



Kitchen Talk

Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter

August

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ed Cahill

We are just over 90 days from our General Meeting where we will announce the 2023/2024 Club Board Officers.

Several years ago, before my time, the Club Board made the very good decision of staggering board member terms so the inherent knowledge would not depart all at once.

The following positions will serve the remainder of their term through the end of 2023:

- Maintenance
- Player Development
- Vice President

This year the following board positions will be up for member vote in November:

- Communications
- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Our Treasurer, Allie Bower and I have served two terms and, per the club bylaws,

cannot run again after serving two consecutive terms.

Mike Rhoda, our Communications Director, has decided not to seek a second term but hopes to return in some capacity upon his retirement from his full-time job.

Peg O'Toole will be seeking another term as Secretary.

I am sharing this in August so many of you can begin considering running for a position and begin asking questions of the current board members. We are here to help.

Also, a formal 4 person nominating committee will be selected and beginning in September, their role will be to recruit candidates for these positions.

We NEED YOU to support our great club! Please contact me or any of the board members if you are interested in running for a board position or becoming a member of the nominating committee.

Always be safe out there and, if you see something, do something!!!

I am seeing examples regularly!

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Walt	Anthis
Debra	Carnes
William	Carnes
Steven	Coon
Julie	Earhart
Ann Marie	Greene
Bennett	Greene
Bill	Griffiths
Cyndi	Griffiths
Mike	Harrell

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Steve	Jefferson
Robert	Jones
Wayne	Kurtz
John	Leezer
Fran	Lefkowitz
Jack	Lumus
Susan	Lumus
Greg	Odom
Joan	Reed
Cindy	Roberts

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
David	Roberts
Doug	Roper
Douglas	Roseboro
Germaine	Roseboro
Larry	Tonn
Kathleen	Vivian
Bob	Vivian
John	Wroblewski
Carol	Wroblewski
Cindy	Yantis

At press time, total number of club members is 1,337



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

TREASURER'S REPORT SUBMITTED BY ALLIE BOWER



SCTPC: June 2022 Financial Synopsis

Income totaled \$375 from 25 new memberships, and expenses were \$711, for a monthly loss of \$336.

Costs included: Player Development - \$105, Administrative - \$106, CMARs Subscription - \$180, Caterer Deposit for Holiday Gala - \$200, and Member Relations - \$120.

Our FY22 net income through June is \$8,846 with an overall cash balance of \$16,921.

We currently have 1320 paid members through June. As a reminder and effective July 1st, membership dues were prorated to \$7.50 for the remainder of the year.

BYODD&P



BYODD&P... What's that you say? It stands for "**B**ring **Y**our **O**wn **D**inks, **D**rinks & **P**addles"

It's a pre-pandemic club tradition that harkens back to a simpler time when, if someone inquired about your choice of shots, they were asking if you preferred a drop or drive on the 3rd shot — not which vaccine you got.

BYODD&P is simply a very loosey-goosey, super-fun, social, open-play gathering that will take place at North Point every first Wednesday evening of the month, from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. — **starting this Wednesday evening (8/3)!**

We'll definitely be using the open play courts 17 - 20 and 23 - 26, and will **try** to reserve courts 21 & 22, if possible.

The club will provide snacks for munching, there will be a Tikiz Truck with cold treats for sale, and you can bring goodies to share, as well.

And if you happen to sneak in an adult beverage or two, we promise to look the other way... or ask if you happen to have an extra!

FROM OUR DISTRICT AMBASSADOR



Chuck Flanagan

USA Pickleball News

The most important bit of news I have to share is that we have a new Mid-South Regional Director, Jason Otts. Jason is an avid pickleball in the North Texas area and we welcome him to our Mid-South team.

USA Pickleball has decided to restructure its regional network by dividing the country into four sectors, each containing three regions. Our Mid-South region will be in the Southern Sector.

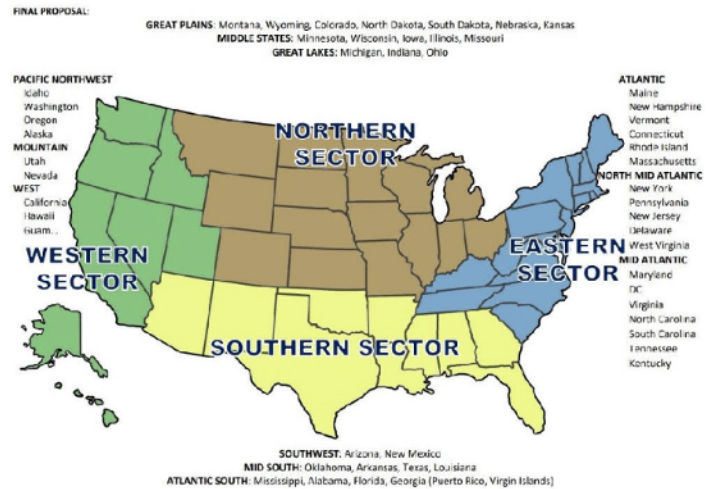
To help manage this effort, USA Pickleball will be establishing several new paid full-time staff positions:

- A Managing Director of Field Operations overseeing Sector, Region, and Ambassador initiatives.
- Four Sector Leaders, also paid, full-time staff positions.

Additionally, *“Each Region will have two volunteer leaders, splitting the duties of the current Regional Director role. A Community Engagement Director will manage the Ambassadors and focus on non-tournament efforts (rec programs, clubs/leagues, youth, community relations, facility development, etc.). A Tournament Director will oversee the Regional Diamond Tournament, as well as any potential state tournaments or other future events, under*

the direction of the Sector Leader.”

This transition will begin during the second half of 2022 and is expected to be complete by January 1, 2023.



RULES

Last month I wrote about calling non-volley zone faults: *“Players may call NVZ faults and service foot faults on the opponent’s side of the court. If there is any disagreement among players about the called fault, a replay shall occur.”*

So, if you’re losing a lot of rallies at the net, remember to start looking at the NVZ. You just might catch your opponent with an NVZ fault and win the rally or earn a replay.

Please remember that whenever you do call a NVZ fault you must be sure that the fault occurred. It’s just like a line call; if you’re “pretty sure” or “think” that a fault occurred, that’s not good enough to make the call.

DISTRICT AMBASSADOR (cont.)

You have to clearly see the violation.

Speaking of line calls, we all know that we are responsible for making calls on our side of the court (Section 6).

We also have the duty to give the benefit of any doubt to our opponent.

“The player, when assigned line-calling duties, must strive for accuracy and operate under the principle that all questionable calls must be resolved in favor of the opponent.” (Rule 6.D.)

So, what’s a questionable call? Any ball landing on your side of the net where you clearly see a space between the line and the ball outside of the court should be called “Out!” immediately.

If, however, you have to think about it for a couple of seconds, ask your partner what he or she saw, or say you think it was out, those are questionable calls and should be considered, "In."

What do you do if you didn’t see the ball? That’s easy; ask your opponents what they saw. You are allowed to ask for your opponent’s opinion to make the line call and you must accept their "In" or "out" call if they clearly saw the ball. If, however, no one clearly saw the ball "out," the ball is considered to be "in." (Rule 6 D.6)

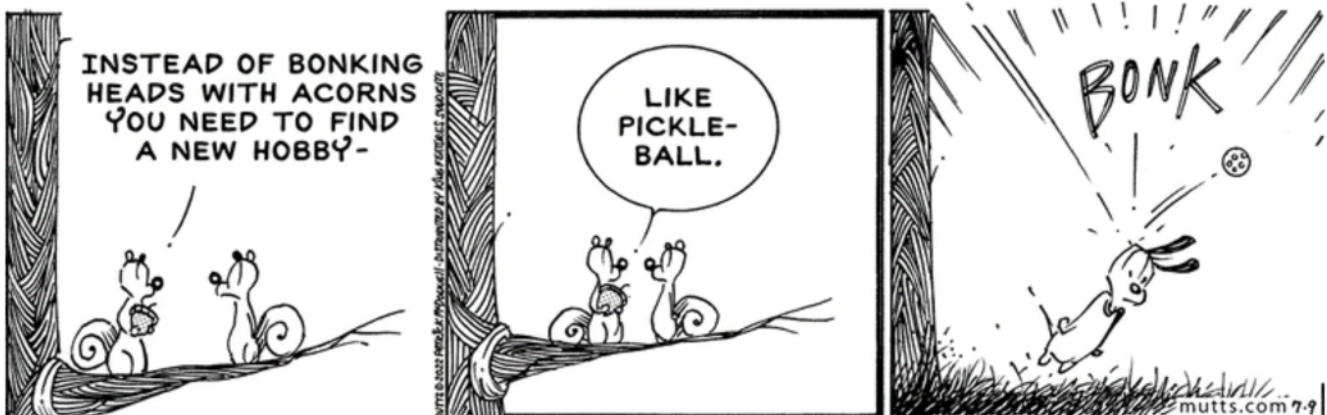
Got a rules question? Feel free to email me at cflanagan@usapickleball.org.

TOURNAMENT NEWS

VICTORY ROAD SERIES TOURNAMENT

Mixed Doubles

Ellen & Tony Kawashima:	3.0	Bronze	60+
Shaz Douglas & Steve Timmons:		Gold	60+



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

By Kathy Carr, Director of Player Development

Before launching into the monthly update on Player Development, I'd like to talk about our recently launched Round Robins.

About a month ago, we took note that the North Point courts were underutilized during Skill Level Open Play (daily from 8:30 – 11:30 am), especially among our novice and beginner level players. We decided to introduce a weekly Round Robin event to get things kick started and get players out on the courts. Our hope was that if we “organized the party,” once folks got to meet and play with each other, they would be more inclined to come back the next day and the day after that and the day after that.

We wanted them to put their paddles in the rack and participate in Skill Level Play, which is nothing more than Open Play, but by ability group.



The courts come alive with round robin play. Bottom photo is the 3.5 Round Robin group on July 29th.



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

It seems to be working, but we'll continue to monitor. The Round Robins are so popular we've expanded them to support demand and now have an event scheduled for all ability levels. And while we're starting to see more players show up for Skill Level Open Play, participation in the Round Robins is still higher.

You don't have to wait on the Club to throw the party. If you can't snag a reservation for your preferred round robin, come on out and stick your paddle in the rack during Skill Level Open Play. Depending on your ability group, it's available almost every day of the week from 8:30 – 11:30 am.

To make sure everyone has an equal opportunity to register for at least one weekly round robin event, the following guidance has been issued.

- You can only sign up for 1 Round Robin event per week. So, if you register to play on Friday, you cannot register to play on Saturday. Should you register for more than one RR, your reservation will be subject to cancellation.
- You can cancel your reservation up until 24 hours prior to start time. Once you fall within the 24-hour window, you will need to find a sub and contact the Round Robin Coordinator with the name of the individual who will take your place. Recommend you check CMARS to see if anyone is still on the waitlist before doing so.

Here are our Round Robin Coordinators:

Round Robin

- 2.5/3.0 Thursday Round Robin (8:30 & 10:00 sessions)
- 2.5/3.0 Saturday Round Robin (8:30 session)
- 3.5 Friday Round Robin (8:30 session)
- 3.5 Saturday Round Robin (8:30 session)
- 3.5 Saturday Round Robin (8:30 session) Back Up
- 4.0+ Friday Round Robin (8:30 session)

Coordinator Phone

- Toni Briggs 254-290-7307
- Cammie Wait 713-553-6790
- Davey Stateler 817-239-5381
- Cathy Stateler 817-271-3329
- Gail Kirby 832-247-0652
- Charles Desa 512-630-7785

- For the round robin to work, we must have 4, 8, 12, or 16 players registered. If we end up with an odd number and are not able to find subs, the last registered player(s) will be notified that their reservation is canceled.
- If you do not show up for your registered event and have not contacted the Round Robin Coordinator, it will impact up to 10 other players you were supposed to play with or against. Failure to show up without good reason could result in suspension from the Round Robin.

There is some incredible pickleball being played and the relationships our members are forging with other players through this venue is a beautiful thing to see. Keep it going by participating in Skill Level Play.



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Ball Machines at North Point

We are in the process of refurbishing the Club's pickleball throwing machines. Once complete, they will be available at North Point for members to reserve and additional guidance on their use will be issued. In the meantime, **starting on 3 August, North Point Courts 25 and 26 will be available for reservations in CMARS for personal ball use from 7:00 am – 10:00 pm daily.**

Note: these courts are not restricted only to ball machines. They will remain available to reserve for doubles and singles play during these hours.

Our Club's Ball Machine Coordinator is Wayne Schaefer at waynetp32@gmail.com.

2. Fall 2022 Team Pickleball Leagues to Start

Registration for a upcoming Team Pickleball Leagues will open in CMARS at 8:00 am on 8 August 2022. Expect a flyer with further details and instructions to come out tomorrow. Leagues will be offered by Skill Level (3.0 thru 4.0+) with 2 sessions allocated to the 3.0 and 3.5 level groups to meet expected demand. Teams will be comprised of 2 men and 2 women. Each team plays 1 women's match, 1 men's match and 2 mixed doubles matches against a different team each week. End of season team winners will be determined by total number of matches won with a playoff scheduled for the two 3.0 and two 3.5 groups that play on different days. Individual game scores will be input to DUPR, however members do not have to be registered in DUPR to participate.

Our League Director is Donna Duffy at dmdduffy@yahoo.com.

3. Additional 3.5 Round Robin Added to CMARS for Saturdays

Due to the high demand for the Friday round robin event, we added a second session to the schedule. It will run on Saturday mornings from 8:30 – 11:30 starting on 16 July on North Point Courts 17 - 20. Members can sign up for this session in CMARS starting at 8:00 am on 6 August. After the first iteration, registration will open at 8:00 am the morning after game play.

Participants can expect to play a total of 7 games, rotating to a new group of players after each game. Participation is limited to 12 players per session + waitlist.

The Round Robin Coordinators for this event are Cathy Stateler and Gail Kirby.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

UPDATE TO ONGOING PROGRAMS

Mini-Singles League

We just completed Week 4 of the 6-week Mini-Singles League. With only 2 weeks left in the season, it's still not too late to get out and try this game. Just register in CMARS for your ability group no later than 24 hours prior to event start time, which is 11:30 am.

<u>Mini-Singles Group</u>	<u>Self-Rating</u>	<u>League Captain</u>	<u>Day</u>
Advanced Men	Above 3.5	Doug Oliver	Tuesday
Advanced Women	Above 3.5	Donna Duffy	Contact Donna Duffy
Intermediate Men	3.5 and below	Terry Kennedy	Thursday
Intermediate Women	3.5 and below	Liz Blount	Friday

Introduction to Pickleball

On 18 June, Peg O'Toole and Judy Blackman completed their 17th Introduction to Pickleball class for the year. 197 new members have taken the class since January.

Beginner Training

Year to date, we've conducted 19 Beginner Training classes and graduated 192 students. Two more classes are scheduled for this month. Check out the photos of our most recent graduates.



Beginner Training Class # 88 Graduated on 1 July 2022

Front row (kneeling):

Randy Clark, Meade Roberts

2nd Row:

Martha Speakman, Pam Melson,
Sally Clark, Allison Wolfe

Back Row:

Rick Rickman, Geoff Boyle,
Susan O'Malley, Jeff Melson,
Mae Lopez, Mitch Lopez,
Ron Johnson

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

Beginner Training Class # 89 Graduated on 22 July 2022

Front Row (kneeling):

Kathy Carr (Instructor), Lori Belski, Assistant Instructor

2nd Row from Left:

Bill Amstead, Barb Amstead, Nancy True, Kimberly Denney, Julie Sieh, Brent Blumenthal, Susie Stotland, Toni Kawashima (Assistant Instructor)

Back Row from Left:

Karl Brauer, Buddy Burr, Bill True, Lamar Denney, Pat Aguirre and Jannine Grant-Giles (Assistant Coach)



Novice Supervised Play

Last month we reported a perceived reluctance on the part of our novice players to register for their sessions in CMARS. It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that because of the intense heat, our 11:30 am – 1:00 pm sessions had a significantly lower registration rate than the 7:00 – 8:30 sessions. So, we suspended the later session and now the courts are full.

I just checked CMARS and for the next 7 days all 15 reservations per day are committed. We'll continue to monitor participation levels and waitlists so that when the temperatures come down, we can decide whether additional sessions should be offered.

Over the last 3 weeks, 20 members completed the Novice Play program. That makes 125 program graduates since the start of the year. We currently have 60 active participants - 29 in Group A; 19 in Group B and 12 in Group C.



"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." – Lao Tzu

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

Club Teaching Professionals

We are extremely fortunate to have access to 3 Pickleball Teaching Professionals here in Sun City. If you want to improve your game and are willing to travel all the way to North Point Court #23, our pros are ready to help. Each is assigned designated hours between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Saturday. For more information and rates, click on [Sun City Texas Community Association Private Lessons \(sctexas.org\)](https://www.sctexas.org/private-lessons).



Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Teaching Professionals in Action – Top Left, Esteban Espana, Bottom Left, Matthew Boyett and Right, Brenda Niemeyer.

***If it doesn't challenge you,
it won't change you.***

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Nominated by Kathy Carr, Player Development Director

Ric Hutchinson - August 2022



Three months ago, Ric Hutchinson volunteered to become the Supervised Novice Play Director. He became responsible to schedule and track the progress of 100+ players moving through the program, while juggling the schedules of 65+ volunteer coaches who support it.

Shortly after taking over, Ric leveraged his mastery of Excel to automate the manual tracking system he inherited and streamline the processes used to

manage players through the 3-tier hierarchy of skill levels. When the club adopted CMARS for session registrations, Ric became a club administrator and set up Novice Play so that participants can now register for a session and, if they must withdraw, have the waitlist automatically fill their vacancy. This initiative alone has saved players time previously spent finding substitutes for their absences.

With the Club's recent introduction of Skinny Singles and Round Robin events, Ric matched the capabilities of CMARS with his programming skills to develop a pre-filled scoresheet for league captains to record and report individuals' game scores. This is then used by D'Les Longino, our Player Development Administrative Assistant, to provide participants with their most recent and cumulative points scored as well as their winning percentage.

Ric routinely steps out from behind his keyboard to drive up to North Point from Retreat and monitor novice play, check in with his coaches and serve as a coach himself. He is also an Instructor for the Beginner Training Class. He has proven indispensable to the execution of our training and league offerings.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Nominated by Ron Franke

Sheila Quinn - August 2022



Sheila Quinn is recognized for her support to the Pickleball Club as the Club's Social Activities Director.

Through her extraordinary efforts she has established a dynamic Team of Club volunteers to assist with organizing and executing major social activities for all of the Club's members. Sheila has also devoted many hours of her own time to plan Club social activities, recruit volunteers, and solicit donations, prepare decorations, pickup supplies, and oversee the execution of the activities.

Sheila has planned, coordinated, and executed: the Club's holiday party (attended by over 300 members and receiving praise from all who attended); the grand opening for the new courts (including coordinating with the CA); and the ice cream social held in conjunction with the Spring Fling Tournament. Sheila led her team to support the Spring Fling Tournament through coordinating breakfast, snacks, water, and supplies for lunch.

Sheila also coordinated the social activities committee's interaction with the Dinks and Dogs event. Through Sheila's leadership and guidance every Club activity has been executed successfully with results that were above and beyond normal expectations. Sheila continues to plan for additional social activities for this year.

***If you see someone without smile,
give them one of yours.***

COACH'S CORNER



Play Smarter, Not Harder!

Ideally, you want to be **6 to 8 feet apart** from your doubles partner. The pickleball court is 20 feet wide. Between you and your partner, you should be able to stretch to cover 12 to 14 feet of the court.

Don't leave a hole in the middle between you and your partner. That opening is an easy target for your opponents. **Imagine that you have a 6 to 8 foot rope tied around the waists of you and your partner.** You want to **move together** to cover the court, while trying to keep the 6 to 8 feet apart from one another. You will need to constantly reposition yourself to

remain this distance from your partner.

This helps you to conserve energy and keeps you from leaving any easy targets available. If your partner moves right, then you move right. If your partner moves left, then you move left. By eliminating the holes, you and your partner can more **strategically cover the court.**

For instance, if your partner moves to his or her right 3 feet, then you should also move 3 feet to your right. Similarly, if your partner is drawn off the court, then you need to shift to cover the middle.



If you are at the baseline and your partner is at the non-volley line, there is too large a gap for your opponents to exploit. They now have more game winning opportunities. Move up to the non-volley line with your partner to close the hole.

The goal is to maintain enough space between one another to not interfere with one another's shot making abilities, but to keep the imaginary rope between your waists tight enough that you **don't give your opponents any easy shots.**

PICKLEBALL IN PARADISE

"My husband, Alton, and I recently celebrated our 50th anniversary with a family trip to Hawaii.

"While there, we played pickleball with our two sons and a grandson, as well as with other local players.

It was a fabulous trip and the icing on the cake was being able to play pickleball with 3 generations of our family in such a beautiful setting!"

- Gisele Puckett, Sun City Pickleball Club Member



Nifty Fifty!

Alton & Gisele celebrating their 50th anniversary in the 50th state!



Three Generations of Pucketts (left to right) Jonathan (son), Gisele, Alton, Jeremy (son), and Andrew (grandson)

2022 SCTPC BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGERS



Ed Cahill
President



Allie Bower
Treasurer



Mike Rhoda
Communications Director



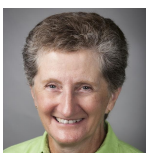
Ron Franke
Vice-President



Kathy Carr
Director of Player Development



Wayne Schaefer
Ball Machine Coordinator



Peg O'Toole
Secretary



Davey Stateler
Maintenance Director