

November 2020 PickleBlast

What's in this PickleBlast?

Board and Committee Activity & Reports

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Committee / Work Area Reports 11-11-2020 Board Meeting

[Click here](#) to access agenda and committee / work area reports.

Board Meeting Update - 10-14-2020

Motions approved:

- \$600 for 400 3D printer-produced name tags
- TAPPL (Arizona Pickleball Players League - Tucson Area)
 - To approve league play times for all home court matches (3 courts) - #1 is Wednesdays 11 AM and 2 PM; #2 is Thursdays 11 AM and 2PM, #3 is Mondays 11 AM and 2 PM
 - To support practice time slots to occur at 11 AM and 2 PM for all skill levels (8 teams total).
 - To approve and cover the costs at Kino if necessary - \$6/hour X 2 hrs. X 3 courts = \$36 per match X 5 matches=\$180 X 8 teams = \$1440.
 - To approve and provide balls for all home matches - 6 balls per match to be reused each week.

Motions failing:

- Up to \$1,000 to purchase three (3) Ambient Weather WS-2000 Smart Weather Station with WiFi Remote Monitoring and Alerts and required accessories for placement at East Center, Canoa Ranch, and Kent J. Blumenthal Pickleball Complex

Motions tabled:

- Set 2021 annual dues at \$25 per member to meet projected expenses of \$19,012 and establish a reserve of \$3,600

Re-Opening Update

Please [click here](#) for the 11-13-2020 Eblast from GVR.

GVR Pickleball Complex Update

The shade structure was installed over a two-day period and did not cause much disruption to our play. Many thanks and big hat tip to Mike Clemens for getting it done. We have received notice that GVR has purchased four benches that will be placed soon.

New & Renewed Members (October 2020)

Adam Abend, Sarah Abend, Pat Andrews, David Burns, Kathleen Burns, Chris Buzan, Carol Claton, Nancy Crosby, Cindy Elder, Christine Garcia, Kerry Garcia, Tom Glibert, Georgia Hillyer, Bruce Humes, David Kenney, Daniel Kutella, Laura Ramp, Debbie Reed, Don Reed, Rick Oliveira, Carl Schuster, Mary Scott, Mark Striepe,

Karen Striepe, Alan Triplett, James Trobec, Cindy Webb, Kerry Woerner, Patrick Zuleger

New Ratings (October 2020)

2.0 to 2.5 Cheryl Ahern

2.5 to 3.0: Barb Dentzman, Sue Hausam, Terri Nolte, Joyce Peppel, Robb Robison

3.0 to 3.5: David Burns, Kathy Burns, Mike Heintz, Nancy Williams

3.5 to 4.0: Dean Olson

Interview with Donna Davis re: Tournament Update Part 2

As we prepare for the 2021 Pickleball Tournament season, it is important to understand how your [club rating differs from the USAPA Tournament Player Rating \(UTPR\)](#). Both of our tournaments (listed below) are sanctioned USA Pickleball tournaments. As sanctioned tournaments, the players must register and play according to their USAPA Tournament Player Rating (UTPR) rather than their club rating.

- Southern Arizona Senior Games, March 27-29, 2021 - Kent J Blumenthal Pickleball Complex
- 2021 Inaugural Foundation Games, October 22-24, 2021 - Kent J Blumenthal Pickleball Complex

Are UTPR and club ratings the same?

They could be but [they don't have to be](#).

1. USA Pickleball /UTPR's are determined by the results of actual tournament matches.
2. Your club rating is based on your skill level based on the skill levels of the other players in your club. This makes focus play, round-robins, ladder leagues, etc. more competitive because players are grouped by similar abilities.

How do I get a UTPR?

1. If you have participated in either a sanctioned or non-sanctioned tournament in the past 5 years using PickleballTournaments.com you will automatically get an initial USAPA Tournament Player Rating in each of the event categories played once you join USA Pickleball. (Southern Arizona Senior Games tournaments use this software)
2. The option to self-rate is available for those playing in their first tournament.
 - a. As a rule of thumb, if you feel you are a strong player at your current club rating then that is probably the right self-rating level. If you have recently moved up in your club rating you may consider self-rating at your old club level to start tournament play.
 - b. Another option is to ask club players at your current level what their UTPRs are and try to make a decision based on your perceived skill compared to theirs.
 - c. Contact ratingsadmin@usapickleball.org to preset your UTPR based player skill ratings (usapickleball.org>Tournaments>UTPR>Definitions of player ratings).

Check out this video link about UTPR's and how they are calculated:

<https://usapickleball.org/about-us/usapa-videos/utpr-video-series/>. The second video provides answers to frequently asked questions about UTPRs.

If my club rating is 4.0 and I play 4.0 during our club focus plays and round robins but my UTPR is 3.5, might I end up playing against someone from my club who plays 3.5 during focus play?

Remember that tournament and club ratings are totally independent of each other. If you are playing in a 3.5 tournament division and you find one of our 4.0 club members in your same bracket they are not "sandbagging," this is their rating based on wins and losses in **tournament** play.

Do I have to play a tournament at my UTPR level?

Your UTPR is the **minimum** skill level at which you can compete in a tournament. However, you can always play up in skill. Also, **you must play at the skill level of the highest UTPR player on your team.**

Will players have separate UTPRs for singles, doubles and mixed doubles?

Yes, players will have separate UTPRs for each event category played since June 2015. UTPRs will be calculated for 5 competitive divisions- men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles.

Stay tuned to next month's Pickleblast for upcoming local 2021 tournament dates and information about future Q & A sessions to answer any questions you may have regarding –

- USAPA Tournament Player Rating (UTPR) and how it differs from your club rating
- How to sign up/renew for your USA Pickleball membership
- How to register for a tournament through PickleballTournaments.com

Observations

In October 2020, the board approved a schedule that featured some new concepts, ROC (Rated Organized Play Competition) and Ratings Review Prep Round Robins. Feedback on both of these has been received and processed and some adjustments and clarification follow. With respect to the ROC play, the description of it was listed on the schedule and was voted on when we were still observing summer hours where it was conducive to play at 6:30 a.m. As the weather has gotten colder, most players don't come to the courts until much later. So, instead of designating the first two hours of Focus Play, each level can determine which two hours would work best. Presently, the only group utilizing ROC is the 4.0 level. Paul Serra is reaching out to the 3.0 and 3.5 groups to see if they are interested in doing this as well. Here is the updated explanation of what ROC is:

Rated Organized Play Competition (ROC) - an optional (each skill level can decide if they wish to adopt and select a two-hour block for play) allocated part of daily focus play time period which is only USAPA, IPTPA or Club skill level rated members/players of the designated skill level or those who have committed to testing up. For example: 4.0 Focus Play is designated from 6:30 a.m. to 12 noon and the ROC time is from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Before or after ROC time, members from other skill levels who wish to play "up" may do so.

The Ratings Review Prep Round Robin will not go forward but will be replaced with a Call List of available players who have been involved with the Ratings Review testing process. The way it will work is when a member wants to see if their play is at a level to test up, they can contact players from the Call List for an arranged match of three games. The list is still being developed and will be announced once finalized.

Many of you continue to miss the camera feeds and ability to see if it's too windy or if the courts are wet with one of our rare showers or how many people are at each facility. The decision to turn them off was a GVR Administrative action after some GVR members complained that they had added cameras at the pools. If you would like to see the cameras turned back on at the pickleball courts' locations, please write to the GVR Administration at hotline@gvrec.org and copy the GVR Board of Directors at board@gvrec.org.

If you need a new ball, please contact or have someone help you find one of the following board members or club volunteers who are currently working in our Education or Ratings areas on behalf of the club. They have access to open the office at the PBC. You will need your GVR # to sign out for the ball. Gina Rowsam, Mike Clemens, Patrick Furumoto, Susan MacMillan Dianna Michels, Paul Serra, Carol Hammerle, Al Willette, Kathy Palese, Bob Seemann, Suzanne Norhagen, Connie Griffin, Mark McIntosh. Between all of these folks we should be able to cover any needs. Thanks!

Earlier this summer the Pickleball Club was approached by Blaine Nisson, Chair of the PB Complex Naming Event Committee, requesting the club's participation in the event by unveiling the donor recognition wall. Additionally, the club was requested to help with the refreshment costs. The event will be held on December 2, 2020 at 2 PM. Since this was announced, I have heard from a few individuals concerned about this event as it relates to COVID-19. I have expressed these concerns to GVR and they assure me that they are working directly with Pima County and will comply with the recommended guidelines for an outdoor event. Decisions regarding the number of attendees will be made a couple days prior to the event to reflect the number of cases being reported, i.e. positivity rate. Those not able to attend in person will be able to watch a live stream of the event. RSVP by Monday, November 23, 2020 by sending an email to rsvp@gvrec.org.

Kathee Richter, one of our devoted club members, has arranged for her son, Andrew Richter, to do a program for interested club members on COVID-19 transmission and ways to protect our community specifically relating to Pickleball. It will be a ZOOM meeting (a separate email with the ZOOM info will be sent) held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at 7 p.m. Andrew is based in Seattle, Washington, and is the facility medical director for a very large urgent care system as well as a member of their large health system's Subject Matter Expert group on Infection Control on COVID-19 and member of our COVID-19 Task Force. He also practices Urgent Care and takes care of COVID-19 patients. His educational background is medicine and public health. The board recognizes this would be an opinion that may differ with other medical professionals.

Mike Harrington resigned from his Treasurer position on Sunday, November 15, 2020, effective immediately. Patrick Furumoto has agreed to move from his Member at Large position to Treasurer and the board unanimously approved the appointment. We are seeking a replacement for the vacancy left in the Member at Large position term ending March 31, 2021. If you are interested, please send an email to greenvalleypickleballclub@gmail.com. Please join me in thanking Mike Harrington for his service and Patrick Furumoto for taking on this new responsibility.

Do you know someone who could use a pick me up? Simply click on the Contact Us button at the top of our webpage <http://www.gvrpickleball.org> and select **Wellness/Outreach Committee** and complete the form.

In closing, if you have not joined our Facebook group page I encourage you to do so. Here is the link. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/252938121566884>

If you want to become involved, have a suggestion, comment, or a question please use the Contact Us feature on the GVR Pickleball Club website <http://www.gvrpickleball.org>.

Carpe Dinkum!



Gina Rowsam, President
GVR Pickleball Club