

April 2024 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

Spring is progressing, the weather is warming up, new life is blooming all around us yet again and the yearly coming and going of longer-term and newer friends is well underway. Aren't we lucky to be here and participate in the magic of pickleball in southern Arizona?

This is an especially meaningful spring for me this year. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as our club's president for the next two years. It is truly an honor, albeit a very busy honor at the moment. Thanks for kind and encouraging expressions. I am grateful to be working with such an outstanding board of directors who have also chosen to take the time and make the effort to serve the club. I am impressed by their commitment and passion.

I am also grateful for Patrick Furumoto's leadership while he served as president and for his mentorship to me now. The more I learn from him, the more impressed I am with all that he has accomplished for the benefit of the club's members and his tireless commitment to his family and the club. Thank you Patrick.

And also, big thanks to all the past members of the Board of Directors of the club and to the many volunteers who do so much for the club. Our current / new board stands on the shoulders of giants. We recognize that and will do our best to continue to grow and enhance what has been accomplished. We thank you for supporting the club.

How about the Drop Squad? What an amazing accomplishment for the GVR 4.0 Southern Region Arizona Pickleball Players League (SRAPPL) 50+ Women's team to win the APPL Arizona State Championship. Congratulations ladies! We will celebrate this accomplishment with you as a club sometime soon.

Housekeeping - friendly reminder to place pickleballs back in the on-court sleeves after you are finished using them. Also close the court gates behind you when leaving and as always - put any out of round or broken balls in the broken ball baskets available at all facilities. And gum - you know, GUM - it belongs in your mouth or the trash - not on the pickleball court please.

Finally, thank you in advance for the support I believe you will provide to me and the new Board and for all of your volunteer efforts. We have a wonderful cadre of volunteers who carry out the daily work of supporting the club membership - nothing gets done without their work. If you haven't joined their ranks yet please consider doing so - there is something for everyone to do and the work benefits all of us. Please join me to celebrate and grow - **Our Community - Our Club!**



Jeff Washburn - President, GVR Pickleball Club

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting: May 9, 2024, Time 4pm, Madera Vista GVR Center, 440 S Camino Del Portillo,

Board Meeting Highlights

New Business

Proposed Ratings Policy Manual Update

Motion to update the Ratings Policy Manual as highlighted in red. – Reynolds

2nd – Sheppard-Cole.

6. Club Skill Ratings

e. 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.

Members are limited to test to one level higher than their current level (ie a 3.0 testee must have a 2.5 rating, etc.). New members who have been assigned 2.0 rating and are highly experienced players may be considered for advanced testing on case-by-case situations. Send a request to: greenvalleypickleballclub@gmail.com. This consideration is for advanced testing, not automatic advanced rating.

- i. 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 members' play.
- ii. The following ratings are not accepted by the Club: WPR.
- iii. The Club will accept USA Pickleball's UTPR (tournament derived), IPTPA, DUPR (**Requires a minimum of 10 games or is the result of Sanctioned tournament games played.**), and possibly other club skill ratings as Club skill ratings. However, our Club's ratings are not accepted as USA Pickleball or IPTPA skill ratings by these organizations.

Support for the change:

The acceptance of DUPR ratings has been monitored by the Ratings Committee since deciding to accept DUPR ratings. For the following reasons, the above change in red is presented to the Board for their approval. The reason for this update is for the following reasons.

- DUPR has changed the algorithm several times trying to create one for the long-term, which means it is still a moving target.
- Feedback received from the APPL, Quail Creek, and a DUPR club regarding the use of DUPR for their players has not been favorable. It is not uncommon for the DUPR rating to be either over or under the players' abilities, which negatively impacts the level of confidence in the DUPR rating.

- With the current algorithm, players who are playing among themselves in a closed group (recreational, not in a league or tournament) may be able to take advantage of the algorithm, thus possibly elevating their DUPR score.

It is recommended to continue to monitor what DUPR is doing with the algorithm and the level of acceptance with other clubs and organizations, which will be a factor whether the Club continues to accept DUPR.

1st Motion to amend: Delete the term “sanctioned” from above motion. – Campfield

2nd – Wright. Passed unanimously.

2nd Motion to amend: Update the Ratings Policy Manual as highlighted in red, below – Reynolds

2nd – Campfield. Passed with 6 ayes, 1 nay (Washburn)

Amend DUPR requirements to read as follows:

iii. The Club will accept USA Pickleball’s UTPR (tournament derived), IPTPA, DUPR (Requires a minimum of 10 games, within a 6 month period prior to the date that a club rating update is requested, or is the result of tournament games played.), and possibly other club skill ratings as Club skill ratings. However, our Club’s ratings are not accepted as USA Pickleball or IPTPA skill ratings by these organizations.

3rd Motion to pass original motion as amended in red in 2nd motion - Reynolds

2nd - Sheppard-Cole. Passed unanimously

iii. The Club will accept USA Pickleball’s UTPR (tournament derived), IPTPA, DUPR (Requires a minimum of 10 games, within a 6 month period prior to the date that a club rating update is requested, or is the result of tournament games played.), and possibly other club skill ratings as Club skill ratings. However, our Club’s ratings are not accepted as USA Pickleball or IPTPA skill ratings by these organizations.

8. Club Board Comments

Congratulations to the APPL 4.0 Women’s Team for winning the Arizona State Championship in the 50+ division. GVR is celebrating their accomplishments on Saturday April 13, 2024, at the “Dinner and a Show in the Courtyard Pick & Holler-Farewell Friends” event. The cost is \$35 / person for GVR members and guests. The Pickleball Club will celebrate the players at a later date.

Washburn: Thank you to previous board members for their service to the club.

Campfield: Ongoing issue with PB+ and Stripe payment system. Also, need to buy balls.

9. Committee Comments

Social Committee: Acknowledgement of Mary Beth and Chris for taking on the upcoming Dink and Dine.

Scheduling Committee: Summer Schedules will roll out between the end of May and June, with most play occurring in the mornings.

10. Member Comments

Several people acknowledged the Appl league players for how well they represented both our club and GreenValley as a whole. Nationals will happen in Hilton Head, S.C. from September 11th to 15th. The team has Yet to decide if they will participate.

Mike Schultz noted that the Franklin balls are breaking less than in colder months. Selkirk balls are not breaking but do go out of round.

[For the complete minutes from the Board Meeting go to the club’s website under the About the Club tab.](#)

Highlights of Work Area Reports & General Interest to Members

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

New Club Board of Directors

The new board of directors has been working diligently to review and clarify member roles and assignments and determine meaningful prioritized goals and objectives based on the club's Mission, Vision, Values and Purpose in a series of executive planning sessions. We anticipate a need for volunteers to help us achieve our objectives and of course will be sharing them with club members and soliciting input in upcoming venues to be determined. As you can guess there is a lot going on. Just a reminder of the new BOD members:



Left to right:

Jay Salerno, Member-at-Large 2024-2026, Mary Wright, Member-at-Large 2023-2025, Nina Campfield, Treasurer 2023-2025, Wes Elder, Member-at-Large 2024-2025, Janet Reynolds, Vice-President 2023-2025, Jeff Washburn, President 2024-2026, Julia Cole, Secretary 2024-2026. Not pictured: Patrick Furumoto - non-voting board member for 2024-25.

Special Notices

Arizona State APPL League Champions!

All the commitment, dedication, hard work, grit and determination paid off as the Womens 4.0 Drop Squad team won the Arizona APPL League State 50 + championship on Saturday, April 6th. Congratulations ladies - We are very proud of you! Shout out as well to the many supporters who were on hand to cheer on the team and rep Green Valley. The team was honored by GVR during the intermission of the dinner and show event featuring the bluegrass band Pick & Holler on Saturday April 13th in the West Center courtyard. The team can dance as well as play pickleball for sure. Note: We'll celebrate the team in a club event in the future.





Donation to The Animal League of Green Valley

On Tuesday April 16th Maria Acevedo our Spring 2024 Tournament Chair, Patrick Furumoto immediate past president of the Green Valley Pickleball Club and Jeff Washburn, current club president, met with Kim Eisele, president of the Animal League of Green Valley to present a \$1000 check from the proceeds of our March tournament to the league for their use in supporting the needs of the animals in their care. The League is the only No-Kill animal shelter in Southern Arizona and Kim asked us to express her organization's thanks to the members of the club for their generosity in supporting the tournament and the shelter.



Call for Paddles

If you have decent paddles that you are not using anymore and which you are willing to donate to the club for various uses (e.g., loaners for classes or to individuals who may need to practice between classes) please drop them off by the club office at the Pickle Ball Center (I will make sure there is a labeled container to put them in).

The 3rd Shot Challenger - Scheduled Demonstration May 2nd 10:30 KJPBC

In the January Pickleblast Mike Goodrich & Julianne Howell introduced us to their The 3rd Shot Challenger™. You may have also seen them on the courts drilling with it.

The 3rd Shot Challenger™ is designed specifically to improve 3rd shot drop skills. Applications for this simple innovative tool are numerous. A couple of the drills are: the 3rd shot drop skill for all skill levels and punch volleys drilling.

Mike and Juli will be conducting a demonstration using the “Challenger” on May 2nd at 10:30 AM at the Pickleball Center - court and other information to follow Pickleball Plus.



Court Updates & Reminders

Saturday Morning Sign Ups

7:00 am: Court reservations, 2.0/2.5 RR's, DS (Developing skills), Rating Testing, RAP, Lobster

7:10 am: 3.0 RR's

7:20 am: 3.5 RR's

7:30 am: 4.0 RR's and mixed skill level events, i.e. 75+ RR, Ladies RR, 3.0/3.5 Ladies RR

Selkirk & Franklin Balls on Courts Now

Currently Selkirk and Franklin balls are in the sleeves at the courts. We are still in the process as a club of determining which ball we will be using going forward. We will keep everyone posted as

to our progress. Please put broken or “out of round” balls in the broken ball baskets at each facility.

SLP (skill level play) Reminder

During SLP play in the mornings, please play within your skill level and do not ‘play’ up. Since, this is peak time for all of us, this isn’t the time to take up a spot in the paddle queue if you are not at the same skill level as the SLP. Be fair and respectable to the players in the designated skill level.

Don’t be surprised if someone checks in with you to inquire about your skill level play to keep play consistent and challenging within the same skill level.

Open Play (all skill levels): Remember at Canoa Ranch courts every day and at various times at the East Center & the KJB Pickleball Center, open play is available for those players who want an opportunity to play with different skill levels.

The latest court schedules are on the Club’s website home page.

Skill Ratings

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

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 tessees to be successful. **Please be respectful and cancel appropriately with plenty of notice for us to adjust. Call Marilyn or Greg with notice please.**

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

2.5 Tami Schafer, Tina Breiten, Doug Edelson, Anne Frame, Tom Wallace, Patricia Kurt, Jim Crave, Faith Youngs, Jackie Schoenfelder, Joanne Brown, Russell Broddle, Marla Bidwell, Cindy Zurek, Kelly Johnson, William Mayes, Bob Mckeeman, Steven Benson, Bruce Bowen, Bonny Bowen, Connie Johnson, Susan Hershey, Maryann Minatra, Dean Ebaugh

3.0 Rod Reuer, Mark Monson, Dennis Dean, Fred Dow, Pat King, Marsha Beck, Diane Meyer, Susan Flores-Dow, James Horn, John Eaton, John Saint, Marianna Pietralik, Mary Michels, Gretchen Scizbert, Edwina Horn, Sandy Caswell, Michael Goodknecht, Craig Goodrich, Scott Taylor

3.5 Beth Carpenter, Ruby Stoker, Patricia Karels, Peter King, Nancy Buseth, Brenda Duffus, Ken Mathers, Kandy Gies, Fred Dow, Vicki Johnston, Scott Johnston

4.0 Wayne Gregg, Bruce Carpenter, Mary Cay Puska, Barry Stock

4.5 Steve Reynolds

New Members

30 New members –

Marla Bidwell, Sandra Irwin, Jeff Downs, Jeff Willoughby, Katie Willoughby, Marcia Soderholm, Beth Carpenter, Bruce Carpenter, Dale Beeson, Cynthia Boock, Beth Stewart, John Dexter, Nicole Downs, LeRoy Anderson, Pam Blankenfeld, Darrel Devick, Kenneth Mathers, Sandi Lee, Laura Sheppard, Kandy Gies, Marilyn Moreland, Donna Bishop, Bela Pfundt, Victoria Radick-Dexter, Maryann Minatra, Eileen Foresman, Joseph Brown, Steve Kindred, Heather Baldwin, Zoe Covington, Byron Covington

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

April class currently in session - new classes TBD,

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.