

April 2021 PickleBlast

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Committee / Work Area Reports 04-08-2021 Board Meeting

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Board Meeting Highlights - 04-08-2021

Discussion items:

- Board member work areas and assignments were discussed as indicated in the agenda. A couple noteworthy parts include the development of what will be called a Court Concierge Corps where certain board members (Susan MacMillan 2.0/2.5, Mary Wright 3.0, Paul May 3.5 and Mike McCarry 4.0/4.5) are assigned to specific skill levels and identify and develop other members to assist with needs while on the court such as ball distribution, identification of court maintenance issues, member input, etc. Also, the current Education Committee will now be known as the Player Development Committee. Carol Hammerlee continues as chair of this important area.

GVR Update

Scott Somers is working to get the camera feeds re-activated. They are awaiting legal counsel input. New sidewalk with a railing system installed on the east side of courts at the East Center is being installed. Scheduled maintenance is occurring such as parking lot resurfacing at the Pickleball Center in April and court resurfacing at the East Center in May.

New Members (March 2021)

Dennis Skelton & Jennifer Skelton, Mary Beth Callan, Noreen Atwood, Jennifer Perkins, John Ross, Renee Hollis, Norbert Jarocki, Norma Bridgewater, Connie Wolf, Mark Nelson, Michele & George Black, Linda Rushing, Wayne Utterback, Edmund Patterson, Mike Cooksey, Karen Mitchell, Robert Treadway

Ratings Workgroup

The workgroup is in the middle stages of the pilot program having completed skills and games test runs for skill levels 2.5 to 3.0, 3.0 to 3.5, and 3.5 to 4.0. Now, feedback from members via the Ratings Survey (over 100 members participated!) is being analyzed to develop the volunteer teams and members wishing to prepare for the

test. Toward that end, a Players Development Mentor Program is being created. This program will be available to club members and offered free of charge and will last at least four weeks. Based on the experience we had with the recent pilot of the skills and games tests, we believe it is critically important to position players for success to ensure that testees know what to expect and are fully prepared before testing. It will also provide opportunities to connect with players at the level to which members are interested in testing.

2021 Foundation Games Pickleball Tournament

A bit of disappointing news centers on the decision of the GVR Foundation and the Greater Green Valley Community Foundation to postpone the October 2021 Foundation Games Pickleball Tournament to October 21-23, 2022.

Wellness / Outreach

Do you know someone who could use a pick me up or do you need to convey news about a member? 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.

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>.

Connect on Facebook!

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>

Net Height & Center Straps

A recent inquiry about center straps not being on the nets at the East Center provided an opportunity for the club to look into the history of these and thought it would be good to share with members. According to the information made available, the club never had center straps on the East Center or Canoa Ranch courts. It was not until we began playing at the Pickleball Center that our nets had center straps. Last year, we noticed that the straps deteriorated very quickly and the decision was made not to replace them. The club keeps measuring sticks at each location if the center height (34") needs to be checked. To adjust the net you simply turn the crank at then end of the net.

Player Development

As indicated above the Education Committee will now be known as Player Development. There will be a stronger connection of this group with the Ratings Committee to align program development which will support and sync with the revised ratings program.

Paddle Donations

The PB101 classes are in continual need of paddles (new and used). Beyond helping the new player, the club sometimes benefits as happened this week with a particular donation. Lynn Pritchard, club member, donated two paddles to Al Willette for his PB101 class. He was able to sell them for a total of \$80 which he donated to the GVR Pickleball Club. That is totally a triple win!!! Thank you Lynn for getting that rolling with your donation. ***Be like Lynn...donate your paddles today. :)***

Who Did That?

Ever wonder who's behind the different holiday decorations at the courts? It's our very own Jane Hunt. I remember the day I figured out she was behind this, a couple of years ago, and thought now that is someone with a servant heart. She told me her education background as a 1st grade teacher prepared her for this. I think we are so fortunate to have her in our midst. If you are one of our newer members, you may have encountered her as she's been one of the assistant coaches for Skill & Drills. And, she most recently took time to review and give feedback on the work that the Ratings Workgroup is doing. The next time you see Jane or one of her lovingly placed decorations, tell her thanks!



TAPPL Champs

The Southern Region's Women's 4.0 co-champions Designated Dinkers (GVR Pickleball Club) squared off against the Casa Grande Region's 10-0 champions Team Drop Shot in what proved to be one of the most exciting matches of the day. The Designated Dinkers took an early 8-6 lead after round 1. Round 2 was quite a battle with the teams garnering 17 out of a possible 18 team points. The Designated Dinkers grabbed 9 points. Team Drop Shot scored 8, making it 17-14 Designated Dinkers after round 2. The third round had an incredible 3 games that ended with a 12-10 score. The final score after a remarkable Team Drop Shot 11-4 third round: Team Drop Shot 25 - Designated Dinkers 21.

Consolation game resulted in a 25-19 score against the Desert Gilas placing the Desert Dinkers in 4th place in the state. CONGRATULATIONS and great job!



Left to right: Sharon Falor, Collen Mellyn, Marlene Rockwell, Nancy Steffy, Ruth Neufeld, Susan Nordhagen, Terri Neuman, Carol Hammerle. Not pictured: Tess Campfield, Donna Davis, Sandy Heintz, Shirley Schaller.

PB101 Coaches Appreciation Gathering

What an honor it was to address PB101 students in their final class sessions as I was invited to do this season. This year they ran two tracks of PB101 with separate head coaches. Between both of them they served 250 new pickleball players many of whom have become new club members! The photo taken below is from the PB101 Coaches Appreciation Gathering hosted by Al Willette on 04-11-2021. This group cleaned up pretty good - several of us didn't recognize each other!

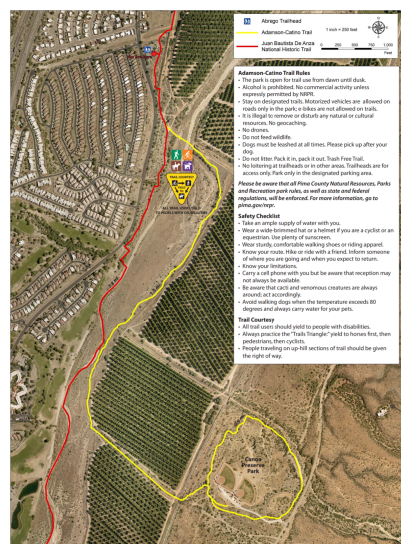


Back row: L to R - John Dresbach, Paul Smith, James Trobec, Dean Barnes, Paul May, Mark Striepe, Greg Wright, Mike Gustin, Scott Rowsam, Andy Velez, Ron Metz, Rick Phillips, Jay Salerno
Front row: L to R - Peggy Kurzmann, Gary Heintz, Sandy Heintz, Diane Liguori, Jim McPartland, Britt-Marie Berntsson, Deb McPartland, Al Willette, Gina Rowsam, Jill Slimmer-Velez.

Adamson-Catino Trail

It was encouraging to receive an update on the Adamson-Catino Trail. The trail below is in the process of being completed. It will connect the Abrego Trailhead with the Canoa Preserve Park, and should be finished in April.

Adamson-Catino Trail



The trail they want to propose from the Canoa Preserve Park past the Pickleball complex and on to Whitehouse Canyon Rd and connecting to the multi-purpose lane to Continental School is still in the concept phase. There are many property owners to get permission from and we haven't really started yet.

Observations

April 1 begins our board year and I am quite excited to be working with our new board members and continuing with those who were re-elected. I believe everyone is well-suited for the specific roles they have agreed to take on and appreciate their willingness to take a leadership role in those respects.

Our scheduling folks are currently incorporating changes as a result of member suggestions and the shifting of temperatures which will take effect in May. Also, we will be implementing Intercommunity Play from June through August - details forthcoming.

I am very proud of the effort and commitment of the Ratings Workgroup and many club members who have been involved as reviewers and pilot participants as the revised program takes shape. Detailed information, including a robust FAQ resource, is close to being finalized. And, for the number of folks responding to the survey to indicate their willingness to help with the program and those who desire to prepare to test up -- combined over 100 of you -- THANK YOU! This developing approach has the potential for many wonderful things beyond a player's individual development. As we continue to help each other grow individually to the level each person desires, the club becomes just that much more awesome!!!

A recent call for volunteers to assist in cleaning the courts was held and our courts look so much better! Thank you to everyone who worked on this.

Carpe Dinkum!



Gina Rowsam, President
GVR Pickleball Club