cares of the world are temporarily forgotten in the pursuit of leisure and indulgence.

At least, this is what it would have been like if we were in 19th century England! Instead, we gathered on Aug. 25 to raise money for Carmichael Outreach with the support of Teafluent, a local tea company. Together, we dined on tasty treats, tested tea, and tried to marry the most eligible Fairchild in a game of Obsession. All in all it was a wonderful afternoon, and we raised \$475!

Upcoming events

[The Reapling 2.0](#) (on now)
(The Grim Reaples)

[Scavenger Hunt](#)
(Sept. 20-22)
(TriviaNerds)

[Rock Paper Scissors Tournament](#) (Sept. 23)
(Dominant Duo)

[Fresh Baked](#) (orders are open until Sept. 24)
(The Table Flippers)

[Pasta and Viticulture](#)
(Sept. 30)
(The Fellowship of the Game)

["I've Got You Pegged" Cribbage Tournament](#)
(Oct. 3)
(The Table Flippers)

The [Events Calendar](#) is constantly being updated, so check the site often!

All fully registered teams will be eligible for a **prize draw on Tuesday, Sept. 17.**

Registration must be complete by 4:00 pm on Monday, Sept. 16 to qualify for the draw!



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Team coaches: your expert resource

New to PwYF this year is the role of “team coach,” a volunteer who is assigned to your team when you register. Team coaches provide support and guidance to your team as you start planning your events. They also serve as your team’s primary liaison with PwYF.



Carlos is also the PwYF Registrar.

You can expect your team coach to:

- connect with your entire team soon after initial registration.
- communicate important information about the PwYF campaign (such as deadlines, expectations, and reminders).
- answer questions about the campaign and the 24-hour event.
- help your team brainstorm for fundraisers and troubleshoot any issues that arise with events.
- help you navigate the PwYF website and community forums.

This year’s team coaches are Nathan Johnson (*below, left*) Carlos Rivera (*left*), Matt Robertson (*top right*), and Derek Turner (*right*). If you ever have any questions about PwYF or need some guidance with an event, just reach out to your team coach!



Matt is also Co-chair.



Derek also manages communications.

Meeples in your neighbourhood

This section profiles members of the PwYF community. Learn more at community.pwyf.ca.

Nathan Johnson (PwYF team: The Grim Reaples)



Nathan Johnson was only looking to buy some card expansions, but he ended up with something far more valuable – and perhaps dangerous, if the reports from last year’s “Reapling” are to be believed...

While making a purchase from a stranger, Nathan Johnson (*left, with wife Robyn*) noticed a wall of board games in the seller’s living room. The two men quickly decided it would be great to play a game together some time. That purchase was the spark for Nathan’s friendship with Mick Rissling – and the start of many game nights since then.

Their connection is what led Nathan to join Mick’s PwYF fundraising team, The Grim Reaples. It also sparked an innovative fundraising idea: [The Reapling](#), an interactive game of “Assassin” played with nerf guns. “I have had [the idea] for years, and the stars aligned that this was my chance to make it a reality,” Nathan says.

The initial Reapling in 2023 featured nine straight days of nerf gun sneak attacks – all in the name of fun and (competitive) bonding – and helped Nathan and his team improve the event for 2024.

The Reapling 2.0 started on Sept. 13 - but it’s not too late to join the fun! A \$5 donation to their team provides access to a private Facebook group to watch the hijinks unfold from afar.

When he’s not at home with his family and two dogs – or plotting nerf gun “assassinations” of fellow board gamers – Nathan can generally be found at his day job: providing air traffic services to three airports around the province.

[Read more of Nathan’s story...](#)



Play with Your Food: by the numbers (as of Sept. 11, 2024)

16 teams
78 participants

\$ 11,160 raised
% 18.6 of campaign goal

175 - September attendance
at ChewsDay Challenge