

December 2023 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

Another busy month for our volunteers and the Club Board as you review the Board Highlights and the committee reports.

More importantly, I have been asking for volunteers for various positions over the past couple of months, but no one has come forward to help out. I realize we have many volunteers helping already, but we still need the following.

Here are the volunteer needs for the Club.

- **Tournament Committee Chair – Immediate need**, if you are interested in leading this committee in organizing and conducting tournaments for the Club.
- **Need one 2.0/2.5 player to join the Scheduling Committee**, who meet to review & recommend changes to the court schedules..
- **Social, Member Outreach, & Apparel Liaison Committee Chair** - Need in March 2024: Organizing and supporting the Dink & Dines, Member outreach contacts, & being the liaison between the Club and our clothing vendor. Contact Mary Wright at wmary1966@gmail.com for more details.
- **Rating Testing** needs feeders and recorders for testing on Wednesdays. Please email Greg Wright, GWMW1@Q.COM, if you are interested in learning more about helping out.
- **Alert! In March, there will be the following two-year Club Board positions becoming available: President, Secretary, Member-at-Large.**

We need you! If you are interested, please let me know by emailing the club address: greenvalleypickleballclub@gmail.com. I am available to talk to you about any of the above opportunities to help the club out.

See you on the courts!



Patrick "Just One More Game" Furumoto, President
GVR Pickleball Club

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting: January 11, 2024, Time [4pm](#), [Madera Vista Recreation Center](#), 440 S Camino Del Portillo

Board Meeting Highlights

a. Pickleball Plus

Move that the club assumes the financial aspects of the Pickleball Plus application, income and expenses. [Passed](#).

Background: Ray Kuehl, the developer & technical support for Pickleball Plus requested that the Club assume the financial aspects of the application. He would continue to provide technical support and provide functionality improvements for an hourly fee, which is consistent with past practices. He would not ask the Club to compensate him for the application.

Currently, Income is received from 2 clubs (FL \$900, Tucson \$250) in the amount of \$1,150, which are using the Pickleball Plus application. The GVR Pickleball Club this year paid \$1,745 in support fees. Of course, the other 2 clubs may choose to stop using Pickleball Plus.

Expenses are for the Amazon servers which support the application for all 3 clubs is approximately \$1,158 per year based upon the past 12 months and \$41/year for the pickleball.plus domain name.

The support for this change is as follows.

- The club would realize a savings of the yearly per member fee, which in 2023 was \$1.50/member, which would be \$2,250 for 1500 members.
- The club would have income from the other 2 clubs who are using Pickleball Plus.
- The club would not have to find a new application to handle the member database, scheduling, court reservations, etc. and make such a change in the middle of the high season. Monthly fees would run several hundred dollars a month.

There may be additional discussions with Ray to address any additional aspects of this change. At this time, the Club will not market pickleball plus to other clubs.

b. Cold Weather Pickleballs

MOVE that the club purchase no more Onix balls, and use Franklin balls in all temperatures for at least the 2023-24 winter season until we can determine the best economic decision. [Passed](#).

c. GVR Senior Games 2024 or Internal Club Tournament?

Question: Does the Club want to hold a tournament in the spring? GVR is not hosting the Senior Games in 2024, but is ok if clubs conduct tournaments on their own. The Club did hold a 1 day Club tournament earlier this year in March.

The preference of the Board is to explore the feasibility of holding an internal tournament in March, 2024. Janet Reynolds will work on identifying the tournament committee and bring their recommendation to the Board in January.

d. Club Policy Manual Update - Section 6 Club Skill Ratings

MOVE to accept the following updates to the below sections to accept DUPR ratings for a member's Club rating. **Passed.**

Club Skill Ratings

- i. For experienced players joining the Pickleball Club (GVRPC) as new members and who have a rating above 2.0, the member should send an email to: greenvalleypickleballclub@gmail.com documenting their UTPR rating, IPTPA rating, **DUPR rating**, or their current club rating from an organized club to the Ratings Committee for consideration.
- ii. For another club's rating to be considered, the other organized club must have a formal rating process that can be reviewed by the GVRPC. In addition, the other club's rating assessment must align with GVRPC in order to be considered. The other club's Club Policy Manual Updated 04-13-2023 documentation must be sent directly to the GVRPC for review. Simply listing a rating without explanation of process is not sufficient. The Ratings Committee will make a determination based upon the submitted documentation and their observations of the new club member's play.
- iii. The following ratings are not accepted by the Club: **DUPR**; WPR.
- iiii. The Club will accept **USAP's USA Pickleball's** UTPR (tournament derived), IPTPA, **DUPR** and possibly other club skill ratings as Club skill ratings. However, our Club's ratings are not accepted as **USAP USA Pickleball** or IPTPA skill ratings by these organizations.

e. Court Scheduling Policy Manual Update

Motion: To re-organize Policy Manual Section 5 and add responsibilities of the Scheduling Committee. Items in **RED** are new. **Passed.**

5. Court Usage & Scheduling

Court schedules are evaluated and modified throughout the year as **seasons change and** court usage statistics indicate the need for a schedule modification. The intent is to optimize play for all skill levels, provide open times for mixed skill levels, and allot court time for reserved courts and instructional classes and clinics. Changes to court schedules will be made available to the membership for review and input for at least one week prior to **the GVRPB Club Board meeting when major seasonal changes are considered by the Board.** (See A.i. below)

A. Court Scheduling Committee

The charge of the Court Scheduling Committee (heretofore referred to as the 'Scheduling Committee'):

- i. To Consider and evaluate proposed changes to the Club's Scheduling Policies and then present their recommendations to the GVRPB Club Board for approval for major seasonal changes effective October, January and June.**
- ii. Consider and evaluate other changes to the court schedules.** The Scheduling Committees approval of these changes will not require GVRPB Club Board approval.
- iii. Scheduling Committee members are expected to communicate and solicit input from players within their skill level and bring that input back to the committee.**

iv. **The Scheduling Committee is made up of representatives from each skill level.**

B. **Usage** – To maximize play benefits on behalf of our members the Club utilizes Play type designations and time of day usage guidelines:

Play Types - There are a variety of Play types that are designed to accommodate the full spectrum of interests of all GVR and Club members.

i. **Skill Level Play (SLP) - courts designated for players at the same skill level.** Players place their paddles in a queue to determine who plays on the next open court. Groups of 2 paddles can be bundled together in the queue.

ii. **Open Play (OP) / Drop-in - courts designated for all players of all levels to mix together to play.** When open play scheduled courts are full, players create a queue and wait for an open court. Up to 4 paddles can be bundled together in the queue. Each foursome plays one game on a court before moving off the court and back into the queue.

iii. **Reserved Courts (RC)- for groups that would like to play together in 1.5 hour intervals.** These courts can be reserved online at <https://gvpc.pickleball.plus/> under the Courts Tab.

iv. **Classes - The Club offers a variety of PB classes and programming to improve the playing skills of our members.** This includes PB courses for a fee, that require registration through GVR (not through the PB Plus); and some Club provided programming: registration on <https://gvpc.pickleball.plus/> under the Events Tab.

v. **Round Robins - courts designated by skill level that require players to register online.** Registration can be reserved online at <https://gvpc.pickleball.plus/> under the Events Tab. If a Round Robin is not full, Club members can show up at the designated time for their Skill Level and be added to the roster. See Section 5.E. for more specifics on Round Robin administration.

vi. **Training aids – Hitting walls (Court #1 East, Court #5 PBC) are available when these courts are not scheduled for another use. Ball Machines are available to Club members by sign-up on Pickleball Plus.**

vii. **Reciprocal** play - is scheduled during non-peak usage times and is subject to GVR policies. A waiver form is required for each non-GVR player.

viii. Clinics and Instructional Classes

- GVR sponsored classes are governed by GVR class policies and GVR manages the reservation and payment process.
- Club sponsored classes are scheduled and staffed by GVRPC, subject to GVR policies regarding participation. GVRPC manages the reservation and payment process.
- Clinics and classes provided by third party professional instructors are scheduled by GVRPC, with the reservation and payment process responsibility to be negotiated with the instructor. GVR collects a fee of 30% of the total class fees for court usage, unless the event is designated as a club fundraiser and a negotiated amount or fee is paid by the instructor(s) to GVRPC.

ix. Club tournaments

- All club tournaments must be scheduled with GVR to provide sufficient notification for those using the courts but not participating in the club tournaments.
- GVR collects a fee of 30% of the total tournament fees for court usage, unless the event is designated as a GVR - approved club fundraiser, in which event GVRPC retains all fees.

x. Mixed Skill Level Play (MSLP): Opportunity to play with players at the same skill rating plus players 1 skill level lower & 1 skill level higher, creating mixed skill level play. The specific mixed skill levels are:

For 2.0/2.5 –includes 2.0/2.5 & 3.0 skill levels

For 3.0 – includes 2.0/2.5 & 3.5 skill levels

For 3.5 –includes 3.0 & 4.0+ skill levels

For 4.0+ –includes 3.5 & 4.0+ skill levels

It is open to Club members, GVR members & GVR guests and uses paddle queuing to determine who plays next. No prior sign up is required. In effect, June 1 through September 30.

c. Prime Time - Demand for court time is at its peak during Prime Time (November through April before Noon).

Generally, Court scheduling uses the following guidelines during Prime Time:

i. Monday-Saturday Prime Time - East Center and Pickleball Center (PBC) courts are all scheduled for Skill Level Play or Round Robins. Each Skill Level is assigned the same # of courts each week, regardless of the number of club rated players in each level. Canoa Ranch courts are Open Play.

ii. Every Day - Afternoons in order of priority: Classes/Clinics, League Play, Reserved courts, Open Play.

iii. Designated evenings - Round Robin play by skill level at East Center.

iv. Sundays – Drop-in/Open Play and Reserved Courts at all centers.

v. From time to time there will be special events that will supersede these scheduling parameters: i.e. Clinics, Tournaments, GVR Maintenance, GVR Holiday closings.

Please refer to the Court schedules that are available on the Home Page of the GVR Pickleball Club web site at <https://www.gvrpickleball.org/> for specific days and times that will accommodate your playing preferences.

D. Court rules

i. Paddle queuing is used as a method to determine which group of players will use the next available court and is directed by the Court **Scheduling** Committee and Court Coordinators.

ii. During Skill Level Play: Two paddles may be grouped together in the paddle queue.

iii. During Open play/Drop-In: Up to four paddles may be grouped together in the paddle queue.

iv. During heavy court usage: Court Coordinators may implement a "win by one" or play to nine points format to speed play.

v. Court monitors may educate members on the queuing systems, court schedules, and club policies. GVR has stated that the club may not request that those members playing during

skill level play outside of their club rating be asked to leave. Court monitors may only suggest that members play during the designated days and times for their club skill rating.

E. Round Robins

- i. These events are scheduled and managed weekly by GVRPC.
- ii. Club members must sign up for a Round Robin event in Pickleball Plus for only their designated skill level.
- iii. Club members who have not signed up in Pickleball Plus may be allowed to play in a Round Robin, if there are available spots at the start of the RR and they have the designated RR skill level.
- iv. The RR Coordinator has the following responsibilities:
 - Retrieves the RR supplies from storage area, displays the player RR signup sheet (preference is to print the list of participants & waitlist from the Pickleball Plus RR Event) and appropriate RR chart.
 - Explains how the RR works for those players who are not familiar with a RR.
 - Knows the courts that are assigned to the RR. And will not expand the number of courts used, even though there may be additional players available.
 - When the RR is not filled with participants and there are walk up players, the coordinator will determine which players are added to the RR to fill available spots. The players added will be based upon: the PB+ waitlist, designated skill level, time of arrival. if they are a Club or GVR member or have a GVR guest card.
 - Cleans the RR chart and returns RR supplies to the storage area.
- v. Players may sign up for available Round Robins for their skill level within a week. Limitations to signing up for multiple RRs in the same week, may be in place during the peak season & times or when there are more than 1 RR on the same day. These limitations allow more individuals to sign up for a RR during the week. Specific details of any limitations will be shown in Pickleball Plus.

f. GVR Holiday Schedule

- Sunday, December 24: All GVR centers including pools, spas, and fitness facilities close at 6pm.
- Monday, December 25: GVR offices and customer service desks are closed. Limited facilities available 5:30am-1pm: pools, fitness centers, and sports clubs will be open at Canoa Ranch, Desert Hills, Las Campanas, Pickleball Center, Santa Rita Springs, and West Center. GVR offices, meeting rooms, and club spaces will be closed. **Monday evening RR at the East Center may need to be canceled.**
- Sunday, December 31: All centers close at 6pm.
- Monday, January 1: GVR offices and customer service desks are closed. Center

Highlights of Work Area Reports & General Interest to Members

[Click here](#) to access past Board Agenda & Work Area Reports. .

Check out the GVR Classes below, sign up today!

PB 101: Classes are 2 hours

Jan 9, 16, 23, 30 Jeff Ricciardi

Jan 10 17, 24, 31 Donna Davis

Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb 1 Steve Fernandez

PB 201, 202, 301 Carol Hammerle

PB 201: Jan 8, 15, 22

PB 202: Jan 29, Feb 5, Feb 12

Pickleball Mindset of Winners by SNAP Kathy Palese

- January 2, 9, 16
- January 23, 30, February 6

Pickleball Major League by SNAP Kathy Palese

January 7, 14, 21, 28 (4.0+ rated players)

Court Updates & Reminders

So you don't forget an event or a court reservation: A reminder email will be sent to you the day before your court reservation or event sign up. If plans have changed and you do not need the court or cannot attend the event, please cancel the court or event.

More players are looking to reserve courts: Due to this increase in demand for courts, you will be limited to 1 court reservation within a 6-day period for the same court location.

On colder mornings when the temperature is below 50 degrees, please use the ONIX pickleballs. Once the temperature is 50 degrees or above, the Franklin pickleballs may be used. Thank you.

Member Outreach Charities Donation - December, 2023

At this time of the year and for the past several years, the Club Social Committee has identified charities for the member outreach donation campaign. Donations will be received and presented to these organizations on behalf of the Club. It has been a successful campaign in the past. This year the Club selected the following 2 organizations for donations, Southern Arizona Food Bank – Green Valley & GVR Foundation MAP program.

The Club hopes you will value the importance in making a difference for local families and fellow neighbors during the holiday season with your grateful donations. Thank you.

Click on this link to learn how to donate to the Southern AZ Food Bank Green Valley and the GVR Foundation MAP Program.

[Member Outreach Charities 2023.pdf](#)

Skill Ratings

For complete information about Skill Ratings and RAP (Rating Assessment & Demo Practice) visit the Club's website Rating tab at: [Ratings | PB2021 \(gvrpickleball.org\)](#).

Key reminders!

The first step in the Rating process is to submit the results of the USA Pickleball Rules test. See website for the link to the rules test.

No-Shows! When you sign up for RAP and do not show up, this counts as your 1 allowed sign up. As for testing, if you sign up and do not show up, this is counted as Failed skill test. You are allowed two attempts per year for testing at one rating level. It is disappointing when people are no-show because we work hard to bring volunteers to help our students and testees to be successful. **Please be respectful and cancel appropriately with plenty of notice for us to adjust. Call Marilyn or**

Greg with notice please.

We really need more volunteers! Feeders and Recorders especially. If you're interested in more information on these roles please contact me and I'll get you in contact with our lead volunteers. We cannot provide these training and testing sessions without help from our members. [If you're interested in more information on these roles please contact Greg Wright at GWMW1@Q.COM.](mailto:GWMW1@Q.COM)

The number of club testing this year is lower than last year. So far we have administered 51 tests with 35 successful for 69%. Last year at this time we administered 65 tests. Congratulations to those who moved up!

Members whose skill rating has changed through the Club rating process, IPTPA, DUPR, or other accepted rating testing.

2.5: Sharon Day, Jane Ferderer, Mark Ferderer, Pamela Moore, Richard Mahoey

3.0: Sherry Foti, Randy Marsh, Bill Edwards, Ward Clark, Gary Thurber, Mark Hyer, Theresa Ellis, Margaret Hyer, John Creagh

3.5: Larry Swenson, Todd Gundlach

4.0: Randy Swanhorst, Lisa Wilson, Brian Gaffney, Tami Papapetru

4.5: Sue Toeniskoetter

New Members

November 37 new members –

Dennis Puccinelli, Bob Ashcraft, Patti Ashcraft, Michele Furry, Bill Furry, Deborah Shope, David Wells, Gerald Traeger, Anthony Pfannenstiel, Tami Papapetru, Connie Collier, Judith Oslin, Gary Weisskopf, Mark Davidson, Diane Heisler, Clifford Jones, Lisa Fitch, Sandi Glaser, Dan Moore, Darlene(Dee) Thorsen, Jill Evers-Bowers, Susan Davidson, Susan Hershey, Marian Avoy, Russell Broddle, Agnes Baker, Terry Boyd, Lisa Fenner, Richard McCleary, Karen Brace Adams, Dan Klema, Nancy Klema, Todd Gundlach, Dan Carey, Peter O`Leary, Mary Morrow, Randall Swanhorst

Social Activities, Member Outreach, Facebook & Logo Apparel

SOCIAL - No socials in November & December

Upcoming Socials - **HOLD THESE DATES**

- Dine & Dance with Angel Perez & Daniel @ West Center on 1/27/24
- Dink, Dine & Toss (Cornhole) @ East Center on 2/17/24
- Volunteer Appreciation @ East Center on 3/16/24

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR -

[Social, Member Outreach & Apparel Liaison Committee Chair - Need March, 2024. Organizing & supporting the Dink & Dine monthly socials, Member Outreach contacts, & being the liaison between the Club and our clothing vendor. Contact Mary Wright @ \[wmary1966@gmail.com\]\(mailto:wmary1966@gmail.com\) for more details.](#)

FACEBOOK - There are currently 227 active club members on the private Facebook page. NOTE: In order to join this page, you must be an active member of the GVR Pickleball Club.

Club Classes

The Club offers classes free of charge to active club members for those looking to learn and to improve their skills. While there is no charge for these they do require registration through Pickleball Plus (gvpc.pickleball.plus).

Developing Skills for 2.0 & 2.5 players. Players are encouraged to use Developing Skills as a stepping stone to improve their skills after taking a GVR Pickleball 101 class. These sessions incorporate drills and game play with a coach observer. After 4 sessions players will need to join the Club to continue to sign up.

Coaches are authorized to advance players from 2.0 to 2.5.

GVR Classes

PB 101: Duration - 2 hours

Jan 9, 16, 23, 30 Jeff Ricciardi
Jan 10 17, 24, 31 Donna Davis
Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb 1 Steve Fernandez

Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Steve Fernandez
Feb 7, 14, 21, 28 Donna Davis

Mar 5, 12, 19, 26 Steve Fernandez
Mar 6, 13, 20, 27 Donna Davis

PB 201, 202, 301 Carol Hammerle

PB 201: Jan 8, 15, 22
PB 201: Mar 11, 18, 25
PB 202: Jan 29, Feb 5, Feb 12
PB 301: Feb 19, 26, Mar 4

Pickleball Mindset of Winners by SNAP Kathy Palese

- January 2, 9, 16
- January 23, 30, February 6
- February 13, 20, 27
- March 5, 12, 19
- March 26, April 2, 9

Pickleball Major League by SNAP Kathy Palese

January 7, 14, 21, 28 (4.0+ rated players)
February 4, 11, 18, 25 (3.5 rated players)
March 3, 10, 17, 24 (4.0+ rated players)

Training for Ball Machines

The Club has a Lobster Ball Machine at the East Center and the KJB Pickleball Center. Both are available to reserve through Pickleball Plus. If you want to be trained on the Lobster ball machine, check Events in Pickleball Plus for the monthly training sign ups.

Play Safe and Be Prepared

As a reminder, when you go to play pickleball. It is a great idea to have a copy of your insurance card, driver's license, and emergency contact. Hopefully, you will never need to use them on the courts, but they are important, if you have a medical issue.

Also, if you see plastic bags in the cabinets at the 3 locations, they are to be used for impromptu ice packs in case there are no ice packs in the first aid kits.