

## November 2021 PickleBlast

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### Committee / Work Area Reports

[Click here](#) to access past reports.

### Board Meeting Highlights - 11/11/2021

Return to pre-COVID ball distribution via holding tubes on pickleball courts  
2022 Annual Dues will be \$15 per member  
Hitting wall and ball machine were approved for purchase and will be located at the Pickleball Center  
Susan MacMillan, Secretary, resignation effective 11/12/2021  
Janet Reynolds appointed to serve remainder of Secretary term through 03/31/2022

### Player Development - Ratings

[Club testing for ratings](#) resumed mid-October. As of 11/14/2021, 11 club members were successful in advancing their skill level rating. In addition, two club members successfully completed their [IPTPA](#)\* ratings test. Congratulations!

2.5 to 3.0 - Steve Fernandez, Rita George\*, Robert Hasson, Patricia Horton\*, Nancy McDonald, Scott Persellin, Jill Popejoy, Bob Stransky  
3.0 to 3.5 - Del Bomberger, Neil May  
3.5 to 4.0 - Bill Herrington, Teri Neumann, Mark Striepe

### New Members

August 2021 - Kevin O'Connell, Jerry Ferguson, Laurie Chambers, Bernadine Murphy, Leigh Haubach and Steve Fernandez, Jean Nistico, James Culver  
September 2021 - Kenneth Paddie, Cathy Heinitz, Patricia Dugan, Kirk Cross and Dave Munroe  
October 2021 - Frederique Wolf, Jack and Janis Bennett, Jennifer Jackson, Carroll Kinnaman, Mary Perry, Christina Divita, Ken Strohmeyer, Dana Blumberg, Cliff and Joan DeJong, Cindy Manthey, Christopher and Maribeth Kwasneski, Diana Cantwell, Juliane DeLuccio, Debbie Anderson, Ken Dickerson, Kerry Boll, Diane Chandler, JoAnn Tsohonis, Steven Hatch, Norm Leja, Katrina Davis, Terry Seale, Brian Gaffney

### Donor Wall

Please join me and extend a hearty thank you to Tim Stewart who designed and assembled this recognition structure for those who donated to make the 24 court complex a reality. If you haven't seen it yet, please make sure you take time to look at it the next time you are there. And, you will note since this photo was taken, that the GVR

Foundation and Greater Green Valley Community Foundation donation levels were increased to the Titanium level. Thank you again to all donors. [Click here to see donations at all levels.](#)



### Connect on Facebook!

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>

### Social Activities

Our Dink & Dine events continue to be well-attended and a lot of fun. Mary Wright and her crew of volunteers do an excellent job of creating opportunities for club members to connect. Thank you everyone!

### Website Update

A hearty thanks goes out to the [website](#) volunteers who worked over the summer months to update our system. We continue to receive great feedback on it. Sam Schaan serves as the webmaster.

### ~~2020-2021~~ 2022 Southern Arizona Senior Games Pickleball Tournament

I am delighted to share the following from Donna Davis, Tournament Director.

Third time's a charm has its roots in the ancient belief that the number three is magical. With the pandemic twice denying us the opportunity to host the first pickleball tournament at our own Kent J. Blumenthal Pickleball Complex, I am happy to tell you that the Southern Arizona Senior Games Pickleball Tournament has been scheduled for **March 18-20, 2022**.

#### Please Play

I want to encourage all Green Valley Pickleball Club members with a club rating of 3.0 or higher to play in this tournament. Your participation is the number one thing that you can do to make this tournament a success. In 2019, 70 GVRPBC picklers played in our Senior Games. As our club approaches 1,000 members, I think we can blow that number of 70 out of the water in 2022.

### Never played in a pickleball tournament before?

1. This is the best time to give it a try. You do not have to travel, it is reasonably priced, you can stop beating up on your friends, and it will give you an idea how your game measures up against others in our area who are of similar age and skill.
2. There will be a seminar for first time players so that you will know what to expect from your first experience. We will cover how to register, rules, etiquette, procedures, what to eat, and much more.

### Volunteering

It's easy to forget how much work the tournament committee has done to organize this tournament. Players get to show up and compete but there are many people who give their time and effort to run a great event. As a volunteer your actions are a direct reflection of how the players view the success of the tournament and decide whether to come back next year or not. We couldn't run this tournament if it weren't for the volunteers willing to help us out.

Who should volunteer:

1. Those playing in this tournament – you have a wealth of knowledge and experience, work on the days you don't play
2. 2.0/2.5 players – although not eligible to play, you can enjoy the tournament experience while helping to offer players a first-rate experience.
3. Players who want to play just for fun – Not all club members enjoy tournament play, but you all enjoy pickleball. What a great way to give back to the club and to the sport for all it has done for you.

Here are the volunteer opportunities available:

- Referees for medal matches
- Parking Lot Attendants
- Van Drivers – To and from the overflow parking lot
- Check-in Personnel
- Raffle Ticket Sellers (50/50, vendor donations)
- Player/Referee Food Tables
- GVR Pickleball Booth Workers
- Event Desk – Computer competencies necessary

### **New GVR #?**

If you have ever sold and bought another GVR property, your GVR ID # changes. Please check your profile in Pickleball.Plus by clicking on the Update tab and enter your current information. While you're at it, please make sure we have your Emergency Contact info.

### **Observations**

How exciting to be part of a club that continues to grow, not only in number but how it expresses itself through member involvement. At just under 950 active/paid members, we are the largest sports club in GVR. Within this number we have a variety of skill levels, ages, and interest in type of play. With the additional 24 courts totalling 36 in what we schedule and manage on behalf of GVR, our ability to carve out play time for everyone (club and non-club members) has never been better. When I joined in 2018, the club was actively working the process which resulted in the additional 24 courts. The scheduling process then was from a scarcity of courts perspective. Many of us can recall times where we waited 45 minutes in between games during our high season. Having a sufficient number of courts allows us to offer things we simply could not do before and there is minimal, if any, wait time between games now. The club has been responsive to members who desire more organized play through Round

Robins during daytime hours. And, there is still plenty of room for those wanting Focus, Open, Reserved and now League Play and Practice times. What a wonderful position we are in!

What we have does not come about by accident. It takes an incredible number of members willing to volunteer their time to give back in whatever way they can. I am so impressed by how many of our members, day in and day out, give of themselves so others can grow in this amazing sport that gives us so much. Toward that end, we hope to hear from many more new members for the Senior Games and/or to serve on the club's [Board of Directors](#) which will have openings for three members in 2022. The [Club Bylaws](#) state that the following positions be elected in even-numbered years: President, Secretary, and Member at Large Position 2. Watch your email for additional information on how to engage these opportunities. Or, if you cannot wait, click the [Contact Us form](#) and let us know of your interest(s)!

In closing, I wanted to share part of a communication sent by one of our club members. This meant a great deal to the volunteers who labor many hours to keep our system organized and running!

*I want to thank the board for all they do to keep our PB club up and running. I just came back from Illinois where there were courts but no organization, no levels of play or classes or drills to help improve your game. I want to let you know I appreciate all you do for us here.*

Carpe Dinkum!



Gina Rowsam, President  
GVR Pickleball Club