

March 2024 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

Just one more game!! Just one more day or two! I am sending these thank you's as my time as President is coming to an end.

Just one more game, has been my mantra for the past couple of years. I love pickleball, and so I have been known to be convinced to play one more game before I leave the court for the day. I thought it was appropriate when playing but also when serving as your President. Just one more game, just one more meeting to work through an issue, just one more email to help out a member, just one more phone call, etc. Just one more thank you.

To the members of the Club: Thank you for all of the support, it has made my time very rewarding. And kept me motivated through the challenges, both good and not so good. Thankfully there were only a few times when I said what the heck did I get myself into.

A special thank you to Gina, she gave me the confidence to be President, I had my doubts about being able to do the job in the beginning. She prepared me well & always had great advice for me.

Thank you to my fellow board members and committee members, it has been great working with you. I hope that I wasn't too over the top or demanding.....but I was the President. Seriously, I think we accomplished a lot and had fun doing it. Your efforts and time are very much appreciated by me and the club.

A special thank you to Mary W, Dean B, Kathy Edwards at GVR, the late Paul May & Mike Schultz. Mike, I was in fear that I would have to take over Paul's duties as well. Thank you for stepping in. Mary, Dean, & Kathy, I enjoyed working with you and working through all questions, etc. from your behind the scenes efforts in supporting the club and its members.

A special special thank you to my wife, Mary, for letting me do this the past 2 years. We can now quit disagreeing on how much time I have been spending on club stuff and worrying about the quality of the internet connection when we travel, so I can answer emails, etc. I appreciated your support, proofreading the Pickleblast, and allowing me at times to discuss how to approach a particular situation by giving me your perspective.

Again, thank you to everyone for giving me this opportunity to serve as President. It has been a pleasure and an honor!

May I be one of the first to thank the new board members on their commitment to the club. I can only hope that your time on the board will be as rewarding as my time. I will be available to support the new Board as needed.

See you on the courts! For one more game!



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

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting: April 11, 2024, Time 4pm, Madera Vista GVR Center, 440 S Camino Del Portillo,

Board Meeting Highlights

Old Business

a. Financial Planning Committee Member Survey

The Financial Planning Committee conducted a survey of members, managed by Janet Reynolds, to determine member preferences for future capital projects.

Key results from the survey:

A. 252 respondents out of 1032 surveys sent out. A 24% response rate (10-33 % response rate considered reliable)

B. Most Preferred project:

PBC (1) - 67 Canoa (2-5) - 121

188/252 (75%) - preferred adding courts at PBC or Canoa

C. Least preferred Project:

no additional courts - 189/252 (75%)

D. Willingness to donate:

only after GVR approves any project - 68% will not donate - 12%

E. More likely to donate if donation is matched - 70%

F. Respondents who live in GV or moved here because of PB facilities - 40%

The preferred project (more courts at Canoa Ranch) was submitted to GVR as a capital request to be funded by the club.

b. GVR Type II Capital Request

The Type II Capital Request was submitted to GVR approved via unanimous consent of the Board of Directors. The capital request is based upon the recommendation of the Financial Planning Committee and supported by the recent member survey regarding possible enhancements to the pickleball facilities.

c. Logo Apparel Agreement

An agreement between the club and Mr & Mrs Pickleball to provide logo apparel was approved via unanimous consent of the Board of Directors. This is the result of a presentation at the last Board Meeting by Mr & Mrs Pickleball to replace our current online apparel provider.

d. St Patrick's Tournament Summary

A summary of the results of the St Patrick's Tournament was presented by Maria Acevedo. It was held March 16 and 17. The tournament had 136 participants.

New Business

a. Resignation of Mike Schultz

Mike Schultz has submitted his resignation from the GVR Pickleball Club Board of Directors effective April 1, 2024. The Board thanks him for his time and attention in overseeing the court maintenance.

According to the bylaws of Green Valley Pickleball Club the 2nd highest vote recipient will be offered the open board position.

A motion passed to accept Wes Elder as Mike's replacement on the Board.

b. **Annual Reports**

Annual reports will be presented at the meeting. For the specific details of the annual reports submitted go to the draft minutes from the Board meetings on the club's website.

c. **Board of Directors Election Results effective 4/1/24**

President - Jeff Washburn
Secretary - Julia Cole
Member at Large - Jay Salerno

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 - Congratulations!

If you haven't heard or seen on the club's website, here is a picture of the new Board of Directors effective April 1, 2024. Congratulations!



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.

Special Notices

Southern Arizona Regional APPL League Champions!

The Womens 4.0 Drop Squad team won the Southern Arizona APPL League championship, so they will be playing in the state playoffs for the chance to go to Nationals! The 4 regional winners will be playing on Saturday, April 6th at the Pueblo El Mirage RV Resort, 11201 North El Mirage Road, El Mirage, AZ. The semifinals will be at 8-10am and the championship & consolation games will be at 12:30-2:30pm. Make plans to show your support as they go for the Nationals! For additional questions, contact Carol Hammerle at STARFSH59K@AOL.COM.



In addition, congratulations are in order for the Women's 3.0 Blazing Paddles team, who came in third at the Southern Arizona APPL League regional finals.

The 3rd Shot Challenger - Donation to the Club

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.

I want to thank Mike and Julianne because they have donated a 3rd Shot Challenger to the Club. The Club will work on how to make it available to club members through Pickleball Plus. So, look for more details in the future on how to reserve it to work on your 3rd shot drops.



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, Franklins, & ONIX Pickleballs on the Courts

ONIX cold weather pickleballs are still on the courts for a few more weeks, so continue to use them when temperatures are below 50 degrees.

Selkirk trial: Selkirk pickleballs have been added along with the Franklins on a trial basis to the ball sleeves at the Canoa Ranch and KJB Pickleball Center. The East Center only has Selkirk pickleballs. Please put any broken or misshapen pickleballs in the broken ball baskets at each location.

The Selkirk pickleballs are expected to be more durable in all temperatures, so there will be less breakage, although they are more expensive than the Franklins. Let the Board know what you think about the Selkirks vs the Franklins.

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.

A Word about Open Play (Edited article from the Dink Newsletter provided by Mike Goodrich)

Open play can be one of the most fundamental practice opportunities in pickleball, while making the games enjoyable for all players regardless of their individual skill level. As you know, the major challenge of open play is playing with people at a different skill level.

- If you do find yourself in a game with lower-level players, it's not the end of the world, and you shouldn't treat it that way. Here are ways to make the most of those games.
- Don't Go For the Kill - Sure, you could speed it up and win the point. But why not extend the point in a dink rally? Get more touches and more practice in the soft game.
- Practice dinking to all different spots on the court instead of just trying to end the point.
- Instead of racing to 11 as fast as possible, focus on one specific shot to improve on.
- If you want to improve your transition game, take your time getting to the kitchen. Take two or three shots from the transition zone. Work on landing a perfect drop instead of sprinting in.

These games within the game will keep you focused and entertained in slower-paced recreational games.

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 \(gvrpickleball.org\)](#).

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

Through March, 2024, we have experienced 145 member tests, with 100 successful, which is 69%.

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

2.5 Cliff Dejong, Dorothy Bruxvoort, Flori Lambert, Gerald Barry, Gretchen Scizbert, Jeff Henry, Jim Weisz, John Eaton, Kirk Hively, Lyman Thompson, Paula Wallace, Rick Savage, Sandra Raleigh, Scott Taylor

3.0 Amy Demers, Candy Stuber, Carmen Young, Carole Paveglio, Dorothy Bruxvoort, Francisca Butler, Fred Bloom, George Kolb, Gerald Barry, Jill Evers-Bowers, Margaret Barry, Marian Avoy, Paula Wallace, Tom Klein, Toni LaMalfa, Verni Greenfield

3.5 Carmen Young, Dan Klema, Joan Federicos, Judy Auld, Julie Mueller, Larry Stoker, Maureen Kincaid, Richard Mahoey, Sallie Simpson, Scott Tweet, William Ammeson

4.0 Alexander Bic, Jim Blankenfeld, Judy Auld, Randolph Beerman

4.5 Dave Maier

New Members

40 New members –

Margaret Rowland, Ann Seat, Jackie Schoenfelder, Ted Yvonne, Steve Sherlock, Dick Callinan, Kelly Johnson, Kathy Callinan, Michaelene Lucia, Debbie Detchons, Cathy Winner, Melinda Andrews, Ann Bode, Fred Andrews, Robin Whitehead, Heather, Stafford, Mary Raisleger, Mark Rhamy, Rick Garber, Hanne Garber, Joanne Brown, Richard Brown, Cathy Frank, Jon Zurek, Philip Cassidy, David Bidwell, Debby Vis, Margaret Barry, Tom Wallace, Candy Stuber, David Chartier, Ann DiBerardinis, Jeffrey Ackerman, Bruce Bowen, Bonny Bowen, Fred Mysliwicz, Gerald Barry, Deborah (Debbie) Parkhurst, Anne Frame, Carmen Young

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

Apr 3, 19, 17, 24 Bev Cote

PB 202 Carol Hammerle

Apr 1, 8, 15

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.