

April 2023 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

With the April Board Meeting the new Board was in place for the first time including Nina Campfield as Treasurer and Janet Reynolds as Vice-President. On behalf of the Board and the members of the Club, I want to thank Mike Clemens for his past duties as Vice-President.

As I reflect on my first year as President, I appreciate the support from you and for your patience and understanding as the Club dealt with the needs of an increasing number of members. The Club successfully added multiple round robins in a day & more reserved courts, a revised ratings test & RAP process, a new member orientation, advanced 4.0/4.5 play, SLP+1 play, replacing the tutor ball machine, and the First Annual Roadrunner Round Robin Classic tournament. The great GVR classes, developing skills, and Lobster ball machine training continued with great success along with Dink & Dines and name badges, which continue to be very popular. Add a Helle Sparre clinic, attending the GVR Showcase, and a number of Pickleball Plus and Club Website updates and it has been a busy year.

Of course, I will end recognizing that it is the volunteers who make the above happen. A huge thank you to all of you!

See you on the courts!



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

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, May 11, 2023, 3pm, East Center Lounge, 7 S Abrego Drive

Board Meeting Highlights

Financial Planning Committee

Draft of a Policy statement regarding spending guidelines for the Clubs Savings and CD balances was presented:

To pay for improvements to the facilities that are used by the club, that will not otherwise be paid for by GVR. To plan for court expansion based on usage demands of membership.

The committee recommended that input from members is important to the decision-making process for future purchases. The committee will create a draft survey to be sent to the members..

Club Policy Manual Updates.

There were 3 updates to the Club's Policy Manual regarding a clarification of 2.5 rating test, updating the Round Robin and Conduct sections. See below for the changes in red.

Update 2.5 Ratings Test

Modify the Club Skill Ratings section in the Club's Policy Manual to incorporate the recent changes for a new member skill rating and 2.5 rating testing through Developing Skills.

Background to motion: These modifications are the result of a meeting between the key leaders of the Ratings committee, RAP, Developing Skills and Pickleball 101.

Section 6. Club Skill Ratings

1. Club Skill Ratings are Managed by the Ratings Committee
2. Rationale and Definition of Ratings:
 - a. Pickleball ratings are defined by [USAP \(USA Pickleball\)](#) and are used to evaluate and designate the skill level of a pickleball players. Similar to golf and tennis, these ratings can be used to help find players who play at a comparable level.
 - b. The Club has specific ratings standards and processes for each rating at and above 2.5. The Club's ratings rationale and process are not exactly the same as those of USAP but are informed by elements from USAP and [IPTPA](#) (International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association).
 - c. The goal of the Club's ratings system is to allow the scheduling and management of the Club's courts, while building a culture that supports individual play and skills improvement.

3. Unrated players/players new to Pickleball: Players new to pickleball and therefore not yet rated are encouraged to begin with PB 101, a Green Valley Recreation (GVR) course taught by the Club. (See the current version of the GVR Course Catalog for details). PB 101 will introduce you to the game and to the skills necessary to play at a 2.0 rating level.

4. New Club members who do not have outside ratings are assigned an initial Club rating of 2.0. This will allow the new member and the Club to assess their capabilities for consideration to higher ratings, either via the Club's ratings testing process or approved recognition from other clubs or pickleball associations (details below).

5. 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, or their current club rating from an organized club to the Ratings Committee for consideration.

a. 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 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.

b. The following ratings are not accepted by the Club: DUPR, WPR.

c. The Club will accept USAP's UTPR (tournament derived), IPTPA, and possibly other club skill ratings as Club skill ratings. However, our Club's ratings are not accepted as USAP or IPTPA skill ratings by these organizations.

6. Moving from 2.0 to 2.5: Achieving a 2.5 rating from the Club requires that the member pass the Club's 2.5 ratings test. 2.5 ratings testing is administered by the coaches and staff of the Club's Developing Skills (DS) program. A description of DS and how to sign up is provided on the Club's website homepage. (Click the Player Development tab, then Skills Improvement). The skills required for the 2.0 and the 2.5 ratings are provided in the 2.5 Ratings Test Form below. Players are encouraged to become familiar with the required skills and to practice them if they wish to move up to a 2.5 rating.

[GVRPC Rating Test 2.0 to 2.5.pdf](#)

Update the RR (Round Robin) policy & practices.

Background: This update from the Scheduling Committee is to expand and clarify the policy and practices relating to round robins.

Section 5 Court Use part D

Round Robins

i. These events are scheduled and managed weekly by GVRPC. ~~These are club events and are limited to GVRPC members from September through April each year. GVRPC members have priority during the registration process. Non-Club members may participate in the events if there are an insufficient number of club members registered to fill each event.~~

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 and GVR members & players having a GVR guest card 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. See below RR Coordinator responsibilities for further direction.

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: on the 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, The reason for the limitations is to allow more individuals to be able to sign up for a RR during the week. Specific details of any limitations will be shown in Pickleball Plus.

Update Conduct Section

Move the Member Agreement to Section 2 Conduct in the Club's Policy Manual.

Background: An issue with the Member Agreement and members who paid by cash/check. Pickleball Plus doesn't properly recognize the payment since the Member Agreement hasn't been signed off. So, Pickleball Plus is requesting a duplicate payment in order for the member's account to be active when the member signs the Member Agreement. This change will eliminate this issue. Members will no longer have to sign off on the Member Agreement when joining or renewing their membership online.

Section 2. Conduct

a. The GVR Pickleball Club adheres to and abides by the published GVR rules, including the GVR Code of Conduct.

~~b. All members deserve the right to enjoy play without the fear of any type of harassment or intimidation. While rare, sometimes the stated goal and expectations are not met. This policy clarifies the process and areas of responsibility.~~

~~c. The following statements reflect the etiquette, behavior, and conduct that all GVR Pickleball Club members are expected to display while involved in any GVR Pickleball Club activity and/or event. As stated in our Vision Statement, "our goal is to provide a fun, safe, and enjoyable environment that encourages all participants to reach their full potential, no matter what their aspirations may be." To that end, the GVR Pickleball Club expects each player/participant to be encouraging, patient, courteous, pleasant, polite, considerate, mutually respectful, and cordial.~~

b. Pickleball Club Code of Conduct

The purpose of the GVR Pickleball Club is to provide a safe, fun, and enjoyable environment for its members. This implies sportsmanship, respect, and proper court etiquette towards fellow Club members, guests, and GVR personnel. The Club will respect the needs and goals of all players endeavoring to provide events and play to meet all player needs.

Members are expected to:

- Comply with the GVR Pickleball Club Policies and By-Laws.
- Comply with posted court signage and schedules.
- Adhere to the USAPA pickleball rules.
- Make fair line calls and respect calls made by others.
- Not act or play in a way that maliciously threatens my safety or the safety of others.
- Refrain from verbal outbursts which are profane, threatening or abusive.
- Respect GVR Recreation property and perform no actions which may cause damage.

c. Networking with Members

Personal information about club members is entered in the Club Member Directory (Pickleball Plus) which is available on a members-only password-protected page for networking with other members. Members may not download, republish or duplicate the information in the Member Directory — in whole or in part — for commercial or any other purposes. The primary means of communication between the Club and its members is via email and members agree to receive emails from the Club. No information will be shared outside the Club, without the member's permission.

d. Photo and Video

While not a regular occurrence, from time-to-time photos and videos may be taken during on court play and social gatherings. Use of media images will be limited to instructional, marketing, and social media purposes. Members may request in writing that their image is not to be used.

e. If a member believes he/she has experienced or witnessed conduct that counters this policy it should be addressed directly, without delay, with the affected individual(s) for resolution, if possible. For matters unresolved by direct and reasonable attempts or inability by affected member(s), the GVR Pickleball Club Discipline Plan can be invoked.

AED/CPR/First Aid Training for Club Members

Motion passed to provide AED/CPR/First Aid training to 4 members at a cost of \$260.

Additional Background: This training was suggested by a member in order to provide additional trained members on the courts to assist in the time of an emergency. GVR was contacted and they currently do not provide this type of training for the clubs. Paul May has recently has taken the training and provided a contact and information for the training.

Highlights of Work Area Reports & General Interest to Members

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

Court Etiquette - Important Reminders

Recently there have been a couple of instances where players have not been considerate of the courts we play on or their fellow pickleball players.

Markings on the court #17 at the KJB PBC. It is disappointing to discover that someone felt it was necessary to mark lines on court #17 with a marker that is not able to be removed. The markings are not too large, but still show a lack of respect, when the courts aren't their courts. A better option would have been painters' tape or just a hat.

Recently, at Sunday open play at the East Center, apparently there was a player there with an offensive shirt. Even though there were players there who felt uncomfortable, they didn't mention anything to the player.

Both of these instances show a lack of respect for the courts and their fellow players. Leave your permanent markers at home and if there is a saying on what you are wearing, think twice about wearing it especially if it would make your Mother blush!

Also, please put pickleballs back in the holders after your game. Don't let them cook on the court.

Skill Ratings

Members whose skill rating has changed through the Club rating process, IPTPA, or other accepted rating testing. Congratulations to all!

New 2.5: Kristie Swanson, Martha Wahl, David Spence, Nancy Habegger, Roderic Ruggier, Donna Bloom, Kevin Terhune, Sue Grafstrom, Amy Demers, Fred Bloom, Nadine Sinclair, Lisa Erickson, Amber O'Doherty, Beth Lierman, Barbara Trentadue, Kay Martin, Ann Forsyth, Karen Russell, Robert McConnell

New 3.0: Margo Milligan, Nancy Buseth, Dorothy Graff, Gary Ream, Betty Joslyn

New 3.5: Joan Iserman

New 4.0: Mike Mai

New Members

37 new members in March –

Kenneth Pociatek, Tom Olson, BRUCE LASURA, PAMELA LASURA, Julie Mueller, Victoria Bic, Sandra Ward, Joan Knutson, Patricia Welsch, Peter Graef, Brenda Stewart, Jim Stewart, Mary Ormson, Douglas Wilson, Patricia O`ConnorBlack, David Egan, James Horn, Marybeth Woodworth, Jonni Rogers, Wade Goyetche, Linda Hyatt, Lloyd Mauldin, Edwina Horn, Linda Rushing, Martha Cole, Patti Karwoski, DouglasL MartinJR, Terri Martin, David Manes, Pierre Pollin, Pat Emerson, Todd Zimmerman, Karen Russell, Robert McConnell, Linda Hinkel, Kathleen Henry, Jeff Henry

Social Activities & Logo Apparel

- SOCIAL - We had approximately 170 Members/Guests attend the Volunteer Appreciation Dink & Dine on March 25th. The club provided pizza & cookies for the event. We also drew names to give away 10 club shirts to volunteers.
 - The next Dink & Dine is scheduled on April 22 at the East Center. More details to be announced later.
- FACEBOOK - There are currently 168 members who have joined the private club Facebook page.

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

The GVR Pickleball classes as finished for this season. GVR classes will resume in the fall, 2023.

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.