

July 2024 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

It's been an eventful summer so far for me and the club. On a personal level, I have had the privilege to host several dear friends from Green Valley at my home in Utah as well as the honor of rendezvousing with several GVerS (new Scrabble word for those in the know) who spend a part of the season here including some folks who will be coming to experience GV this winter. Speaking of Utah, I hope you don't mind if I share this little tidbit – July 24th, the day I am writing this, is "Pioneer Day" in Utah – a state holiday celebrating the local heritage. The celebration always includes parades, rodeos, barbecues, fireworks (lots of fireworks), snow and waterskiing – you name it. Not as big as the 4th of July of course but still a big deal. This year it just happened to also be the day that the International Olympic Committee announced that the 2034 Winter Olympic Games will be returning to the state. For me as a native Utahn this is a really big deal. Ten years is a ways off but keep it in mind to try and attend if you have the opportunity. The 2002 games here were simply amazing; as you may recall the games were just a few months after 9/11 and there was a lot of talk about cancelling them but they turned out to be magnificent. Safe to say that a lot of things that we have no clue about now will happen between now and then.

Here are a few other things I would like to share with you:

1. I met with the GVR Planning and Evaluation Committee (P&E committee) on July 15th accompanied by Nina Campfield and Jay Salerno to present our proposal for new additional pickleball courts. The presentation was well received and the committee as well as audience members including at least a few GVR board members that were in attendance asked excellent questions and made positive remarks regarding the proposal. Our proposal is going to the next planning phase and I (and other club BOD members as will be available) will be meeting with GVR staff between now and August 29th (the next scheduled P&E committee meeting) to determine the details of a final proposal, which will include the exact location and number of courts, to be presented to the P&E committee and which, if approved by them, will be advanced to the GVR Board of Directors for final approval and placement on the GVR planning calendar. Based on the feedback I received from those in attendance, I thought the presentation went well; it was a team effort and I am grateful for the input I received from many different quarters in preparing the proposal report and making the presentation.

2. The "Drop Squad" (our State Champion women's 4.0 APPL team) continues to prepare for the National Team Pickleball League (NTPL) tournament in Hilton Head South Carolina. (dates of the tournament and related information can be found on the Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort's website: <https://www.ntpl.org/hiltonheadchampionship>) As noted previously the 4.0 matches are scheduled to take place on Saturday September 14th and Sunday September 15th with at least two matches on Saturday and one on Sunday - with two additional matches possible on Sunday the 15th.

The team is making progress in reaching their fundraising goal but would welcome more help. Coach Carol Hammerle asked me to pass on the following to all those who have donated so far including the major sponsors: "On behalf of the GVR Drop Squad, a special "thank you" to GVR Pickleball Club members for their financial support and to three businesses, who have helped to sponsor the team, **Kathy Palese's SNAP, Proactive Physical Therapy and Ooroo Auto Care**. Your financial support is truly appreciated by every player on the team."

The team is sponsoring a "**Glow and Go Fundraiser**" event at the East Center on Friday August 16th from 5-9 PM. You can sign up for the event on the "events" tab in Pickleball Plus (to attend or to attend and play). More details can be found on the team's Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=122115230990349573&set=a.122102184278349573>

For more information about the team's activities check out their main Facebook page here:

This is a great opportunity for these players to represent Green Valley and our club on a national level. If you would like to support them:

Drop Squad Nationals Donations

To make an online donation to the Drop Squad with your credit card, click on the link below.
Note: The team will receive your donation amount minus any credit card processing fees.

[Donations \(pickleball.plus\)](#)

Checks can be placed in the club's drop boxes at the East Center or Pickleball Center or mailed to PO 845, Green Valley AZ 85622. Make the checks out to GVR Pickleball Club and on the memo line indicate "Drop Squad".

NOTE: If you would like to assist with all the work it will take over the summer to get the team to the event please contact Coach Carol Hammerle at starfsh59k@aol.com. Carol and the team are scheduling other events that you may choose to participate in later this summer as a way of supporting their efforts.

3. On a more serious note, I was notified by GVR of a recent incident at one of our pickleball centers that should concern all of us as GVR and club members. In response to this incident GVR included the following in a recent Eblast (which I quote here from the July 19th *Green Valley News and Sun*. The *News* labeled it a "funny request" – personally I think it is anything but funny): "Members are not authorized to police each other's conduct. Please do not ask to see someone's GVR card to verify membership. Do not question people about their service animals. If you have a compelling reason to believe rules are being violated, call the Center Operations Assistant [COA]...".

I am aware that, at least as it concerns asking folks about whether or not they are GVR members, there have been statements made at club meetings and in other conversations, that have left the impression (intended or not) that it is okay and even a right for club members to inquire as to the membership status of people on the courts. I have also personally witnessed people with service animals being challenged at the pickleball courts and at GVR-member events at non-court facilities. The statement from GVR explicitly states that GVR policy prohibits these practices. It is my intention, as club president, to support this policy. Please do not engage in these behaviors, and if you see someone behaving this way (and they are not a GVR employee [COA or staff member], who, by the way, have to follow a protocol when making these inquiries) ask them to stop, and if they don't, please call the COA yourself and file a report). There will be more on this topic to follow as I am going to meet with GVR leadership to try and find solutions to these and other threatening behaviors that are occurring on our courts which have no place in our community.

4. Our paddle drive continues (we'll end it once the fall classes start). Thanks very much to those of you who have donated good, gently used (or even new) paddles (boxes at PBC and EC) for folks that might need them for classes or practice or whatever.

5. And, finally, as is becoming an unfortunate tradition (but it seems the Tennis Club is having the same problem), please don't leave gum on the courts. Also, as a courtesy to your fellow players please refrain from smoking on the courts and while at the pb centers only smoke in designated areas. Thanks!

I hope you are having a great summer wherever you are and I look forward to seeing you all soon,

Our Community - Our Club!



Jeff Washburn - President, GVR Pickleball Club

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting: September 19, 2024, Time 4pm, Location Las Campanas, Ocotillo Room

Board Meeting Highlights

No Board meeting in July or August

[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.

Because there is no BOD meeting in July or August I am providing a brief summary of BOD members' activities since the last meeting here:

President (Jeff Washburn):

1. Met with various BOD members regarding their areas of assignment while I was in town for the P&E Committee meeting in July
2. Conducted club business via email and other communications (replies to inquiries, initiation of inquiries, phone calls, 1:1 meetings)
3. Met with Striven (CC processor, accounting software provider and platform developer) with club treasurer re: club accounting processes and scheduling application software needs
4. In conjunction with some BOD members prepared and presented to the GVR P&E Committee details about the club's proposal to add new courts (see president's message above for more information).
5. Met with GVR representatives re: Incidents at pickleball courts and solutions at their request
6. Met with PB+ developer re: PB+ downtime issue
7. Met with past president re: P&E report, club-wide survey draft, Drop Squad fundraising event set up

Vice President (Janet Reynolds):

1. Provided input to club president re: Club's P&E Committee Report for adding new courts.
2. Responded to Court Scheduling needs email

Secretary (Julia Cole-Sheppard):

1. Began reviewing the Club website for duplicate, extraneous, unclear information.

Treasurer (Nina Campfield):

1. Met with Striven (CC processor, accounting software provider and platform developer) with club president re: club accounting processes and scheduling application software needs
2. Researched commercially available accounting software that may provide an integrated solution for the club
3. Provided input to club president re: Club's P&E Committee Report for adding new courts.

4. June account balances are summarized as follows (see full report for June that will be attached to the next set of minutes)

Income Statement is attached.

Balances:

Checking: \$21,671.47 (includes \$9,049.48 of donations to Drop Squad)

Savings: \$ 3,502.64

Investments: \$41,774.71

Members at Large”

Mary Wright:

1. Scheduled the following monthly Dink & Dine social events. Details to be announced later:
 - a. Saturday, 9/21st - @ 5PM - East Center Auditorium/Courts
 - b. Saturday, 10/19th - @ 5PM - East Center Auditorium/Courts
 - c. Saturday, 11/16th - 5PM - East Center Auditorium/Courts
2. Communicated with members regarding life events as needed.

Jay Salerno:

3. Wrote numerous work orders to GVR for repairs,
4. with the help of Nina we purchased a year's supply of balls.
5. I ran a test on a new ball with multiple skill levels and the results were it seems to be a good ball for some play but went out of round quickly with others. We will not be using that ball.
6. I attended the GVR P&E meeting with Jeff and Nina.
7. Received and attached a picture of Paul May to his memorial bench at the PBC.
8. I'm also working on my ideas on space utilization for the club. I will be submitting this soon.

Wes Elder

1. I have been restocking balls at all 3 court locations when needed.
2. A new commercial grade court squeegee was purchased to test it at the PBC. I will put it together and place it outside court 13 or 14, unless someone thinks it is a better idea to store in the the storage closet for now.
3. I was going to order 2 new Mikata blower batteries. I need to contact Jay because I cannot open the jpeg files that show what model number they are.
4. There were a few complaints on the storage box at Canoa Ranch. The lid is very quick to close and many hurt someone at any time. I spoke with Jeff and Jay about exploring the possibility of ordering a more efficient type of storage compartment or small shed. The current shed does not provide adequate storage presently.
5. Met with Jeff re: organize an exploratory subcommittee to determine whether or not to have an intraclub league(s) this season.

Past President (non-voting member of BOD - Patrick Furumoto):

1. Reviewed comments and prepared 2nd draft of potential club-wide survey Survey to be finalized and sent to club when ready.
2. Provided input to club president re: Club's P&E Committee Report for adding new courts.
3. Met to review the duties and responsibilities of the President with Jeff as needed.

Special Notices

None at this time

Court Updates & Reminders

Saturday Morning Sign Ups

We are currently on the summer schedule - please see the Pickleball Plus Homepage for current sign up information.

SLP (skill level play) Reminder

During SLP play in the mornings, please follow the summer rules for playing. Be fair and respectable to the players in the designated 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 also on the Club's website home page.

Skill Ratings

Skill Ratings testing is over for the season - we will start again next fall - probably in October. 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://gvrpickleball.org/Ratings/PB2021).

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

2.5: Jeanne Kerns

3.5: Leslie O'Leary

4.0: Aryn Duncan, Sallie Simpson, Anna Parker, Diane Liguori

New Members

5 New members –

Dorrie Carroll, Nadine Zollner, Janet Armstrong, Donna Harrison, Tina Welsch

Summer 2024 Club Classes

Developing Skills:

Tuesday and Thursday mornings 7:00-8:30. For players up through 2.5 level. Lead Coach Peter Fronsee.

Player Development:

For 2.5 rated players Mondays 7:00 - 9:00 am. Must be 2.5 rating. Lead Coach Marilyn Rambo.

For 3.0 rated players Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 am. Must be 3.0 rating. Lead Coach Greg Wright.

For 3.5 and 4.0 players Wednesdays 8:30 - 10:00 am. Must be 3.5 or 4.0 rating. Lead Coach Carol Hammerle.

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

None scheduled for the summer.

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 (in season).

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.