

## February 2018 PickleBlast

Welcome to this month's **PickleBlast**, which is chock-full of news, updates, and club information. It's been a busy month and we're not done yet! Let's get to it.

### What's in this PickleBlast?

February Board Meeting Highlights  
New GVR Pickleball Courts update  
Website updates  
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### Board Meeting Highlights

- We have a new Pickleball Tutor to replace Simon. We will schedule sessions soon for those of you who would like to learn how to operate Pickleball Tutor and help other club members use this ball machine.
- There is an immediate need for nominees for Club Secretary. If you know how to use a computer, a phone, and have a basic grasp of the English language, you might be the one we're looking for. And, to make the transition less daunting Virginia will be available to help you learn the ropes.
- We recognize the need to make some changes to the court schedules for focus play. Marsha Olson is leading a taskforce to review what we have in place and make recommendations for changes. If you're interested in having a say, please contact us through the website.

### New GVR Pickleball Courts update

We have certainly hit a new gear this month with the announcement of a site for new courts. Thanks to all who came out on February 13 to receive an update on all the details of the site selection and where we go from here. **We need your help!** [Here are the details](#) on how you can get involved. Most of these tasks take little effort but demonstrate to the GVR Board that we need new courts now.

Our club fundraising committee has been meeting regularly and we are planning several fundraising events, including an auction/raffle at the Southern Arizona Senior Games, a golf tournament, a chili-cookoff, and a club-wide garage sale. We are also considering club and sanctioned tournaments for 2019. If you would like to help with any of these events, please [contact us](#) and we'll be happy to add you to the team. We cannot have a successful fundraising effort without your help.

### Website Updates

- Have a question, suggestion, or complaint? The best way to communicate with the Board is through our [Suggestion Box](#). We try to remember the conversations we have at the courts, but that's not the most reliable way to pass on your ideas. Send us your ideas through the website and we'll respond as quickly as we can.

- We've started a new Frequently Asked Questions for those questions and answers that come up regularly. This page will receive updates as we post information that most of you request. You can view the new page [here](#).
- There's now another new page on the website dedicated to [information about the new courts](#) project. We will continue to post the latest news as we receive it.
- Don't forget about our club [FaceBook page](#). It's tournament season and you can catch up on all the medal winners from Green Valley there.

### Welcome New Members! (January)

Cheryl Ahern	Nancy and Dennis Au	Linda DeClerck	Ron Doughty
Charlie Dolezal	Foy and Dennis Egbert	Mary Fay	Mary Beth Forst
Angela and Vern Fraser	Marilyn Gaizband	Sam Schaen	Debra Hall
Bruce Harding	Linell Harvey	L Ann Hess	Pamela Holzwarth
Kirsten Honey	Connie and Guy Howerton	Judith Kackman	Michael Lawrence
Irene and Dwayne Lovins	Tom Mani	Betsy and David Martin	Colleen and Dave McKee
Francie Millett	Ruth Neufeld	Ann and Bruce Ostern	Karen Rainford
Corey Robinson	Deb and Mike Rogers	Debby and Ross Rulli	Jan Saunders
Scott Spahn	Mary Stallions	Nan Taller	Richard Van Ess
Edward Wilson	Steve Woolard		

### Congrats to Members with New Ratings! (January)

<b>Moved to 2.5:</b>	Larry Broyles	Laura Broyles	Darian Kissman	Bob Stephenson
	Jean Stephenson	Nancy White	Peter White	
<b>Moved to 3.0:</b>	Geri Bryan	Walt Bryan	Lesley Carlon	Linda Chadsey
	Jim Gardner	Ben Haranin	Linell Harvey	Bill Hennessy
	Ed Leach	Susan MacMillan	Jim Maxwell	Mark McCright
	Terry O'Brien	Connie Prescott	Irene Robinson	Ann Rock
	Renaë Stemper	Patty Tracy	Tony Vitale	
<b>Moved to 3.5:</b>	Steve Aiken	Marty Camacho	Mary Drey	Michael Glaser
	Wally Rhodes	Shirley Schaller		
<b>Moved to 4.0:</b>				
<b>Moved to 4.5:</b>				

\*\* Have you received a new rating through USAPA or IPTPA? If so, let our Secretary Virginia Smith know and she'll update your club profile.

### Interview with Donna and Donna, our Southern Arizona Senior Games Directors

Our interview this month is about the upcoming Southern Arizona Senior Games. We have Donna Davis and Donna Coon in the studio today and they're here to share information about the Games. Like professional athletes they seem to start preparations for the next season a few days after each one ends.

**[PickleBlast]:** *Thanks for taking some time to talk to us today, Donna and Donna. We're less than a month away from the Southern Arizona Senior Games and we'd like to know how things are shaping up. Are we doing well with registrations? Which categories are full and which still have availability?*

**[Donna Davis]:** We currently have 360 people registered. For the 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 tournament we have almost 100 teams for the mixed doubles event and have closed that category for now. We have a few openings in men's doubles and we have room to add several women's teams. In the 2.0/2.5 round-robin event held on March 10 and 11, we are seeking more teams in all categories. The event will be held at the East Center courts. This is a great opportunity for people to "get their feet wet" in a tournament setting without the pressure of the double-elimination format. Registration for all events closes Feb. 20.

**[Donna Coon]:** For the 2.0/2.5 players, consider trying out the Round Robin competition. If you don't have a partner you can go ahead and sign up and you will be listed in 'Players Needing Partners'. [Click Here](#) to register.

**[PB]:** *Is there anything new at this year's Games?*

**[DD]:** We have two major fundraising events coming up. On March 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11 our club will be hosting the Southern Arizona Senior Games Pickleball Tournament. April 22 is the date for our first annual Swinging Fore Green Valley Pickleball Club Golf Outing. At both of these activities, we will be raffling and auctioning off various gift baskets, larger merchandise items, and handmade products from those with expertise in woodworking, quilting, pottery, jewelry making, photography, etc. We rely heavily on the donation of auction and raffle items from club members, friends, and businesses. An email letter with details on how people can contribute was sent to each club member. If each of us can do a little we can reap huge rewards.

**[DC]:** We are trying a new set up at Quail Creek this year. The GVR Foundation has agreed to rent 2 large tents which we will set up in the parking lot. One will be used for the event and referee desks and the other will be home to our 'sales' area - t-shirts, raffles, silent auctions, snacks, etc. This will leave the ramada open for the players to use between their matches.

**[PB]:** *As a participant what are the three most important things I need to know?*

**[DD]:** 1. Be patient. There are a lot of players and many divisions, so as long as you keep winning there will be some wait time.

2. Make sure you drink plenty of water. Dehydration is one of the major problems experienced by players during the day.

3. This year baked goods will be available and will be sold until they are gone. Food will also be available throughout the day but the caterers leave about 2:00 so it is a good idea to have a sandwich and/or snacks with you if you are playing in the afternoon.

**[DC]:** Arrive early! Depending on your start time you may have a long walk to the courts. Quail Creek will be running a shuttle so watch for it. And plan to NOT use I-19 to get to the courts due to construction delays in the Green Valley area.

**[PB]:** *As we all know, the success of these events is largely determined by the number of volunteers we have and the coordination to get everyone working together. Where do we need volunteers and what are the qualifications and expectations for each group?*

**[DD]:** Go to our [club website](#) and click on SignUp Genius to see what opportunities are available. No experience necessary for many of our jobs. We need people to sell raffle tickets and baked goods. We also need line judges and referees. You will see some great pickleball and also have the chance to buy raffle tickets and bid on some awesome silent auction items. Please consider giving us a few hours of your time.

**[DC]:** We've had a really good volunteer sign up this year and I am confident we'll get lots of help with our new categories. We need more referees and we are offering a Referee Refresher Clinic (open for new referees also) on [SignUpGenius](#) on Feb 26th.. Remember, line judges have the best seat in the house! We only use line judges for the medal matches and we need 4 per match (one to watch each line). Round up your friends and sign up together!

**[PB]:** *Donna and Donna, thanks for taking a few minutes to talk to us today and thank you so much for all the work you are and have been doing behind the scenes to make this year's Southern Arizona Senior Games a success!*

## **Netiquette**

- Who's call is it? Out calls belong to the team on the side of the court where the ball lands. In recreational play, it's not considered good form to be on the opposite side of the court and question the call. So, let the responsible team make the call and accept that there will be inaccurate calls from time to time.
- You'll notice two ball tubes at the courts now. One is for the Onix Pure 2 balls, the other for the DuraFast balls. Please return the correct ball to the correct holder.

## **Observations**

- Nominations for open board positions are open until Monday, March 5. Please contact Mark Robertson, Donna Talarski, or Jerry Hooley with your nominations or for more information. We currently have no nominations for club Secretary and no one available to take this important position. If you or anyone you know has an interest in this position, please let us know.
- Just can't stress enough how much we need everyone to show support for new courts. Those in opposition are loud and persistent and the GVR Board is listening. If we're to ever have new courts, we all need to make our voice heard. Show up for the meetings, use the available channels to express your support to the GVR Board and to those reading the local paper. Silence on our part is interpreted as ambivalence. Make sure your expression is factual and positive. That's a direct

contrast to what the GVR Board and public have been hearing and we can make a difference!

### Upcoming Events

- GVRPC Garage Sale Fundraiser. Thursday February 22 7:30-2:00, Friday February 23 7:30-12:00 at 1243 W Camino De La Oca. Contact Nancy at 719-210-3041 for more details.
- Referee Clinic / Refresher is scheduled for Monday, February 26. Sign up [here](#).
- Poker night is back! February 28 starting at 4:30 pm at the Desert Hills Social Center. [Register](#) through SignUpGenius and join us for a fun night that is also a fundraising effort.
- The Southern Arizona Senior Games is scheduled for March 6-8 and 10-11, 2018, and registration is now open. Go to [pickleballtournaments.com](http://pickleballtournaments.com) and search for the Southern Arizona Senior Games to register. The 2.0/2.5 Round Robin tournament will also be that week, with details to be released later.
- Club Annual Meeting! March 21 3:00 at the East Center. We'll vote on a club bylaw change and candidates for three board positions. And we'll recap the year and talk a little about what's coming next year.
- A Pickleball Club sponsored golf outing is scheduled for April 22 at San Ignacio Golf Course. This will be a fundraiser for new pickleball courts and details are [here](#).

**In Closing** - If you have a suggestion, comment, or a question, let us know – preferably by email – as discussions on the court sometimes (actually quite frequently) get lost or forgotten. And let us know if you find this newsletter helpful. Use the GVR Pickleball Club website (<http://www.gvrpickleball.org>) to contact us.

That's all for now folks.....stay positive, keep smiling, and enjoy playing!!!!



**JEFF HARRELL**  
*President, GVR Pickleball*