

September 2024 Pickleblast

Club President's Message

The fall season is almost here again. It will be great to see so many friends return to Green Valley over the next few months. The Board of Directors has been working hard all summer and we are looking forward to some more great times with all of you. We'll have some exciting activities and hope to see you there.

News you can use since the last Pickleblast:

1. Board of Director's meeting. The first Pickleball Club Board of Directors meeting of the new season is scheduled for 4-6 PM Thursday September 19th in the Ocotillo Room at the Las Campanas GVR center. If you are in town please plan on attending. It would be great to see everyone there. Note that this season BOD meetings will typically be conducted on the third Thursday of every month at 4PM. The locations may vary depending on room availability so check the club website for any updated information.

2. Club Social. The first club social event of the 2024 fall season will be the Dink, Toss & Tailgate scheduled for Saturday September 21st at the East Center (starts at 4:00 PM). Sign up on Pickleball Plus.

3. Club proposal to GVR to add new courts. I met with GVR staff in early August to prepare for the Planning and Evaluation Committee (P&E committee) on the 29th. I attended the meeting accompanied by Nina Campfield, Jay Salerno, Wes Elder, Patrick Furumoto and Greg Wright. After the reports were given, the committee prioritized each of the new and previously approved proposals for use by the GVR board in setting the capital project calendar. This completes the first of many steps in the proposal process and the BOD will keep membership informed of further developments as we learn about them.

4. Drop Squad. The "Drop Squad" (our State Champion women's 4.0 APPL team) continues to prepare for the upcoming National Team Pickleball League (NTPL) tournament in Hilton Head South Carolina. (dates of the tournament and related information can be found on the Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort's website: <https://www.ntpl.org/hiltonheadchampionship>).

The team's "**Glow and Go Fundraiser**" event at the East Center on Friday August 16th was a "smashing" success by all accounts (in spite of a few thunderstorms late in the evening). Coach Carol Hammerle reiterated to me her thanks from last month's Pickleblast: "On behalf of the GVR Drop Squad, a special "thank you" to GVR and Pickleball Club members for their financial support and to three businesses, who have helped to sponsor the team, **Kathy Palese's SNAP, Proactive Physical Therapy and Ooroo Auto Care**. Your financial support is truly appreciated by every player on the team. Your response and support has been truly heartwarming and appreciated – I have no words." (well, actually, – you know – words 😊)

This is the last Pickleblast before the big event and writing on behalf of the members of the club and GVR members everywhere – we wish the team the best, we are thinking of you, we are proud of your achievements and are grateful to you for representing Green Valley.

For more information about the team's activities check out their main Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560487208986>

Drop Squad Nationals Donations

To make an online donation to the Drop Squad with your credit card, click on the link below.
Note: The team will receive your donation amount minus any credit card processing fees.

[Donations \(pickleball.plus\)](#)

Checks can be placed in the club's drop boxes at the East Center or Pickleball Center or mailed to PO 845, Green Valley AZ 85622. Make the checks out to GVR Pickleball Club and on the memo line indicate "Drop Squad".

NOTE: If you would like to assist. please contact Coach Carol Hammerle at starfsh59k@aol.com.

5. Skill Level Ratings policy. You may have read in the club email I sent out in early August that in accordance with the BOD's unanimous consent process... Club Skill Ratings Policy, Section 6, Paragraph e, subparagraph iii.. "The Club will accept ... DUPR (Requires a minimum of 10 games or is the result of Sanctioned tournament games played..." has been temporarily suspended. The ratings committee is actively working on resolving the issues around the policy and more information will be coming from them this fall.

6. Club-wide survey. During the BOD planning meetings held earlier this spring and summer we determined to put together a club-wide survey that you will be receiving in a few days. The purpose of the survey is to provide the club's volunteer leaders with actionable information to help us focus our efforts in providing benefits to our members now and in the foreseeable future. This survey has gone through a couple of iterations and we hope you will take a few minutes to fill it out and return it to us. We know there are a lot of surveys in your lives these days (thanks Qualtrics) so I wanted to thank you in advance for completing it. I will report on the results later this year.

7. Court etiquette. BOD Member at Large Jay Salerno asked me to ask all of you: "Please, please replace the balls to the tubes at the end of your play." Hey at least it's not gum this time right?

8. Paddle project. A lot of paddles have been collected from our paddle drive (we'll end it once the fall classes start). Thanks very much to those of you who have donated good, gently used (or even new) paddles (boxes at PBC and EC) for folks that might need them for classes or practice or whatever. Sincere thanks to club member / volunteer Sandy Heintz who is checking out the paddles and re-gripping them as needed.

9. Volunteer Appreciation. And, finally, as always, a big shout out of thanks and appreciation to all of our volunteers. We are blessed with some amazingly talented people in our club. We need you all. If you aren't already engaged, please consider volunteering. More to come on this soon.

Here's to you, wherever you are, and I look forward to seeing you on the courts!

Our Community - Our Club!



Jeff Washburn - President, GVR Pickleball Club

Board Meeting Highlights

Next Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting: September 19, 2024, Time 4pm, Location Las Campanas, Ocotillo Room

Board Meeting Highlights

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.

Because there is no BOD meeting in July or August I am providing a brief summary of BOD members' activities since the last meeting here:

President (Jeff Washburn):

1. Met with various BOD members regarding their areas of assignment while I was in town for the P&E Committee meeting in August
2. Conducted club business via email and other communications (BOD planning meeting, replies to inquiries, initiation of inquiries, phone calls, 1:1 meetings)
3. Met with GVR representatives re: Club proposal to add new courts, prepare for GVR P&E Committee meeting
4. Met with past president re: club-wide survey draft
5. Met with Ratings Committee

Vice President (Janet Reynolds):

1. Provided input to club president re: Club's P&E Committee Report for adding new courts.
2. Responded to Court Scheduling needs email
3. 7-1-24 Started investigation into software alternatives to PB+.
4. spent over an hour on the phone with Jean-Martin Verreault (JM) ,IT manager for the Palm Creek Pickleball Club in Casa Grande, AZ. Their Club has 1500 members and has used Wild Apricot for the last 3 years as their primary Club Software. I documented answers to system questions in a 7-3-24 to Furumoto (IT comm chair), Washburn (Pres), Campfield (Treasurer).
5. July/August 2024 - Had several calls with "Grouper" which is a cash & health benefit that can be offered to our members through their Medical Insurance. I will present the details and benefits at an upcoming Board work session or meeting for a vote.
6. Aug 2024 - Held discussions by phone/e-mail regarding the use of DUPR scores as Club Ratings. co-authored a Policy change based on these discussions.
7. Aug 2024 - Reviewed GVR P&E Aug 29, 2024 Meeting agenda, provided input to Jeff (Pres) in anticipation of questions that he may receive regarding CR Court expansion at this meeting.
July/Aug Scheduling Committee -
8. Responded to multiple members regarding court scheduling requests.
9. Reviewed & discussed October 2024 court schedule changes with Beilke, Hirtes.
10. New members -resolved problems with several new members regarding their new member sign-ups.

Secretary (Julia Cole-Sheppard):

1. Completed first run through on clean-up of PBC website tabs

Treasurer (Nina Campfield):

1. Researched commercially available accounting software that may provide an integrated solution for the club
2. Provided input to club president re: Club's P&E Committee Report for adding new courts.
3. Attended the GVR P&E meeting.

4. July, August account balances will be available at September BOD meeting or in BOD meeting minute notes.
5. Participated in planning session to determine and prepared 2024-25 draft budget.

Members at Large

Mary Wright:

1. SOCIAL - No event in August
2. Dink, Toss & Tailgate - Saturday, September 21st
East Center Auditorium & Courts
Pickleball and Cornhole
4:30pm - Tables will be ready
5:00pm - Potluck - Bring your favorite 'Tailgate' dish to share. B.Y.O.B.
Dress to show support of your favorite sports team and you could win a gift card.
Wear your favorite sports team jersey, shirt or cap!
3. SAVE THE DATES - details will be announced later.
Saturday, October 19th
Saturday, November 16th
4. WELLNESS - During June, July and August, mailed 9 Get Well cards; 5 Sympathy cards.
5. NAME TAGS - Suspended for the summer months.
6. GVR PICKLEBALL FACEBOOK (private) PAGE - 296 Members

Jay Salerno:

7. Wrote numerous work orders to GVR for repairs,
8. with the help of Nina we purchased a year's supply of balls.
9. I attended the GVR P&E meeting.
10. Purchased and installed locking key box in office,
11. continue working on space utilization,
12. researching sheds for more storage,

Wes Elder

1. I have been restocking balls at all 3 court locations when needed.
2. Ordered and received new squeegee type court water clearing tool. It is stored in the closet at the PBC. This implement is to be used in place of a court roller, as a test to judge its efficiency. Still studying what, if any, type of new storage facility that can be added to Canoa Hills.
3. I attended the GVR P&E meeting.
4. Met with Jeff re: organized an exploratory subcommittee to determine whether or not to have an intraclub league(s) this season. Also discussed Tournaments committee and set date of 2025 club tournament (March 15, 16, 2025).

Past President (non-voting member of BOD - Patrick Furumoto):

1. Reviewed comments and prepared final draft of club-wide survey survey to be sent to club in September.
2. Provided input to club president re: Club's P&E Committee Report for adding new courts.
3. I attended the GVR P&E meeting.
4. Met with the Ratings Committee
5. Met to review the duties and responsibilities of the President with Jeff as needed.

Special Notices

In accordance with the BOD's unanimous consent process... Club Skill Ratings Policy, Section 6, Paragraph e, subparagraph iii.. "The Club will accept ... DUPR (Requires a minimum of 10 games or is the result of Sanctioned tournament games played..." is temporarily suspended as of August 9, 2024. An email to this effect was sent to active club members in August.

Court Updates & Reminders

Saturday Morning Sign Ups

We are currently on the summer schedule - please see the Pickleball Plus Homepage for current sign up information.

SLP (skill level play) Reminder

During SLP play in the mornings, please follow the summer rules for playing. Be fair and respectable to the players in the designated 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.

The latest court schedules are also on the Club's website home page.

Skill Ratings

Skill Ratings testing is over for the season - we will start again next fall - probably in October. For complete information about Skill Ratings and RAP (Rating Assessment & Demo Practice) visit the Club's website Rating tab at: [Ratings | PB2021 \(gvrpickleball.org\)](#).

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

2.5: Mary Morrow, Debbie Parkhurst, Lisa Fitch, Eileen Amos

3.0: Robin Greco

New Members

21 New members – Dorie Carroll, Nadine Zolner, Janet Armstrong, Donna Harrison, Tina Welsch, Robin Greco, David Gilbert, John (Jack) Anderko, Denise Buchan, Tamara Bohn, Eileen Amos, James Barker, David Riley, Louise Riley, Carol Benight, Steve Ellis, Rhonda Needham, Susan Piazza, Keith Wunderlich, Chip Benight, Michael Hughes

Summer 2024 Club Classes

Developing Skills:

Tuesday and Thursday mornings 7:00-8:30. For players up through 2.5 level. Lead Coach Peter Fronsee.

Player Development:

For 2.5 rated players Mondays 7:00 - 9:00 am. Must be 2.5 rating. Lead Coach Marilyn Rambo.
For 3.0 rated players Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 am. Must be 3.0 rating. Lead Coach Greg Wright.
For 3.5 and 4.0 players Wednesdays 8:30 - 10:00 am. Must be 3.5 or 4.0 rating. Lead Coach Carol Hammerle.

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

None scheduled for the summer.

See the Fall 2024 GVR Catalogue (hard copy or online) for classes and sign up information

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 (in season).

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.