



January 2019 PickleBlast

We are at the height of our winter season and our courts are overflowing. There's a lot happening with our club and with the pickleball complex right now, so read on, be informed, and join us in these activities!

What's in this Pickleblast?

Board Meeting Highlights

GVR Pickleball Complex update

Welcome New Members

Member Rating Changes

Blood Drive in memory of Joe Brancazio

Interview with Dean Olson

Thank You

Skill Level Ratings

Observations

Upcoming Events

Tournaments and Classes

January Board Meeting Highlights

- GVRPC is partnering with the GVR Foundation for a fundraising campaign for the pickleball complex
- Our club will purchase an IPTPA Rating System Pickleball Club Membership for \$150. This will provide our club members with a \$10 discount when registering for an [IPTPA ratings session](#).
- Our nominating committee has received a few nominations but more are needed. Please consider submitting your name or asking someone if you could nominate them. Open positions are Vice-President, Treasurer, and Member at Large (2)

- Bylaw revision regarding board member nominations is to be modified and approved by club board, forwarded to GVR for approval, and added to the ballot for our annual meeting

GVR Pickleball Complex update

The GVR Board has approved the design and forwarded it to Pima County for review and approval. The GVR Fiscal Affairs Committee meeting (January 23 9:30 at East Center) will set a project cost amount and identify funding sources for construction. The GVR Board will review the results of this meeting, along with the information provided during the January 17 [Board work session](#) on January 29, 1:30 at West Center. Our attendance at these meetings remains critical to continue to encourage GVR to provide the necessary new courts to alleviate our overcrowding.

**GVR Foundation
Statement of Revenue and Expense
PICKLEBALL
Year-to-Date: 1/1/2018 - 12/31/2018
Acct is In (4100, 4102, 9030)**

		Current Year	Prior Year	Totals
		Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date	
Revenue				
	Pickleball Contributions	\$620.00	\$10,785.00	
	Pickleball Grant	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	
	Pickleball Golf Receipts	\$15,808.00	\$0.00	
Revenue		\$66,428.00	\$10,785.00	\$76,593.00

Expenses					
	Pickleball Expenses	\$4,080.15	\$0.00		
Expenses		\$4,080.15	\$0.00		\$4,080.15
Excess or (Deficiency) of	Revenue Over Expenses	\$62,347.85	\$6,740.00		\$72,512.85

Foundation Reserve for New Courts: \$72,512.85
Pickleball Club Reserve for New Courts: \$63,489.82

TOTAL \$136,002.67

Welcome New Members! (December)

Jan and Ken Absher	April and George Boysen	Sally Carroll	Dean Deheer	Mary and Patrick Furumoto
Fiona and Steve Gentle	Christel and Todd Gibbons	Sue and Jim Lemen	Gus MacLellan	Alfred Miller
Karna Nelson	Brenda Russell	Frederick Schmidt	Susan Schmuck	Nancy and Sandy Seright
Carolina Sherrill	Rita Shomenta	Paul Smith	Steven Wandry	Lucinda White
Michael Whitley				

Congrats to Members with New Ratings! (December)

Moved to 2.5:				
Moved to 3.0:	Carolina Sherrill			
Moved to 3.5:	Rebecca Garcia	Bruce Harding	Robert Muller	
Moved to 4.0:	Vic Loewen			
Moved to 4.5:				

Blood Drive in memory of Joe Brancazio

"I have been donating blood for many years. It was my way of giving back. I never realized how important it was until Joe was diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) in June of 2018. MDS is a group of Bone Marrow failure disorders. Some patients do succumb to the direct effects of the disease due to bone marrow failure and cytopenias (reduction in the number of mature blood cells). Roughly 30% of the patients diagnosed with MDS, progress to Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML-rapid growth of abnormal blood cells) which happened in Joe's case. In the weeks from when Joe was diagnosed to the time of his death on August 12, 2018 he had 20 units of blood transfused and 1 unit of Platelets. So the need for blood is real. Give the gift of Life and Donate Blood."

Ellen Brancazio

Saturday February 16 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm there will be the In Memory of Joe Brancazio Blood Drive at the American Legion Post 66 on Duval Mine Rd. Please come and help celebrate the life of Joe by giving blood. Walk-ins are welcome the day of the drive, but appointments take priority, so don't delay and make yours today! To schedule your appointment or for more information, please call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org and use Sponsor Code: 021647.

If you cannot donate blood, just stop by to share stories or to visit. There will be lite snacks, cookies , and fruit available and Jimmy Buffett as well as some Frank Sinatra (Joe's favorite) music playing while people are donating. Join us for an informal Celebration of Life or Lives.

Interview with Dean Olson

Our studio guest today is none other than Dean Olson. Dean is the chairman of our club fundraising committee and has been an integral part of creating our fundraising campaign for the pickleball complex. He works tirelessly to manage all of our club fundraising efforts and is one of our regulars at GVR board and committee meetings. Let's see what's on his mind today.

***[PickleBlast]:** Thanks for taking some time to talk to us today, Dean. For our members who may not know you, tell us about your background, how you came to Green Valley, and how you discovered the game of pickleball.*

[Dean Olson]: I was born and raised on a farm in Southern Minnesota, went to a one-room school house through sixth grade, (I was the smartest kid in my class) and (yes, I was the only one in my class). Graduated from MN School of Business, married my high school sweetheart, Marsha, and we have had 51 years of marital bliss. I owned an Electrical Manufacturers Representative Agency with 13 employees which covered three and a half states, MN, ND, SD and western WI. I retired in 2004, came to visit GV a month later, and bought our home here in 2005. We heard of Green Valley through my parents as they had close friends that built their retirement home here in 1987 which they visited often and said how beautiful Green Valley was.

Marsha and I happened by East Center one day and we saw a sign that said "pickleball". We said, What is that? So we walked on the court and played for about half an hour and said, "that was fun". However, the next day, we were so sore from picking up the balls we didn't go back for two years. We were avid golfers, however, we were spending close to 700 dollars per month playing golf, therefore, we had to find a less expensive sport to try, so we came back to PB and the rest is history. We were addicted.

[PB]: *As our club Fundraising Committee Chair, you have been involved in our efforts to raise funds for the pickleball complex for years. What would you like our club members to know about this fundraising campaign?*

[DO]: I have visited with many of our members and they all have said that we need more courts. In a perfect world we would have our PB Center in the middle of Green Valley, however, that was not meant to be. We tried to build more courts at three different GVR Centers, tried purchasing property in the middle of town and even looked into buying part of a golf course. As you all know, none of these sites worked out. The last alternative is the site on La Canoa where GVR has purchased a 10 acre lot for our PB Center. Therefore, this is the only option that we have for additional courts.

When we start our Capital Campaign Pledge Drive, which will probably be after the GVR Board of Directors approve the contractor's bids, we will then ask our members for financial support. Our goal is to raise \$500,000 however, we have already raised \$90,702. I realize we have a long way to go but over a 3-5 year period, we can do this.

Now let's look at the various ways to raise these funds. A donation of \$50,000 will give you naming rights to the Ramada, \$20,000 will give you naming rights to a court. Why not have a little fun by having a contest between nations and states: a Canadian court, MN court, WA court etc. Also get together with friends for naming rights. Besides courts, your contributions could also purchase, benches, water fountain, ice machine, trees etc. It is my hope that our GVR Pickleball Club members will support this Center through their generous donations as this is our only option for more courts.

[PB]: Thanks Dean! We appreciate your leadership for our club and are looking forward to the time when we can make a commitment to the pickleball complex and to get the courts we need.

Thank You from Dean Barnes

I want to thank everyone who attended the celebration of life for Sandy. I especially want to thank Deb McPartland and Sylvia Blain and their helpers, Katie Liddle and Dianna Michels. Without them I have no idea what I would have done. They arranged everything. I want, also, to thank Jerry Hooley. His words were comforting to me and my family and much appreciated. The attendance was overwhelming and very much appreciated by my family and me. As those of you who have lost a loved one would know, times like this are very difficult and without the Pickleball Club these past few months would have been much more difficult. After the ceremony, Al Willette said to me that we, the members of the club, are like a family and he is right.

Thank you again,
Dean Barnes

New USAPA Ratings

Beginning January 1, 2019, USAPA (USA Pickleball Association) members were assigned a new rating, called a UTPR (USAPA Tournament Player Rating). The rating number is a 4 digit number (example 3.850) based on an algorithm using tournament results entered into PicklballTournaments.com over the past 3 years. The 4 digit number is rounded to a 2 digit number (example 3.5) which can be accessed by other USAPA members. Players may have a different rating

for men's or women's doubles, mixed doubles, and singles. Ratings will update periodically, based on new tournament performance results.

For our club directory, we will continue to use a two digit number (example 3.5) and use the higher of the member's doubles numbers (example 3.5 women's doubles, 4.0 mixed doubles – Club rating 4.0). If you are a USAPA member and you have a UTPR rating that is different than your Green Valley Pickleball Club member rating, please submit your new 2 digit rating (whichever is higher) to Pam Goodrich pam.g@outlook.com

Members are also encouraged to update their profile in the Club directory. Go to gvrpickleball.org, click on Member Log in, click the green button, enter email address and password, submit, click update, enter your info, and click green update button at bottom. This information is for other club members only and is not shared with outside parties.

Bev Cote

Observations

- We are squarely in the midst of our busiest month and our courts are jammed! You would be astounded to hear descriptions of the behavior of some of us when playing in the wrong place at the wrong time or transitioning between groups assigned to the courts. Thankfully it is the exception, rather than the rule. Please be extra considerate of those who are scheduled to be using the courts and those who have the courts for the next time segment. And, just be kind.
- Those ever popular name tags are once again available. You can order [here](#) and support our club!
- We are tracking our ball usage more carefully to help reduce club expenses. One of the factors in deciding what ball to provide is our breakage rate. Please put all broken balls in the designated baskets so we can keep track of breakage.

Upcoming Events

- You can now [renew your club membership](#). To remain an active member, you must renew prior to March 1 for 2019.

- East Center courts 1-3 were closed on Monday, November 19 for an estimated 65 calendar days. GVR is now reporting that the estimated completion date will be near mid-February, so the temporary courts will remain in place until that time.
- Upcoming GVR Board meetings are scheduled for January 29 and February 26. The discussion about approving the pickleball center design plans and funding the project are beginning and your support for the club is greatly appreciated. And, don't forget about the GVR Committee meetings scheduled monthly. The calendar for all of these meetings is [here](#).
- The date has been set for our second annual GVRPC golf outing. March 27 at Canoa Ranch Golf Club. More details to come as we get closer to that date.
- Our club Pickleball Olympics has been rescheduled for April 14, 2019. We'll send out reminders when we get closer to the date.

Tournaments and Classes

- The Southern Arizona Senior Games pickleball tournaments are scheduled for March 5-7 for 3.0 levels and up and for March 8-10 for 2.0/2.5 levels. Registration information is [here](#).
- [Helle Sparre](#) will hold instructional clinics March 8-10. More details are coming soon.
- [Mark Renneson](#) will be holding clinics at GVR courts on March 18-19, 2019. He is working on a schedule of clinic and lesson times and rates and we'll send you the info once we have it.
- The third annual Quail Creek Classic Pickleball Tournament will take place at Quail Creek courts March 23 and 24. There will also be a professional pickleball exhibition by Mark Renneson, Joey Farias, Sean Rickard, and an unnamed 4th player on March 20 at 5:00. These are all fund raising events for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The tournament will be a fun, non-sanctioned event. The format is a round robin so everyone will play at least 4 games. Players ages 16+ and levels 2.5+ are invited to participate. Go to pickleballtournaments.com or [here](#). Send any questions to Lenny Friedman at lenny.pickleball@gmail.com

In Memoriam

For our loved ones and fellow pickleball players, please take a moment of remembrance for those who have left us recently:

Ron Gilcrest

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