

February 2023 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

This is an important time for the Club, as the Club Board of Directors election process is in the nomination phase for another week. Then, in early March, the voting will take place.

You hopefully saw the recent email about needing candidate(s) for the Treasurer position. I can only continue to ask someone to come forward and give back to the club. As you may know, the Treasurer keeps track of the income and expenses of the club, pays bills, and is involved with decisions about future expenditures. Of course, there will be support available to help the new Treasurer to understand and learn their duties. Anyone interested in the position or needing additional information, please respond to the greenvalleypickleballclub@gmail.com.

See you on the courts!



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

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board & Annual Meeting

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2023, 3pm, Madera Vista Center & Annual Club Meeting: Thursday, March 19, 2023 at East Center Auditorium.

Club Board of Directors Election Process

It's that time of year for nominations for the Board of Directors of the GVR Pickleball Club. Nominations are open until February 24th. Below is the schedule for the 2023 elections.

- Nominations Open - Saturday, January 7, 2023
- Nominations Close - Friday, February 24, 2023
- Board Notified of Slate - Saturday, February 25, 2023
- Slate Presented to Eligible Members - Monday, February 27, 2023
- Ballots (electronic and paper) Distributed - Monday, February 27, 2023
- Paper Voting Deadline - Monday, March 13, 2023 (postmark by or deposited into club's dropbox)
- Electronic Voting Deadline - Wednesday, March 15, 2023 by 6 pm AZ time.
- Annual Meeting - Thursday, March 16, 2022 - 3 p.m. East Center Lounge

Please submit your nominations by email to one of the following Nomination Committee members:
Mike McCarry, mjmccarry@outlook.com

For complete Nomination and Election details click here: [2023 Club Board Election](#)

2023 Senior Games

2023 Senior Games: Decision was made to not participate in 2023 Senior Games. GVR was notified.

Tournament Committee Update

A, Senior Games Committee/Tournament Committee Update

Debra Hall, the new chair of the Tournament Committee and I discussed the following:

Suggest to rename & expand the role of the Senior Games Tournament Committee to Tournament Committee. The Committee duties will include:

- Discuss and determine the guidelines for a tournament including what type of tournaments, set the goal(s) of such Tournament (who benefits – members? Club? GVR? Foundation?), is this the best use of our resources, (volunteers, courts, etc.), and is it to make money? (if so for whose benefit?, can the tournament make money?).
- Are there other types of events or tournaments that can meet the goals of the club? (ie internal mini-tournament or other types of “competitive” play?)
- Analyze tournament requests & make recommendations to the Board about hosting/conducting a tournament, i.e. Senior Games.
- Develop a tournament checklist and/or manual for hosting/conducting a tournament..
- Serve as leads for organizing, managing, and/or hosting a tournament.
- As Board President, I will look to appoint 2 Board members to be on the Committee. Debra would select the remaining Committee members.

Rating Committee Update

The Rating Committee met on January 17, 2023 to review the rating testing and RAP events. The major points of the discussion were the following.

- The Club website and Ratings FAQs have been updated.
- The RAP classes have had more than 75 players take the ratings skills demo and practice sessions, which are going well.
- The feeder program continues their training, Kelly Bales observed the IPTPA testing at the Quail Creek Club.
- Year to date: 58 out of 93 (62%) players have passed the ratings test.
- For members who work during the week, weekend testing or RAP may be available on a case-by-case basis.
- It was decided that USA Ambassador Ratings will not be accepted by the Club.
- The general consensus was rating testing and RAP were going as well as expected with the new changes for this year.

Highlights of Work Area Reports & General Interest to Members

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

Article - The Third Shot Drop by Wayne Kerr

Here is another article from Wayne Kerr, a GVR Pickleball Club member from Canada. Wayne Kerr is a 4.5 Pickleball player, former Canadian Pickleball consultant and current contributor to “the Scoop” the Canadian Online Magazine. He is also the Ambassador of the International Federation of Pickleball. Wayne competed for 35 years in USTA Tennis and was the USTA Tennis Captain for 10 years.

The Third Shot Drop Opinion by **Wayne Kerr**

Almost everyone who has played pickleball for a while has heard the term: Third Shot Drop. What is it and why do you need to possess this skill?

Because the rules state that the serving team must let the returning ball bounce before they hit it, the third shot is often played from mid-court or deeper. Since the fourth shot can be volleyed the return team usually gets to the kitchen first, AKA the non-volley zone (NVZ), thus giving them the stronger court position. This basically leaves the serve team three options when hitting that third ball.

1. Driving it - the ball can be driven hard to try and cause an error or weak reply. The risk is driving the ball into the net, sending it beyond the baseline or the returners hit a great volley.
2. Lobbing it - the ball can be lobbed over the return team to push them back. The risks are providing an attackable ball or sending it too deep.
3. Dropping it - the ball can be softly dropped into the kitchen allowing the serving team to advance to the NVZ erasing the positional advantage enjoyed by the returners. The risks are hitting the drop shot too short and into the net or hitting it too deep giving the returners an attackable shot.

The third shot drop is usually the best option, however, it takes the most skill and/or a lot of practice to execute successfully. Is it worth the effort? If you are trying to improve or when playing with higher skilled players the simple answer is yes.

The third shot drop is essentially dinking the ball from further back in the court. Since there are probably fifty or more Youtube and FaceBook videos on the subject I won't go into too much detail on how to properly perform the shot. The third shot drop can be played with underspin (slice), topspin, sidespin or no spin. I suggest that however you prefer to hit your dink shots should be the same method you should use to hit a third shot drop, especially while you are developing the skill. If you usually add some slice when dinking do the same with the third shot drop. Be prepared to move your feet. For better control, position yourself in front of the oncoming ball so that you don't have to reach out to either side. Try to make contact with the ball 30 to 60 cms in front of your body with your paddle

traveling upward. Don't be afraid to add some extra loft to the ball. The further you are from the net the more arc you should put on the ball. Let the ball fall into the kitchen.

Nobody, not even the top pro players hit perfect third shot drops all the time and that is okay. They are prepared to hit a fifth or seventh (or even ninth) shot drop to get one that will allow them to get to the NVZ. Pros understand that the main purpose of the third shot drop is providing an unattackable ball. They also know that the most important aspect of the third shot drop is that it clears the net.

This is worth repeating: The third shot drop does not have to be perfect, but it must get over the net or the point is over.

How do you know if you or your partner has hit a good third shot drop? Watch how your opponent prepares to receive the ball. If their paddle preparation is above the net or higher, stay back and be ready for a downward hit ball. If they drop their paddle below the net and must hit the ball upward, move in.

As your third shot accuracy improves you may want to start steering the ball toward a weak backhand or targeting a specific part of the NVZ. It is best to do this when you have an easy return to work with or have gotten yourself into the perfect position to play the ball.

Good luck adding this invaluable skill to your game. Always keep in mind the main purposes of the third shot are to get the ball over the net and try to keep it unattackable and you won't go wrong.

Party on, my pickleball friends.



Skill Ratings

Members whose skill rating has changed through the Club rating process, IPTPA, or other accepted rating testing. Congratulations to all!

New 2.5: Vanessa Brown, Jayne Stone, Kitt McMains, Cindy Morse, William Ammeson, Tracey Riley, Francisca Butler, Karen Huddleston, Deb Frider, Linda Kruse, Michael Erickson

New 3.0: Laurie Chambers, Marilyn Hartzler, Dwain Hartzler, Karen Larson, Maureen Grant, Mark Habegger, Wally Grant, Mark Bauer, Juan Cole, Deb Rogers, Kirk Cross, Brian Harding, Martin Jaeggli, Jeff Washburn, William Ammeson

New 3.5: Greg Schoenberg, Jennifer Perkins, Annie Bessette, Carla Herrmann

New 4.0: John Elgee, Jean Nistico, Craig Severson

New Members

63 new member for January

Duane Rogers, Cary Gilman, Jennifer Wolfe, Lawrence Wolfe, Alexander Bic, Vickie Huntington, Margaret Zimmerman, Wally Grant, Michael Erickson, Kay Gross, Rick Savage, Maureen Grant, Jeff Gross, Morette Dubois, Serge Dubois, Fannie Mackie, Judy Auld, Dennis Spencer, Barbara Pociatek, Sue Grafstrom, Paul Grafstrom, Kathleen Cooklock, Jayne Lecy, David Brichacek, Beth

Lierman, Richard Stern, Margo Milligan, Betty Toth, Byron Toth, Randy Allsup, Lori Allsup, Sherry Durnford, Lynne Fessenden, Susan Lucks, Phillip Leibfried, Mike Burnett, Christy Althoff, Laura Callejon, Daniel Althoff, Lisa Braid, Sandra Raleigh, Kirk Hively, Fernando Cardenas, Fred Bloom, Michael Atwood, Syed Hasan, Kay Eason, Debbie Rennick, Hannah Sutton, Dawn Collias, Tim Collias, Nadine Sinclair, Tom Klein, John Creagh, Kaye Krave, Lisa Erickson, Michael MacCaskey, Lynn Ocone, Mary Balzart, Wally Watson, Kelly Parker, Patricia Bawcum, John Bawcum

Social Activities & Logo Apparel

- SOCIAL - Dance & Dine Social on January 21st @ West Center featuring Angel Perez & Daniel, local musician & drummer. There were approximately 145 members & guests that attended.
 - February 18th Social - Dink, Dine & Toss (Pickleball & Cornhole) @ East Center, 5PM-8PM. Potluck & Desserts & BYOB.
 - WELLNESS - Mailed 1 Sympathy, 3 Get Well cards.
- FACEBOOK - There are 121 club members that belong to the GVR Pickleball 'Private' Group page. SOCIAL -

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 (qvpc.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

There will be GVR Pickleball classes as shown below. Check them out in the GVR Winter Course Schedule, which is available on the GVR website.

All classes are held at the Kent J. Blumenthal Pickleball Center. Times are as follows: PB 101, 201, 202, and 301 are 3-5pm, SNAP and SNAP it UP - Pickleball are 12-2pm.

[Click here for GVR registration info and policy.](#) Or, call (520) 625-3440, please choose option #2 for class registration.

PB 101: Jeff Ricciardi
Mar 7-28, Tuesdays

PB 101: Al Willette, Donna Davis
Mar 1-22, Wednesdays
Apr 5-26, Wednesdays

PB 201: Carol Hammerle
Mar 6-20, Mondays

PB 202: Carol Hammerle
Apr 3-17, Mondays

PB 301: Carol Hammerle

SNAP It Up: Kathy Palese
Mar 21, Tuesday

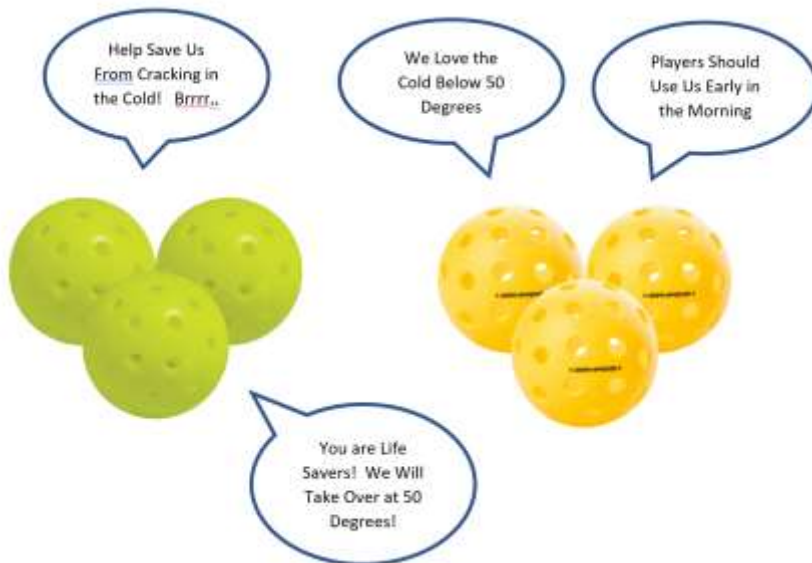
Training for Ball Machines

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.

We Need Everyone's Help to Save Our Franklin Pickleballs!



With the cold here in the mornings, please use the Onix yellow pickleballs until the temps reach 50 degrees. The Franklin pickleballs are easily cracked in cold weather. Help save our Franklin pickleballs.

Also, when you are finished with your game, make sure the pickleballs are back in the holders and the gate is closed.