

December 2020 PickleBlast

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Committee / Work Area Reports 12-09-2020 Board Meeting

[Click here](#) to access agenda and committee / work area reports.

Board Meeting Update - 12-09-2020

Motions approved:

- Establish reserve amount for the Club to be maintained between \$5,000 - \$10,000
- Set 2021 annual dues at \$15 per member to meet projected budgeted expenses and maintain reserve account balance range of \$5,000-\$10,000
- Collect financial contributions from members to send a single club Christmas donation to Green Valley Food Bank and send a press release with photo to the media. Carol Hammerle to coordinate.

Re-Opening Update

There have been no changes affecting pickleball. Please [click here](#) for the 12-11-2020 Eblast from GVR. Pima County changes regarding masking and curfew continue. [Click here](#) for the GVR page with links and details.

GVR Pickleball Complex Update

GVR installed four benches and the understanding is more will be on order in 2021. The donor recognition wall was installed with a temporary list showing qualifying donations and those made in Honor or Memory denoted with an asterisk *. To see all donations and the Honor and Memory details for those specified with the asterisk *, please visit the [club's website](#) and click on the button titled "Donors to Kent J. Blumenthal Pickleball Complex." Since this temporary list was published, we have uncovered a few circumstances where information was not conveyed to the club as it relates to how a donor wanted to be listed, the honor/memory information, etc. Members are encouraged to view the list and notify the club at greenvalleypickleballclub@gmail.com of any corrections by 12/31/2020. Tiles showing individual donors will be finalized and put onto the structure in the winter of 2021 during which time we hope we can reschedule the Donor and Volunteer Recognition event.

New & Renewed Members (November 2020)

Michael Balster, Kathy Betts, Lenore Bransford, Marie-Ange Buzan, Steve Cart, Deb Davis, Randy Davis, Jarl Dyrud, Nelson Hahn, Michael Haranin, Christopher Holmes, Patricia Horton, Sue Kimball, Neil May, David and Ellen Meents, Dan Mohr, Karna Nelson, Eric Nolte, Jill Popejoy, Sue Olsen, Anna Parker, Ronald and Judy Porter, Steve and Cheryl Rykaczewski, Greg Schoenberg, Jackie Swenson, April Willi, Charles Kampa, Ginger Smith, Jane Harris, Ron Doughty, Gail Gersonde, Marlene Rockwell

New Ratings (November 2020)

2.5 to 3.0: Brad Verbout, Mary Wright, Danielle Priore, Mary Furumoto, Cheryl Ahern, Jayne Nelson

3.0 to 3.5: James Trobec, James Bergen, Charley Ready, Mike Gustin

3.5 to 4.0: Jimi Brewer, Andy Velez, David Burns, Kathy Burns, Ellen Brancazio

Interview

We are taking a break from interviews this month.

Observations

With our winter residents and visitors returning, the courts have been especially busy and it is so great to see! Thank you to everyone who has returned and observed the COVID-19 guidelines and recommendations that GVR has stated.

USA Pickleball and IFP released via email on 12/15/2020 to certified referees and ambassadors three items including: the Official 2021 Rulebook, the "2021 Rules Change Document", which lists each rule that was added or changed with explanations provided, and an Alternate Rulebook for public comment and indicating the final version will be available mid-January 2021. It did not take long for the documents to be circulated beyond the referees and ambassadors via social media with comments and videos ensuing. Once comments have been received and incorporated into a final version posted by USA Pickleball, the club will link to those documents on our website. In the meantime, members should know that there are 125 changes. The two getting the most attention relate to service rules with "let serves" now being legal and a provisional rule (will be evaluated during 2021) allowing for a "drop serve method." The club will host a ZOOM meeting with club member, Charlotte Jorgensen, who is a certified referee to discuss the changes and help members understand the new rules. So, watch for details on that to participate.

The club's board was pleased to offer a reduction in dues while establishing a budget and with a prudent reserve. As we work out the process with the new online renewal system, we appreciate your patience.

Disappointment abounds as the 2021 Southern Arizona Senior Games were cancelled. We look forward to the potential of the Foundations Games to be held at the Kent J. Blumenthal Pickleball Complex in October.

Ball distribution will be expanded to Canoa Ranch and the East Center and we will no longer require signing out for the balls. We have identified additional club members to assist and a separate email with details will be forthcoming.

Our Ratings Committee has been quite busy over the last few months with a surge of members going through the process of testing up. We could not do this without the faithful commitment of many club members. In particular, please join me in thanking the committee chaired by Suzanne Nordhagen and assisted by Lee Nordhagen, Gary Heintz, Connie Griffin, and Mark McIntosh. They organize the players who help with the tests, observe the matches, and provide constructive input to testees. Players who are part of the testing games have also been involved with the players who are preparing for the tests by playing and drilling with them weeks before the tests. We believe this has been key in seeing so many make the leap to the next level. While our system is based on the ability of the testee to score 21 points over the course of three games, testees need to be mindful to develop the [requisite skills](#) for each level before signing up to be tested. With the recent surge of activity, the committee is looking into ways to improve the process for all. So, stay tuned for possible changes.

Just as we have seen a surge in ratings tests, we have had a bumper crop of folks taking advantage of the pickleball classes and skills sessions offered through GVR and the club the last two months. All education classes and clinics are coordinated and organized through our Education Committee. Carol Hammerle chairs this committee and is well assisted by Dean Olson, Donna Davis, Kathy Palese, Bob Seeman, Susanne Nordhagen, Gary Heintz, Joanie Davis, and Al Willette. The next time you see any of these folks, let them know how much their contribution means to the club as they create the opportunities and pipeline for all of us to continue enjoying and improving this life giving sport!

The Pickleball Board has approved the appointment of the following 2021 committees as outlined in our Bylaws which can be located on the [About our Club page of the club website](#).

Nominating Committee: Club Members - Becky Lupo and Jim Maxwell and President's Designee - Dianna Michels

Election Committee: Club Members - Rhonda Savoy and Arne Maki and President - Gina Rowsam

Do you know someone who could use a pick me up? Simply click on the Contact Us button at the top of our webpage <http://www.gvrpickleball.org> and select **Wellness/Outreach Committee** and complete the form.

In closing, if you have not joined our Facebook group page I encourage you to do so. Here is the link.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/252938121566884>

If you want to become involved, have a suggestion, comment, or a question please use the Contact Us feature on the GVR Pickleball Club website <http://www.gvrpickleball.org>.

Carpe Dinkum!



Gina Rowsam, President
GVR Pickleball Club