



PickleBlast

May 2019 PickleBlast

May is the month of transition, as many of us leave Green Valley to escape the summer heat. For those who stay, there are plenty of opportunities to play and to make new friends. If you only come to Green Valley for a few months in the high season, consider visiting in the off season for a little bit to experience a completely different Green Valley.

What's in this PickleBlast?

- May Board Meeting Highlights
- GVR Pickleball Complex update
- Welcome New Members
- Member Rating Changes
- How Focus Play Works
- Skill Ratings
- Observations
- Upcoming Events

May Board Meeting Highlights

- Club Policy Manual revision to better define challenge courts
- New brochures and flyers for educating new members about our club and GVR courts
- Club participation in the 2019 White Elephant Parade

GVR Pickleball Complex update

Our Pickleball Complex Advisory Group has finalized the revised pickleball complex plans and they have been submitted to Pima County for final review and issuance of the necessary permits. On Thursday April 11, the Green Valley Council P&A Committee gave approval for the pickleball center design. Next, the RFP package will be completed and published for responses from general and specialty contractors. Anticipated contract award is the first of June. We are also still awaiting GVR Board approval of an agreement with the GVR Foundation to enable corporate and large donor fundraising efforts.

Project Timeline

**GVR Foundation
Statement of Revenue and Expense
PICKLEBALL
Year-to-Date: 1/1/2019 - 4/30/2019
Acct is In (4100, 4102, 9030)**

			Current Year		Prior Year		Totals
			Year-to- Date				
Revenue							
	Pickleball Contributions		\$6510.71		\$10,785.00		
	Pickleball Golf Receipts		\$0.00		\$15,808.00		
Revenue Totals			\$6,510.71		\$26,593.00		\$33,103.71
Expenses							
	Pickleball Expenses (Golf)		\$0.00		\$4,080.15		
Expenses Totals			\$0.00		\$4,080.15		\$4,080.15
Excess or (Deficiency) of	Revenue Over Expenses		\$6,510.71		\$22,512.85		\$29,023.56
	Pickleball Grants		\$0.00		\$50,000.00		

Pickleball Club Reserve for New Courts: \$80,801.60
Foundation Reserve for New Courts: \$29,023.56
Freeport McMoran Grant \$50,000.00
TOTAL: \$159,825.16

Welcome New Members! (April)

Margaret Denker	Manny Guyot	Joni O'Brien	Bill Peake
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Congrats to Members with New Ratings! (April)

Moved to 2.5:	Robert Hanson	Frank Morrison	Keith Stukenberg		
Moved to 3.0:	Nina Campfield	Vern Fraser			
Moved to 3.5:	William Hathaway	Trish Hoge	Lynn Pritchard	Marilyn Rambo	Sam Schaen
	Shirley Stoddard	Patty Tracy			
Moved to 4.0:	Tess Camp	Karen Riley	Bryon Sordo		
Moved to 4.5:					

How Focus Play Works

"I follow three rules: Do the right thing, do the best you can, and always show people you care."

Lou Holtz

We have just finished our most challenging high season ever. Three of our (then) seven courts at East Center were closed from mid-November until mid-February. We were able to use four temporary courts (Thank you, Tennis Club and GVR!) to help with the loss of courts but we had to adjust to a new location and temporary lines and nets. And, the weather was not consistently kind to outdoor play. Once the refurbished East Center courts were reopened, we anticipated that though crowded, there would be a little less pressure and conflict on the courts. That did mostly happen, but there were a number of examples of poor behavior and outright disregard for the policies which the current and past club boards have implemented to facilitate play - particularly during Focus Play times. So, for those of us who are unclear about club policies and those of us who have apparently forgotten how Focus Play is designed to work, here is the pertinent section from our [Club Policy Manual](#):

Court Rules

1. Paddle queueing is used as a method to determine which group of players is to use the next available court and is directed by the Court Management Committee and Court Coordinators.

- a. During Focus Play: Paddles may be grouped by two players to allow practice together with a partner with minimal disruption to the flow of players to the courts.
- b. During Drop-In Play: Paddles may be grouped up to four players.
- c. During heavy court usage: The Gold/Silver queuing process may be implemented when there are 20 or more paddles in a queue. Court Coordinators may implement a "win by one" or play to nine points format to speed play.

2. Focus Play

- a. Court schedules are intended to provide equal time for each focus group daily, if possible. GVRPC requests that club members honor these designated times and particularly during the high season of September - April.
- b. The Gold/Silver queuing system is recommended during this high season in designated Focus Play times. This system moves the winning pair from each game to the Gold queue and the losing pair to the Silver queue. Within a club skill level group, there are stronger and weaker players, and the intent of this system is to provide a more balanced group within each queue. Other skill level groups are encouraged to adopt this system to see if it is advantageous for their group.
- c. If Challenge Courts are implemented as a Board decision in the future, they may be designated during Focus Play only, using East Center Court 7 if there are 8 or more players wishing to participate on the Challenge Courts, and using East Center Courts 7 and 8, if there are more than 12 players wishing to participate. GVRPC recommends that those using the Challenge Courts remain sensitive to the overall number of players at the courts and determine the suitability of Challenge Courts during crowded sessions.
- d. Court monitors may educate members on the queuing systems, court schedules, and club policies. GVR has stated that the club may not request that those members playing during focus play outside of their club rating be asked to leave. Court monitors may only suggest that members play during

Question: Our foursome has just finished our match and there are fewer than four paddles queued for the next match. Do we need to come off the court or can we start a new match?

Answer: Once your match is finished, you need to leave the court and allow anyone waiting the chance to play. If you want to keep your foursome together you can either reserve a court or play during drop-in.

Question: We want a ladies (or mens) game. Or, we want to play with a small group which we think is more skilled than the rest of those playing at the time.

Answer: These issues are a direct result of having an insufficient amount of available court time. When we have more courts, there will be opportunity for these types of subcategories. But until then, please respect the polices in place.

Question: What do we do when we observe players disregarding these guidelines?

Answer: Take the high road and make an attempt to courteously let them know what the current polices are. If they refuse to listen or change, you can complete a [GVR incident form](#) and place in the pickleball mailbox in the East Center lobby or give to a board member for follow-up. But, don't rush to judgment. A gentle reminder is normally all that's required to resolve what appears to be a problem.

Ratings

IPTPA Rating System

Recently our club board approved the funds to join IPTPA at the club level for the next three years. This means that all of our club members will receive a \$10 discount when registering for an [IPTPA ratings session](#). When you register, indicate that your rater is either Joey Farias or Sean Rickard and that you're a member of the GVR Pickleball Club. This option is particularly valuable to our club members who wish to test during the summer months when our Ratings Committee is inactive.

Club Ratings

If you are an active USAPA member and tournament player, you have a tournament rating (UTPR 2-digit number) which is updated quarterly, based on tournament results. When that number changes, please print or capture the information displayed on your screen and send to the club secretary to update your club profile.

Observations

- Paddle lost? Paddle found? If you find a paddle that someone has left, please turn it into the East Center office. If you just leave it in the signup desk, others may think that it is for loaner use and it could disappear. If you lose or leave your paddle behind by accident, check with the office staff to see if they have it.
- Do you have extra paddles you no longer use? We need those paddles for our introductory classes. Please contact a board member or Carol Hammerle if you can help.

Upcoming Events

- May Potluck and Open Play - Sunday, May 26 5:00-8:00pm at East Center. Bring appetizer or dessert to share and your beverage of choice. Open play will be available 5:00-8:00pm. Sign up [here](#).
- Next GVR Board meetings are scheduled for May 22 and June 26 at 2:00pm at West Center. And, don't forget about the GVR Committee meetings scheduled monthly. The calendar for all of these meetings is [here](#).

In Closing - If you have a suggestion, comment, or a question, let us know – preferably by email – as discussions on the court sometimes (actually quite frequently) get lost or forgotten. And let us know if you find this newsletter helpful. Use the GVR Pickleball Club website (<http://www.gvrpickleball.org>) to contact us.

That's all for now folks.....stay positive, keep smiling, and enjoy playing!!!!



Jeff Harrell
President, GVR Pickleball Club