

2020 Election Special PickleBlast

Due to COVID-19 closures, we were unable to hold our annual meeting on March 25. Instead, we debuted our club E-Vote process to approve Bylaw revisions and elect a Member-At-Large. All other vacant board positions have been filled by unopposed candidates. This Pblast is lengthy due to covering all of the reports and results which would have been presented at the Annual Meeting, so let's get to it!

What's in this PickleBlast?

Annual Meeting Election Results
Annual 2019 Financial Report
Year-End Committee Reports
From the President-Elect
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Annual Club Meeting Election

Here are the final election results:

President	Gina Rowsam (unopposed)
Vice-President	Mike Clemens (unopposed)
Secretary	Susan MacMillan (unopposed)
Treasurer	Michael Harrington (unopposed)
Member At Large	Dianna Michels
Bylaws Revisions 2020	Approved

Thanks to the candidates who volunteered but were not elected: Dean Barnes and Patrick Furumoto. The Club appreciates your willingness to serve and we look forward to working with each of you going forward. Congratulations to those elected. Thanks to our Nominating Committee volunteers - Donna Talarski, Becky Lupo, and Brenda Russell for helping to organize and publicize the vote and validate ballots cast. And thanks to Ray Kuehl who created and maintains the software for our leagues, our email distribution, and the E-Vote

process.

One note about the Bylaws revisions: The bulk of the revisions surrounded the implementation of electronic and absentee balloting for annual and special meetings. The club Board unanimously voted to implement the E-Vote portion of these changes temporarily, in light of current GVR facility closures, which precluded holding an Annual Meeting and casting paper ballots. We're pleased to report that the E-Vote was a resounding success, with 212 of 732 eligible voters casting ballots for a 29% participation rate when we did not have much time to publicize and educate you on the process. That is in contrast with a traditional participation rate of 12%-15% and validates the direction that the 2019 Board has taken us.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for April 8 at 6 pm at the East Center. We will send you a notification on the status of this meeting once we get closer to the date and learn more about the status of GVR facility closures.

Financial Report

Account Balances on 12/31/2019

Checking	\$13,837.78
Saving Reserve	\$4,159.93
Total	<u>\$17,997.71</u>

Donna Talarski, GVRPC Treasurer

Committee Reports

Social Committee

Thanks to our amazing Social Committee members (Colleen Mellyn, Maria Acevedo, Dianna Michels, Kathy Harrell, and Karen Riley) who dedicated their time and talents to plan and deliver exceptional social events throughout the year! Thank you also to all of the club members who have jumped to help set

up/clean up and assist with our events.

We began our year with the Mardi Gras Winter Dance. We enjoyed very good food provided by Sweet Peas and Dancing Music provided by Jim Simmons.

Our Dink and Dine events were a product of our “April East Center New Court Celebration”. We joined together to celebrate our expanded lighted courts at the East Center with an amazing potluck of appetizers and desserts while playing pickleball. This gathering was so much fun, it was suggested that we do it on a regular basis. Enter the Pick and Pot and a Naming Contest! Steve and Andy Frank won the naming contest with their submitted name “Dink and Dine”. In May, Jerry Hooley suggested that going forward our May Dink and Dine are dedicated to the memory of lost soldiers and club members.

In July, we learned how to play Shuffleboard. Special thanks to Jim Maxwell, Pickleball and Shuffleboard club member who provided access to the Shuffleboards equipment and wonderful training. A huge success and so much fun!!

I scream, you scream and we all scream for ice cream. 2nd Annual Ice Cream Social

Pickleball with ice cream and many, many toppings.

In September, we enjoyed the tutoring of the Bocce Club President and Secretary while we did our best playing Bocce ball and of course enjoying our wonderful potluck.

October brought our first Chili Cook Off. Thanks to all of our participants who made this a successful event!! We are planning to do this again in 2020 using more of a team approach. Keep an eye out for more information.

Pick Olympics, need I say more!? What an amazing time we had!! A special thanks to Mark McIntosh and Connie Griffin for determining and testing the games. And a HUGE thanks to all of the volunteers. Without their help, this event would not have happened!!!!

What an amazing club we have!!! Looking forward to another year of social gatherings. [Click here](#) to review our Upcoming Events for 2020.

Deb McPartland, Social Committee Chair

Southern Arizona Senior Games

While we completely agree with the decision to cancel the remainder of the Southern Arizona Senior Games, including our pickleball tournament, we are very disappointed not to have the opportunity to show off our new courts. The tournament next year will be about the same time - the third week in March.

I would like to thank all of the members of our club who stepped up to fill most of our volunteer positions. We have kept the sign-up sheets and you are all scheduled for the same time next year!!! (Only partially joking, we would love to see all of you back - it just can't work without you).

I would like to recognize my team of Coordinators (I started to tell you all of the things they each accomplished since January 1 but it started to sound a lot like a family Christmas letter), suffice it to say they are amazing:

Dean Beilke - IT
Gary Heintz - Facilities
Deb McPartland - Communication
Trish Hoge - Volunteers
Dianna Michels - Vendors
Charlotte Jorgensen - Referee
Scott Rowsman - Referee Desk
Marsha Raymonds - Line Judges

Donna Davis, SASG 2020 Tournament Director

Education Committee

With the addition of the new 24 court complex the Educational Committee has been working diligently at developing additional classes and programs to meet the needs of the GVR Pickleball Club. The following changes will be implemented for 2020-21 as follows:

- Expansion of GVR Pickleball 101 from 6 classes to 11 classes to meet the needs of an extensive wait list.
- PB 201 and 202 will go back to three class sessions from two.
- All class sizes will be a maximum of 24 utilizing 6 courts at the new PBC with the exception of PB 301 which will maintain a 16 person enrollment at this time.
- Developing skills classes will combine 2.0/2.5 focus play classes as a part of their curriculum . The Educational Committee believed there was too much overlap between the two programs. Also, 1 court will be designated for Pickleball Orientation for any new comers wanting to learn the game.
- Summer schedule for Developing skills will start May 5, Tuesday from 7:30-9:00 AM. The program will be offered on Tuesday and Thursdays
- Summer coordinators will be scheduling volunteers.
- Advanced player efforts: 3.5 teams vs 4.0 teams will continue to play on Sundays at the PBC. Times to be determined. This will be all inclusive in an effort to help the 3.5 players become 4.0 players.
- Recommendations would be to have SUG utilized in this endeavor where 12 (3.5 players) and 12 (4.0 + players) would sign up for each Sunday.
- In addition, drills for 3.5 players will be offered at a TBA for 4 women and 4 men. Again SUG will be utilized . Following an hour of drills by Carol Hammerle, Kathy Palese will provide ITPTA guidelines for play.
- Improve Your Game Classes will be moved to PBC from 12:00-1:30 on Mondays in an effort to improve the teaching environment.

Clinics will continue to be offered to the membership especially with the addition of the new 24 court center. This year Scott Moore offered his expertise in February, while Sean Rickard continues to provide his services to all skill levels. In April we will have Helle Sparre providing a 2 day clinic with 1 1/2 hour sessions to various skill levels. If interested you can still sign up on the website.

I want to acknowledge and thank the following people for their endless time and support as instructors for GVR Pickleball Club:

Sandy Heintz, Bob Seeman, Joanie Davis, Steve & Trish Hoge, Dan Fennerty, Brenda Carlson, Gina Rowsam, Mary Drey, Bonnie Beilke, Bev

Cote, Suzanne Nordhagen, Karen Riley, Donna Davis, Nancy Steffy, Gary Heintz, Jane Hunt, Sharon Falor, Tess Camp, Al Willette, Barry Russo, Scott Rowsam. Also, all of you who have worked tirelessly with Bob Seeman and Joanie Davis in Developing Skills and Pickleball Orientation. This club would not be where we are today without your dedication, time, support and endless efforts. My sincere appreciation.

Carol Hammerle, GVRPC Education Director

From the President-Elect

History will show 2019 as a signal year for Green Valley Recreation Pickleball Club. I am humbled to have been part of many things that made it so. In particular, the solid foundation of so many who came before me who set the stage for success, my hat is off to all who labored long and hard – THANK YOU!!! As Vice President, my primary focus was on assisting with the fundraising opportunity that culminated in an unprecedented campaign which put us over the threshold we needed to secure 24 courts. This could not have been done without the past efforts of many in our club who cultivated relationships with members and helped to make the case for why we needed to do this now. It created a platform where we were able to give folks an opportunity to participate in a way that was doable and meaningful for them. With respect to finishing the remaining amenities work at our new facility, we are in a wait and see mode as it relates to the contract amount GVR approved and how those funds and pickleball club monies will be applied. Other areas where my efforts were focused were in the establishment of a revised Conduct Expectations Policy, serving in the President's absence to preside over meetings and handling incoming communications via the website, working with our volunteers on improving our various systems with an eye toward desired enhancements, and with our educational offerings.

With our basic physical space needs met, the club is poised to shift energy and resources to place more focus on play (recreational, instructional, competitive) and member engagement activities with an eye toward building our club membership, enhancing communication, and creating and/or improving existing opportunities for every level of player. For 2020, serving as

President and with the reality of our new facilities and potential to grow, I look forward to engaging with the board, committee members, volunteers (if a club member sees something they're interested in working on, please let me know) and GVR to set priorities and assignments for the following areas (in alpha order). One area, insurance, is a new one that the board will deal with based on newly interpreted GVR policy.

Budget

Communications

Court Management & Scheduling

Education

Existing Member Engagement

Insurance

Intercommunity Play / Arizona Pickleball Players League (APPL)

Member Systems Enhancements

New Member Initiative

Professional Clinics

Tournaments

Website Reorganization


Gina Rowsam, GVRPC President-Elect

Final Observations

- 2019 became a milestone for us, for our club, and for GVR. Through your efforts and contributions we raised enough money in 60 days to build a state of the art pickleball center that will serve our needs for years to come and provide for those who will join us in the future. We still have unfinished tasks and anticipate that those will be done once the facilities are open again.

- A special thanks to our 2019 Board and Committee Chairs, as we have made great progress since last April. Our Bylaws have undergone a significant revision to encourage member participation, and while we had to start our E-Vote early the results indicate that this method of balloting will be successful. We will have more time to publicize E-Vote and absentee balloting prior to the next club election.
- With 5 of the 7 board positions filled with new directors beginning in April, the club is poised for enhancements in how we conduct business, what benefits we offer club members, and how we partner with GVR. We're excited to see what our new board has in store for all of us.
- Speaking of boards, I want to thank those who served with me on the GVRPC boards over the past four years. We made great strides in creating and documenting policy, updating our governance documents, resolving the court time shortage issue, and increasing the number of volunteers for key tasks. We have laid the foundation for renewed club growth with new ideas and approaches for our introductory and beginner instruction, which is the pipeline for new club members.
- Thanks to all of you for your support, your encouragement, your criticisms, and your participation. Thanks for putting your collective trust in me in 2016 and 2018. Together we have done a good job of educating our community about our sport and have had a lot of fun along the way. Paddles Up - soon!

Jeff

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!!!!