

January 2024 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

The new year has begun with a bang! Lots of happenings & topics for the Board and members to be aware of and continue discussions for the future.

In this Pickleblast read about.

- **Board Meeting Summary:** Reviewing the January court schedules, what the Club is proposing for a capital improvement, and updating the Club's Policy Manual Ratings section.
- **Courts Updates & Reminders:** Wait times will be up, so be patient and work together to keep play friendly.
- **Board Nominations:** Continue until February 25.
- **Paul May's Memorial Presentation:** Saturday, February 3rd at the KJB Pickleball Center at 1pm.
- **Club Tournament:** Plans are underway for a tournament in March. More details to come.
- **GVR Del Sol Club Survey:** GVR asked the Clubs to send out the link. Closes January 31st.
- **GVR Classes:** Check them out & sign up now.
- **The 3rd Shot Challenger drill:** Check out this drill by Mike Goodrich and Julianne Howell.

Enjoy catching up on all that is happening in the Club!

See you on the courts!



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

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting: February 8, 2024, Time 4pm, Madera Vista Recreation Center, 440 S Camino Del Portillo

Board Meeting Highlights

a. January Court Schedules - East Center & KJB Pickleball Center

Motion to approve the January East Center & KJB Pickleball Center as presented with 2 changes - at PBC will add court #17 as the designated Lobster court and at East Center on Sundays from 4:30 - 8 pm will be open play. Passed.

Discussion - The number of designated courts is not proportional to the number of players at that level. Scheduling committee will evaluate and discuss how the courts should be used. The suggestion was made to publish the names of the scheduling committee members and when meetings are held so there can be member participation.

KJB Pickleball Complex (2612 S Camino De La Canoa, Green Valley, Az 85614) Courts 1-24							
Effective December 30, 2023							
Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
6:00 - 7:00	OP CTS 1-24	OP CTS 1-24	OP CTS 1-24	OP CTS 1-24	OP CTS 124	OP CTS 1-24	OP CTS 1-24
7:00 - 12:00	3.0 RR (9am) 3.0 RR (11am) cts 5-12 4.0/4.5 SLP cts 1-4, 13-16 3.5 SLP cts 18-24	3.5 SLP cts 18-24 4.0/4.5 SLP, cts 1-3 ADV 4, 13-16 2.0/2.5 RR (9am) cts 5-11 2.0/2.5 SLP ct 12	2.0/2.5 RR (9am) cts 5-11 2.0/2.5 SLP cts 12 3.0 RR (9am) cts 17-24 3.0 RR (11am) cts 17-24 4.0/4.5 SLP cts 1-3 ADV 4, 13-16	3.5 RR W (9am) cts 22-24 3.5 RR RR (9am) cts 18-20 3.5 SLP cts 20,21 3.0 RR (9am) cts 1-3, 13-16 3.0 RR (11am) cts 1-3, 13-16 2.0/2.5 RR (9am) cts 5-11 2.0/2.5 SLP ct 12	4.0/4.5 SLP 1-4, 13,14 ADV 15, 16 Cts 1-3,13-16 3.5 RR W (9am) cts 22-24 3.5 RR (9am) cts 18-20 3.5 SLP cts 20,21 2.0/2.5 SLP cts 5-12 2.0/2.5 RR(9am) Cts 5-8,10,11 2.0/2.5 SLP cts 9	3.0 SLP cts 20 3.0 RR (9am) cts 17-24 3.0 SLP cts 20 2.0/2.5 SLP cts 12 2.0/2.5 RR(9am) cts 5-11 2.0/2.5 RR(11am) cts 5-11 4.0/4.5 SLP 1-4, 13,14 ADV 15, 16	Reserved Cts 5-24 OP cts 1-3 PB ML 3.5/4.0+ Cts 9-16 1:30 - 4:00pm
12:00 - 1:30	3.5/3.0 W RR cts 21-24 7.5+ MRR cts 9-12,14 RC 1-3,13 Unused cts OP	12:00 - 3:00 RC cts 1-3,13 Lobster ct 17 SNAP 12:00 - 2:00 Cts 18-24 DS cts 5-12 1:00 - 2:30 4.0 SRAPPL cts 13-16 1-3pm Unused cts OP	OP cts 5-8,12 Halo Training cts 9-11,14-16 RC cts 1-3,13, 18-20 3.0/2.5 W RR cts 18-24 Lobster ct 17	RC 1-3, 21-24 OP 18, 19 RAP 12:00 - 3:00 cts 13,14,15,19,20 DS 1:00 - 2:30 cts 5-12 Lobster ct 17	Lobster ct 17 RC 1-3, 18-20 SLP +1 cts 5-16 4.0 SRAPPL cts 21-24 1-3pm	3.0 RR (12am) cts 18-24 Lobster ct 17 Unused cts OP RC cts 1-4	
1:30 - 3:00			OP cts 5-8,12 Halo Training cts 9-11,14-16 RC cts 1-3,13, 18-20 Lobster ct 17		RC 1-3, 18-20 SLP +1 cts 5-16 4.0 SRAPPL cts 21-24 1-3pm	Lobster ct 17 Unused cts OP RC cts 1-4	
3:00 - 5:00	RC 1-3,13 OP Cts 5,6, 11,12,14-16 3.0 SRAPPL cts 7-10 Lobster ct 17 GVR PB 201/202/301 Cts 18-23	Feeder Training Cts 7-10 RC 1-3,13 OP cts 14-16 Lobster ct 17 GVR PB 101 Cts 18-23	RC cts 1-3,13 OP Cts 5-12 Lobster ct 17 GVR PB 101 Cts 18-24	RC cts 1-3,18-24 Lobster ct 17 OP cts 5,6, 11-16 3.0 SRAPPL cts 7-10	OP cts 5-16,18-24 Lobster ct 17 RC Cts 1-3	Lobster ct 17 Unused cts OP	

East Center [7 South Abrego Dr. Green Valley, AZ, 85614] Pickleball Courts 1-8							
Effective December 30, 2023							
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
6:00 - 7:30	OP Cts 1-8	OP Cts 1-8	OP Cts 1-8	OP Cts 1-8	OP Cts 1-8	OP Cts 1-8	Open Play cts 1-8
7:30 - 12:00	SIP 2.0/2.5 Cts 1-8 2.0/2.5 RR, Start time 8:30 AM Cts 3-8	3.0 SIP Cts 1-8	SIP 3.5 Cts 1-8	4.0/4.5 SIP cts 1-8	SIP 3.0 Cts 1-8	SIP 3.5 Cts 1-8	
12:00 - 1:30	4.0/4.5 Adv Play Cts 1-8	Ladies Mixer cts 1-8	RC 1-4 OP Cts 5-7 Lobster ct 8	4.0 Adv Play cts 1-8	Ladies RR Cts 1-8	RC 1-4	Open Play cts 5-8, RC cts 1-4
1:30 - 3:00		RC 1-4				4.0/4.5 Adv Play cts 5-8	
3:00 - 4:30	RC Cts 1-4 OP Cts 5-7 Lobster ct 8	OP Cts 5-7 Lobster ct 8		RC 1-4 OP Cts 5-7 Lobster ct 8	RC Cts 1-4 OP Cts 5-7 Lobster ct 8	OP cts 3-7 Lobster ct 8	
4:30 - 6:00							
6:00 - 8:45	RR 3.5 Cts 1-8	RR 4.0 Cts 1-8	RR 2.0/2.5 Cts 1-8	RR 3.0 Cts 1-8	OP Cts 1-4 75+ RR Cts 5-8	OP Cts 1-8	

b. Capital Request - January, 2024

Motion for the club to submit the request for shade over the walkway between courts 1-4 and 5-12 when the GVR request for capital expenditures is anticipated to be received in January. - Passed

Additional info: Specify that this is a health and safety issue after GVR releases its new Club Request guidelines. It is likely that the club will be expected to pay 10% of the cost.

c. Section 6 Club Skill Ratings Policy Manual Update

Motion that the Ratings section of the Club Policy Manual be updated to limit RAP and Ratings Testing to a player's next higher skill level. Exceptions will be handled on a case by case basis. - Passed

These are the bullets that were updated within the Rating Section.

g. RAP - Rating Assessment, Demo & Practice sessions are conducted during the rating period. These are optional (not required to sign up for a rating test) sessions for a player, who will be given the applicable skills test and learn how to play ghost doubles. **The purpose of the RAP sessions is for potential testees to practice and experience the testing situation one level higher than their current rating; it is not intended as instructional help.**

i. Highly recommended at least 2 weeks prior to the Rating Test to identify which skills to concentrate on during practice. You will receive a copy of the skills test.

ii. Sign up in Pickleball Plus is required to attend.

iii. Testees are limited to 1 sign up per **skill rating per season and only to their next higher skill level. See bullet m. for exception requests.**

h. The Club provides ratings evaluation via the Ratings Committee from September 1

through August 31 the following year.

i. Members desiring to be evaluated to advance to a higher skill level can follow the Club's Skills Rating two step process. **Testees may test to one level higher than current rating, See bullet m. below for exception requests.**

m. Testee needs to email GVR Pickleball Club if they want to skip a skill level **in RAP or a rating test above** their next higher level.

Highlights of Work Area Reports & General Interest to Members

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

Check out the GVR Classes below, sign up today!

PB 101: Duration - 2 hours

Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Steve Fernandez

Feb 7, 14, 21, 28 Donna Davis

PB 201, 202, 301 Carol Hammerle

PB 202: Jan 29, Feb 5, Feb 12

PB 301: Feb 19, 26, Mar 4

Pickleball Mindset of Winners by SNAP Kathy Palese

• January 23, 30, February 6

• February 13, 20, 27

Pickleball Major League by SNAP Kathy Palese

February 4, 11, 18, 25 (3.5 rated players)



Court Updates & Reminders

Cold Weather Pickleballs: On colder mornings when the temperature is below 50 degrees, please use the ONIX pickleballs. Once the temperature is 50 degrees or above, the Franklin pickleballs may be used. Thank you.

SLP (skill level play): 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 on the court to talk about your skill level to keep play consistent and challenging for all.

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.

Club Board of Directors Nominations Continue until 2/25/2024

It's that time of year to secure nominations for the Board of Directors of the GVR Pickleball Club. [Nominations are now open until February 25th.](#)

The Club's Bylaws provide for a two (2) year term for the following offices (April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2026).

There will be a total of 3 (three) positions available for two-year terms.

1. President (Current Board member - Patrick Furumoto)
2. Secretary (Current Board member - Bev Lauby)
3. Member at Large (Current Board member - Mike McCarry)

You may nominate more than one person to serve on the board, but you **MUST BE SPECIFIC** to which office you are nominating each person for, or it will **NOT** be a valid nomination. Please contact the person you want to nominate, to be sure they will accept their nomination. You may also self-nominate. However, you must include the **SPECIFIC** position, or it will **NOT** be valid.

Nominations should include the following.

- Person making nomination
- Person nominated
- Position
- Self Nomination - Describe motivation to serve on the Board of Directors
- Other Nomination - Describe motivation to serve on the Board of Directors
- Describe experience this nominee will bring to the position
- Rate skill and experience with computer systems to work with member databases, scheduling, communications and websites (1 - low to 5 - high)

Please submit your nominations by email to one of the following Nomination Committee members:
Patrick Furumoto, pfurumoto@gmail.com
Al Willette, 13willette@gmail.com

All valid nominations will be acknowledged by email. There will not be any nominations accepted from the floor during the Annual Meeting in March.

Member Outreach Charities Donation - December, 2023

Our member outreach charities of the Food Bank of Green Valley and the GVR Foundation MAP program did not do as well as past years. \$450 was raised for the Food Bank and \$180 for the MAP program. Checks will be presented to these organizations. Thank you to the donors.

Paul May Memorial Presentation

On [Saturday, February 3 at the KJB Pickleball Center at 1pm](#), there will be a memorial presentation for Paul May. There will be a few presenters, as well. Please come as Janis, Paul's wife & daughter, Sherrie will be in attendance. [Please sign up for the Event in Pickleball Plus.](#)

Club Tournament - March

Plans are underway for a Club tournament, similar to last March, the tentative dates are March 16 & 17. Thanks to Maria Acevedo who has stepped up to be the Tournament Chairperson. More details to come.

GVR Maintenance Court Washings

GVR informed the club that court washings will occur as follows. As in the past, GVR will begin and finish as quickly as possible. Until court washings have been completed that day and the courts are dry, do not play on the courts. Schedules will be adjusted accordingly.

Canoa Ranch & East Center: Friday, April 12th, 5am-1pm
KJB Pickleball Center, courts 1-16, Thursday, April 25, 5am-1pm
KJB Pickleball Center, courts 17-24, Friday, April 26, 5am-1pm

Del Sol Cafe Survey - Survey closes January 31, 2024

In case you haven't already taken this survey, here is a message from Scott Somers, CEO, GVR to all of the GVR clubs. On behalf of the Board subcommittee, Scott has asked that we send the Del Sol Cafe survey to club presidents and ask if you would push it out to your club members so we hear from as many GVR members as possible.

Be heard! Please take a moment to do the quick survey below about developing a cafe within the GVR Del Sol Clubhouse:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R5LTZD6>

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/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.**

We really need more volunteers! Feeders and Recorders especially. If you're interested in more information on these roles please contact me and I'll get you in contact with our lead volunteers. We cannot provide these training and testing sessions without help from our members. [If you're interested in more information on these roles please contact Greg Wright at GWMW1@Q.COM.](mailto:GWMW1@Q.COM)

The number of club testing this year is lower than last year. So far we have administered 67 tests with 44 successful for 66%. Last year at this time we administered 81 tests.

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

2.5: James Gersonde, Connie Collier, Judith Oslin, William Kiefiuk, Wayne Fuller, Woody Woodard, Gary Patzer, Mark Monson

3.0: JoAnn Tsohonis, Deb Frider, Deborah Kasson, Pat McCoy, Joan Schultz, William Kasson, William Kiefiuk, Nancy Klema, Connie Collier, Judith Oslin, Richard Mahoey, Wayne Deaton

3.5: Margaret Hyer, Gail Gersonde, Don Schultz, Beth Robertson, Nancy McDonald, Ann Montgomery, Barbara Dentzman, Cheryl Kutella, Amy Roehrig, Dennis Duffus, Ken Tinsley

4.0: Jenny Perkins, Shelley Sordo, Jana Corder, Marlene Rockwell, Jeff Gillard, Mike Cooksey

4.5: Ken Zimmerman, Jill Evans, Karen Riley, Kathy Palese

New Members

17 new members in December -

Maura Uggetti, Bob McKeeman, Leslie O`Leary, Jeff Gillard, Larry Stoker, Ruby Stoker, Dan Groshens, John Studer, Todd Solomon, Merna Kerss, KENT YOUNGS, DIANE RINKS, FAITH YOUNGS, Mary Armstrong, Gretchen Sziebert, Don Schultz, Joan Schultz

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

Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Steve Fernandez

Feb 7, 14, 21, 28 Donna Davis

Mar 5, 12, 19, 26 Steve Fernandez

Mar 6, 13, 20, 27 Donna Davis

PB 201, 202, 301 Carol Hammerle

PB 201: Mar 11, 18, 25

PB 202: Jan 29, Feb 5, Feb 12

PB 301: Feb 19, 26, Mar 4

Pickleball Mindset of Winners by SNAP Kathy Palese

- January 23, 30, February 6
- February 13, 20, 27
- March 5, 12, 19
- March 26, April 2, 9

Pickleball Major League by SNAP Kathy Palese

February 4, 11, 18, 25 (3.5 rated players)
March 3, 10, 17, 24 (4.0+ rated players)

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.

The 3rd Shot Challenger from Club Members: Mike Goodrich & Julianne Howell

Try this out & let Mike & Julianne know what you think at: Mjgoodr3@aol.com, julianne0525@gmail.com.

The 3rd Shot Challenger™

The 3rd shot drop (5th shot, 7th shot, etc.) is difficult to master. There have been many videos and discussions about how to improve 3rd shot drop proficiency. Until now, we are unaware of any simple practice tool designed for 3rd shot drop mastery.

The 3rd Shot Challenger™ is designed specifically to improve 3rd shot drop skills. Applications for this simple innovative tool (Figure 1) are numerous. For now, let's focus on two skills using The 3rd Shot Challenger™.

1. The 3rd shot drop skill

- 1. Beginner players** will find that hitting a higher 3rd shot drop will improve getting the ball consistently over the net into the opponent's NVZ. For this, the highest hole on the uprights is the best option. For the drill, position the upright bars parallel to the net and about 1 foot inside the NVZ line opposite the player dropping the ball.(Figure 1) The aim for the player dropping the ball is to accurately hit the ball over the apex of horizontal bar for the ball to drop into the opponent's NVZ.
- b. Intermediate players** who can frequently hit 3rd shot drops can lower the horizontal bar by 6-inch intervals on the upright bars. (Figure 2) The aim of this drill is to hit the 3rd shot lower into the NVZ with a less attackable bounce.
- c. Advanced players** can challenge themselves by lowering the horizontal bar and/or narrowing the window created by the uprights by removing section(s) of the horizontal bar. (Figure 3 & 4)

2. Punch volley skill

- a. The aim for the player feeding the ball is to improve punch volley skill to send the ball under or over the horizontal bar and between the uprights so that the player-partner can attempt to return 3rd shot drop over the horizontal bar into the opposite NVZ.

Drill in a “Game-a-fide” way

To simulate a real game and to maximize the drilling value, find a way to keep score and play a game up to some number you choose. You should feel the pressure like in a real game.

How to make a 3rd Shot Challenger™

Simple to make: Use 1” or 1 1/2” PVC pipe for uprights and 1/2” PVC pipe for the horizontal bar. Use a 7/8” hole cutting drill bit to cut holes in the uprights. The highest hole for the 3rd Shot Challenger™ uprights is approximately 68” from the ground, lower holes can be cut every 6”. The length of each section for the horizontal bar or vertical uprights should be no more than 4’ to fit into a carrying bag. Figure 1 shows 2 vertical and 2 horizontal sections connected with PVC connectors.

Figure 1: View of the 3rd Shot Challenger™ and position in the NVZ



Figure 2: Close up view of the upright holes



Figure 3: Smaller Target for advanced player



Figure 4: The 3rd Shot Challenger™ set up for advanced player practice. Lower horizontal bar and narrow upright window



Bios for Mike and Julianne

¹ Mike Goodrich is a Western Michigan University Hall of Fame Tennis Player, USPTA Teaching Pro, a National Senior Games Pickleball Gold Medal Winner, a leader in the St Joseph, MI Pickleball community and a member of the GVR Pickleball Club, AZ.

² Julianne Howell is a 3.5 pickleball player, a consultant Physical Therapist and Certified Hand Therapist with a specialty in management of hand and upper extremity, a member of St Joseph, MI Pickleball community and the GVR Pickleball Club AZ.

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.