



PickleBlast

November 2017 PickleBlast

Hi all and welcome to the latest **PickleBlast**. Our numbers are growing daily and the courts are filling up fast. We have a lot of information in this PickleBlast, so let's get started.

WHAT'S IN THIS PICKLEBLAST?

November Board Meeting Highlights
GVR Pickleball Center update
Website updates
Welcome New Members
Member Rating changes
Interview with Donna Talarski
Club Tournament results
Netiquette - **New!**
Survey Opportunity
Observations
Upcoming Events

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Approved changes to the club Policy Manual to restrict use of club-purchased training aids to club member use only, and to provide a process for rating members at the 3.5 club level wanting to move to the 4.0 level.
- Discussion regarding the use of Challenge Courts and clarifying the requirements.
- The list of those approved to provide access and setup Simon is to be updated. A certification class for using Simon will be scheduled before the end of the year.

Interested in club policy set by the Board? Each of the Board meetings are listed on our club calendar well in advance and each month's agenda is published prior to the meeting. If you can't make a meeting, you can access the minutes [here](#). Take the time to be informed, rather than rushing to judgement based on the rumors you hear.

GVR PICKLEBALL CENTER UPDATE

GVR is now negotiating for purchase of a site for the new pickleball center, with the goal of obtaining the site before the end of the year. Our club will be asked to help raise funds for the construction of the new facilities and we are busy finding ways to raise the necessary money to contribute to those costs. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution through the GVR Foundation, contact a Board member to learn how to do so. This is an excellent time to donate through the GVR Foundation and take advantage of the tax deduction before the end of the year. Donations made through the Foundation can be earmarked for the Pickleball Center.

WEBSITE UPDATES

- Have a question, suggestion, or complaint? The best way to communicate with the Board is through our [Suggestion Box](#). We try to remember the conversations we have at the courts, but that's not the most reliable way to pass on your ideas. Send us your ideas through the website and we'll respond as quickly as we can.

- **Who is that and who are you?** Having a hard time remembering everyone's name? Our club name tags are just the thing to keep from having to introduce yourself over and over. You can order [here](#).
- Are you looking for information about skills rating sessions, current court schedules, GVR guest policy or reserving a court? You can find all that (and more) [here](#).

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! (OCTOBER)

Georgia Beletsos	Walt and Geri Bryan	Marcia Campbell	Elizabeth Clare	Connie Converse
Leslie Games	Chuck Martin	Barbara Mauser	Kathy Murphy	Con Nadeau
Ann Penton	Marce Pross	Jerry Rambo	Vivian Sanchez	Lori and John Thonander
Larry Wolfe				

CONGRATS TO MEMBERS WITH NEW RATINGS! (OCTOBER)

Moved to 3.0:			
Charlie Arkebauer	Dean Barnes	Susan Bilinski-Harper	Archie Campfield
Ursula Dashen	Gary Jennings	Joe Stutler	Michael Weston
Moved to 3.5:			
Yens Breining	Dennis Ford	David Nichols	
Moved to 4.0:			
Mike Cote	Sharon Falor	Rick Hamilton	Mark Haskoe
Sandy Heintz	Bart Ingalls	Jeff Kramer	Pat McConnell
John Nelson	Shirley Schaller	Howard Schroeder	

** Have you received a new rating from USAPA? If so, let our Secretary Virginia Smith know and she'll update your club profile.

INTERVIEW WITH DONNA TALARSKI

Our guest today is Donna Talarski, our club Treasurer. Donna manages the money for the club, including membership dues, fundraising, donations, and paying the bills. She is also our coordinator for the weekly Round Robins/Shootouts, which have become very popular club events.

[PickleBlast]: Hi Donna. Please tell us about your background, how you came to Green Valley, and how you discovered the game of pickleball.

[Donna Talarski]: I came to Green Valley in 2012 at the urging of a childhood friend. She found a casita to rent that would allow my dog and cat. I arrived December 28th and by January 28th I purchased a winter home in The Springs and subleased my rental. I was fortunate to be in GVR so I explored every opportunity available to me, which included Fun and Fit Day and the intro to PB. I moved here from Missouri two years ago as a full-time resident with no regrets. I worked at various jobs in my 50+ year career to include: clerical, accounting, banking, cashier and middle-management. I went to college late in life and obtain a BS in business in 1995. My last position before retiring in 2008 was at a pulp and paper mill in Toledo, Oregon as Traffic Manager handling all inbound outbound truck and rail shipments.

[PB]: As the club Treasurer, you not only manage our club funds but also process reimbursement requests, membership dues, financial reporting, and now fundraising and donations for the new pickleball center. Is there anything we can consistently do to help make your job easier?

[DT]: The process that we currently use was put into place by my predecessors and runs fairly smoothly. I have had lots of support from both Donna Coon and Virginia Smith in my first year. We have two options to process payments: put your requisition or your application and check/cash into the PB box, located at East center or mail to the club PO Box. Virginia and I work together on dual functions to process the payment and enter the information into the PB database.

[PB]: Our weekly Round Robins/Shootouts have become very popular year-round. Summarize for us how these events work and what we need to be aware of when signing up.

[DT]: Round Robins are an event that gives our club members an opportunity to play in a quasi-tournament with like-rated club members. Due to their popularity, we have limited our members to one event per week in their club rated group. Sign-up starts at 7 AM on Saturday morning and it's first come, first serve. If members would like to play up one level they have that opportunity by showing up the night of the scheduled event and checking with the coordinator. Though this information is printed on the header of the RR in SignUp Genius, some members are still signing up at the wrong level or for multiple sessions. If this happens, your name will be deleted and you will receive an email stating why your name was removed.

[PB]: Thanks Donna for expertly managing some of the critical functions of our club. Your contributions not only help make our club more efficient, but they make life easier for the rest of the Board and we are grateful.

FALL CLUB TOURNAMENT RESULTS

We had a great time at our club tournament a couple of weeks ago. You can see the results [here](#). And, we raised nearly \$1800 for the new pickleball center fund! Thanks to Marsha Olson, Ellen Brancazio, and their volunteers for a successful tournament and social!

NETIQUETTE

We're introducing a new section of the PickleBlast to highlight some of the court manners that many of us take for granted but might need a reminder from time to time. Others may not be aware of our local customs, so here goes!

- Please mark your paddles with your name and if possible, emergency contact info. Your name keeps others from taking the wrong paddle and it helps our coordinators know who's name to call to play.
- When you have finished playing, return all balls on the court to the storage sleeves. That helps the next group start without chasing down the balls and eliminates the possibility of someone stepping on them.

SURVEY SAYS!

Dr. Richard Gitelson, Professor, Chico State University and Professor Emeritus, Arizona State University has developed an online survey to measure the impact pickleball has on community needs, policy issues, and recreation behavior. He has used this survey primarily in CA and has agreed to expand to include Green Valley AZ. If you're interested in sharing your thoughts through the survey, you can access it [here](#). Once complete, Dr. Gitelson will share the results with us. This might be important information to share with GVR and with our community as we navigate the process of building new facilities.

OBSERVATIONS

- Court schedules have been modified from summer play and are posted on the website and at both court locations. If you play during focus play, please do so at your club level. We have made this request over and over and still we have a number of you who choose to play at the wrong times, taking time away from other members. Though we really don't want to be court cops, GVR staff has asked that we enforce the schedules and to involve a Center Operations Assistant if a problem develops. There is still plenty of court time available throughout the day and no real reason to take time away from another group. If we can't achieve voluntary compliance, we will be forced to take stronger measures to protect everyone's right to play during the assigned times. Please respect your fellow members.
- Also, court schedules are being modified and a new version will be out shortly. As always, we attempt to allocate court time equitably for all skill levels, reserved courts, classes and clinics, and drop-in play. With eleven courts it's not nearly as much fun as you might imagine, but thanks to our committee we strive to optimize the court time we have available.
- We are now accepting club membership dues. You can get an application for renewal at the sign-in boxes at East Center and Canoa Ranch or online [here](#). Please consider a donation for the new Pickleball Center as you renew. Donations through the GVR Foundation are tax deductible!
- We are excited to welcome Kathy Palese, Mark Robertson, and Sean Rickard to join Carol Hammerle as instructors in the Improve Your Game Drills. This is a great way to take your game to the next level through focused and creative ways to develop the skills to play the game better. These fill up fast, so go to SignUp Genius soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- We will begin taking orders for club shirts soon. Watch for an announcement with all the details upcoming.
- Poker night is back! December 20 from 4-8 pm at the East Center. Wear something festive and see if Santa will leave you some good hands! If you'd like to volunteer to help, we need two or three of you to help us put this on. Contact Pam Sweigert for details.
- The annual GVR Fit N Fun Day is scheduled for Sunday, January 28 1:00-3:00 pm. During this event our club creates a demo pickleball court at Las Campanas and provides club information at an indoor booth. We are looking for volunteers to setup the court and to work at the booth inside.
- Save the Date! The Southern Arizona Senior Games is scheduled for March 6-8, 2018, with registration scheduled to begin January 7, 2018. The 2.0/2.5 Round Robin tournament will also be that week, with details to be released later.

MEMBER DIRECTORY

The Member Directory button on the home page of our website will take you to a password protected list of current members. We receive a lot of requests for that password, which is "1965". As the directory information recording used to say, "Please make a note of it."

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