

PebbleCreek Pickleball

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

October/November 2023

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Final Four Tournament

On Nov. 16, 17 and 19th there was lots of great Pickleball and enthusiastic crowds as the Club hosted the 2023 Final Four Tournament. Ladies kicked off the event on Thursday with a full day of challenging matches and exciting wins, not to mention all those stylish outfits. Looking good ladies. Men took the courts on Friday and it was a great day of fantastic play, amazing shots and boisterous spectators. Sunday the mixed teams showed up with their A game and it was just a perfect day for competitive tournament play.

We want to thank the entire staff of volunteers and there were so many that stepped up to ensure a smooth and successful tournament. Thank you to everyone that served on the Tournament Committee, Set Up Crew, Food and Beverage, Registration, Referees, and Tear Down Crew.

There was an impressive number of family, friends, members and guests that came out to share in the excitement every day. Of course, there was plenty of healthy snacks and drinks to keep players hydrated and with good energy.



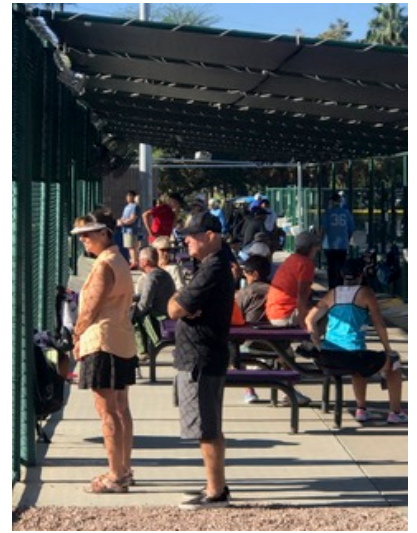
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED **For the 8th Annual** **Pickleball Tournament** **Feb. 7 - 9, 2024**

Bakers, Hospitality, Parking,
Infrastructure, Medical and
many more opportunities
to help your Club.

Contact Pam Cagle
caglepj@gmail.com



See photos on Page 2 and Medalist on Page 11



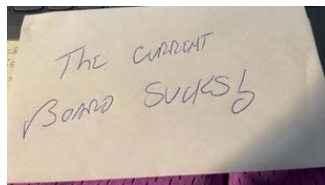
See complete list of the Final Four Medal Winners on Page 11

Name Badges: When members order a new name badge, the timeline to receive your badge is generally 2-3 weeks. Currently, the Club collects and submits the badge orders once every 7-10 days. The engraving takes a few days to complete each batch. Our volunteer, Dotti Kirkpatrick, then picks up the finished badges, emails each badge member and places the new badges on the whiteboard in the ice room. If you have ordered a name badge and have not yet received your badge, please contact me, Pam Cagle, at secretary@pcpickleball.org.

Please do not take the magnetic back off a new members new badge on the board in the ice room. If you need a magnetic back email me at secretary@pcpickleball.org.

Need a Pickleball Buddy? Are you a new player and would like help with how to use Court Reserve or someone to go with you to drop-in play? Contact Michelle McKee, 661-904-1954, she will be glad to connect you with a 'Buddy' player that may be your level or above and definitely can help.

This is an envelope found in the lockbox in the ice room. Please be more specific in relaying your concerns.



Does this refer to the white board next to the lockbox where the New Member name badges are displayed? Is someone upset with the way the badges are in alphabetical order by last name? I did see one day all of the badges had been moved around without an order. Does this refer to the Club working Board? If so, please volunteer to help make the improvements needed.

Pam Cagle, Secretary,
secretary@pcpickleball.org



Reminders

We have many new members, please introduce yourself when you go onto a court.

If you need to clear your throat, please leave the court; do not spit on the court, even in the corner!

Please hang your bags low on the fence so players can watch the play. Please do not use chairs to hold your bags, coolers, and other items.

Accidents & Injuries

The Pickleball Club has an Accident-Incident Reporting form to document injuries and illnesses that occur on our pickleball courts, sidewalks, seating areas, and parking lots. Forms are located in the ramada ice and water room. It should be completed by the person who is most knowledgeable of the occurrence. This can be a teammate, observer or someone who responds to assist the person who is injured or ill.

Please fill out the form and notify Pat Chernow by phone, text, or email which are printed on the form. Completed forms should be placed in the plastic folder labeled Completed Incident Form. The Safety Committee Chairperson will be responsible for collecting the forms and for following up with the injured or ill person and document the follow up medical treatment, if any.

Pat Chernow

Upcoming Events:

December 2 – Toy Drive

December 9 & 10 – Ultimate Team Challenge

December 20, Board meeting in the Milan Room, 3:00

January TBD – Chili Cookoff



ANNUAL TOY DRIVE AND WINTER SOCIAL

Want to put a smile on a child's face this Christmas?

There are many families in Goodyear that will not be able to provide Christmas for their children. We can make a difference in a child's happiness this holiday season.

Please bring a NEW unwrapped toy to the courts on
December 2nd between 8 am and Noon.

Drop toys off at the wooden train at the courts.
Santa's helpers will load all the toys onto the
Goodyear Fire Department firetruck for delivery
In time for Christmas morning.

Bring your paddle and join us for some Pickleball fun at the same time.
Sign up on CourtReserve (under Social Events)

Note that the Creative Arts Center will have their 2023 Holiday Fest on December 2nd
9 am to 3 pm. Please leave them parking space for people attending their event.

TEAM CHALLENGE EVENT

THIS IS NEW AND FUN

Many of you have already signed up for this event and almost all skill levels are now full. On Dec. 9 and 10 at 1 pm we will kick off the inaugural PebbleCreek Team Challenge which may be the most fun you will ever have playing Pickleball and being part of a mixed skill and gender team. We encourage you to come watch the fun as balanced teams of 6 players with different skill levels compete for the big win. The club may also offer this event in the Spring. Will keep you posted.

Thank you to all the Tournament Committee Members: Jim Barbe, Dick Burns, Robin Weaver, Bill Cagle, Chris Stelplugh and Bob Chester for all their hard work and dedication to ensure tournament level fun.

Dear Members,

Fall is finally here and many of our Snowbirds are returning. Couple that with the West Golf Course being closed and a record number of Members in our Club, and you get very crowded conditions at our courts. This is especially true during the "Primetime" hours of 8 am - 11:30 am daily.

Please consider the following points:

- Tempers are flaring, mostly due to misunderstandings over the Open Play and Drop-In Rules.
 - If there are any OPEN COURTS, you may hold a court until they are all in use
 - A single player practicing cannot hold a court once ALL courts are in use
 - If you are playing DROP-IN, and paddles are in the box, a group of 4 cannot displace them and should play with them if the same general Skill Level
 - Please observe the Skill Level guidelines posted on the gates at DROP-IN!
- In Open Play, BE KIND! Everyone wants to play!
 - **If you are coming over to play after Round Robin or CRS, please consider that the players in Open Play did NOT get the 5-6 games you did. Please consider this in fairness to the members! If you want more play, consider it after 11:30!**
 - Now that it is cooler, there are many available courts in the afternoon!
 - It is hard to field all the complaints when courts are OPEN at certain times, think about moving your friends to an afternoon time?
 - The sun is not as harsh!
- We will consider moving any Club Events to the afternoons where possible and have, but remember when weather gets colder, the mornings can be cold!
- Don't forget your jacket or sweater!
 - When it is cold when you get there, then you warm up playing and the sun is high, we get a lot of lost and found items!

And, most importantly, please take some time and go up to the New Courts! After all late Summer of little activity for various reasons (permits, inspectors, supply chain, labor, you name it!), they are a beehive of construction activity. More work has been done in the last 2 weeks than the last 4 months!

This overcrowding will get better, hopefully sooner than later.

Please be kind, we are all trying.....

Bob Chester, President

president@pcpickleball.org



WHAT ARE THE PARTICIPANTS SAYING ABOUT THE “CRS” PROGRAM

In the past few newsletters we have heard several times from the mastermind behind the algorithm and the system, Kevin Hillstrom, with exacting detail regarding the logic and the proof that, given enough data, accuracy will prevail. We have also heard from the Club’s Board of Directors regarding the issues with previous rating systems and expectations for this new system. Now lets hear from the players themselves. I took this opportunity to interview players from the Thursday morning women’s event, the Friday morning men’s event and the Sunday event. Here is what the participants have to say:

“I like CRS, its competitive but we have lots of fun and giggle.” **Susie Malone**

“I am a statistician by profession and I have closely reviewed Kevin’s logic, weekly results and outcomes. I would do it exactly as Kevin has done it. The scientific approach is the fairest and most logical approach for a rating system.” **Kin Chen**

“I appreciate the organization it takes to run this program. It has been seamless, unless someone doesn’t show up, but they even have a plan for that. 0-0-2”. **Bridget Trujillo**

“I love the comradery of players. For me there is a little anxiety before hand; but, it is a good way to rate play and keep you at a level that is competitive. I think it is a good program.” **Jim LaFever**

It’s a great way to put your skills to the test.” **Denise Gardner**

“I enjoy CRS. I think is has created the most parity of play. Matches are competitive and close. The system is an objective and quantitative rating based on your performance. Definitely an improvement over a more subjective rating system.” **Ted Green**

“Great opportunity to play with different people and learn to partner with others on the court. Wonderful to have designated court time and good competition when courts are so busy. I’ve learned a great deal and I’m glad I participated.” **Debbie Palmer**

“I think it creates pretty fair competition. A big plus for me is that we get dedicated courts. I’ve enjoyed it so far.” **Ron Demshar**

“Really fun to play with different people. Every week it is good competitive play.” **Lisa Lombardy**

“I love it because (1) it is performance based and (2) you have to play to earn your ranking. I would like to see a minimum number of CRS games required to maintain a rating.” **Joseph Lorino**

“Great to see so many people out playing CRS and enjoying the competitiveness.” **Val Braden**

“Personally I think using CRS for rating players is fair, objective and fun. I have asked many of my Pickleball friends their feelings toward CRS and everything I’ve heard has been positive. Finally a huge shout out to everyone involved with developing and implementing the program.” **Glenn Schneider**



DONATE YOUR OLD PICKLEBALL PADDLE TO LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL

A member of our Club providing pickleball coaching assistance is Ron Nelson. This summer Ron went through the training to become a Certified Pickleball Coach offered by the Professional Pickleball Registry/PPR. A goal of Ron's, in addition to coaching adults, is to develop a coaching/instruction platform for youths ages 10 -17. To this end Ron contacted various high schools located in the west valley of Phoenix to gauge their interest in developing pickleball play within their respective high schools. Recently one of the high schools contacted Ron with interest to provide the game of pickleball to their students.

As all public schools face the challenge of finding dollars to develop a new program. The high school Ron will be working with only has several old paddles and one temporary pickleball net to work with. Our Club is blessed with members who have contributed many types of gifts to help with various youth endeavors within our west valley community.



It would help the involved high school to have additional paddles, balls and possibly another temporary pickleball net or two. Please consider donating a paddle no longer in use, new indoor and/or outdoor balls, possibly new paddles and/or a temporary pickleball net. Your donations will mean a lot to the high school students who will be interested in starting their pickleball journey!

If interested in providing a donation, please contact Ron Nelson either by texting him at **402-680-9395** or by email at rgnelson1967@gmail.com. Note: All donations will be identified when given to the high school as contributions by our pickleball club.

This card was mailed to the PebbleCreek Pickleball Club by a guest visiting their parents. It is so heartwarming to know that our members are welcoming and inclusive of new people at the courts. It makes me even more proud to be a member. Thank you.

A photograph of a handwritten note on a piece of paper. The text is written in purple ink and reads: "Pebble Creek Pickle Ball Club, Thank you for being so welcoming the last 10 days to a guest joining you. It's been fun to see the community you have here. I look forward to joining you again in the future. All the best! Jason Hite".

Pebble Creek Pickle Ball Club,
Thank you for being so welcoming
the last 10 days to a guest
joining you. It's been fun to
see the community you have
here. I look forward to joining
you again in the future.
All the best!
Jason Hite

THURSDAY LADIES DRILLS & SKILLS

The Thursday Drills & Skills is a group of 125 ladies looking to improve their Pickleball game by drilling and practicing. There are also over 20 Coaches who volunteer to work with this group every Thursday. We also have 20 players who assist the coaches when working with the beginner to intermediate groups.

The Drills & Skills plan that is being used, sets a goal of hitting over 2,400 hits in an hour, which includes positioning, dinking, volley's, resets, blocking, serves, returns, third shot drops, drives, transition zone shot selections and much much more.

Some comments we are hearing from players that are participating include:

I have never learned so much in just one hour.

This has changed my game completely.

The coaches are extremely helpful.

This is the best thing I have ever done for my game.

Each Coach brings their own knowledge and expertise to the drills, which has been very helpful in choosing what works best for me.

I look forward to these sessions every week. Such a good program.

I love that so many people, and at any level, can participate in these Drills & Skills sessions.

THANK YOU TO OUR COACHES: Marty Braden, Sean Weaver, Keith McDonald, Chris Johnson, Mike Meline, Jeff Gauvin, Jeff Antrican, Tammy Dana-Bashian, Kim Ballew, Joe Sagorsky, Steve Cain, Bill Wood, Mike Crabtree, Ray Henson, Nancy Popenhagen, Sharon Hadley, John Stiepel, Dave Trimble, Sandy Crabtree and Alex Potapoff.

THANK YOU TO OUR COACHING ASSISTANTS: Laurie Johnson, Vicky Bailey, Teena Lorino, Pattie Holden, Brenda Weide, Lymi Behrendt, Carrie Ingersoll, Julie Wentz, Kelly McElroy, Joanne Biddix, Karen Kraus, Chris Morlan, Michelle DiLeonardo, Debbie Jones, Maureen Strachan and Val Braden

For more information about this Thursday's Ladies Drills & Skills, please text Val Braden at 602-487-2426.

The 8th Annual PebbleCreek Pickleball Tournament



We are delighted to announce the 8th annual PebbleCreek Pickleball Tournament, scheduled for February 7th to the 9th. Anticipated to attract over 500 participants from various states and Canada, this event is renowned as one of the premier tournaments in the greater Phoenix region.

For those who have not yet had the opportunity to compete in a USA Pickleball sanctioned tournament, this event presents an excellent occasion to experience top tier pickleball in the comfort of your local surroundings.

The tournament encompasses various categories, age groups (50-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70+) and skill levels (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, and 5.0), offering competition in women's doubles, men's doubles, and mixed doubles. Participants have the flexibility to play up in skill level and/or down in age group.

It is noteworthy that no prior tournament rating (UTPR) is required; individuals can self-rate when becoming members of the USAP (USA Pickleball).

For complete details regarding the tournament, please visit the [PebbleCreek tournament page](#).

Since this event is USA Pickleball sanctioned, all participants must be members of the USAP. Membership information is available at <https://usapickleball.org/>, and individuals are required to enroll before registering for the tournament.

Members of the PebbleCreek Pickleball Club are eligible for a \$5 registration discount by ensuring their primary club is "PebbleCreek" on PickleballBrackets.com before registering for the tournament. The tournament system utilizes club affiliations to minimize, where feasible, first-round match pairings between PebbleCreek club members.

Registration for the event commences on **Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 8:00 am and will conclude on January 31, 2024**. Please note that certain brackets are expected to reach capacity rapidly, making early registration advisable.

Should you have inquiries or require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at JohnP1506@Gmail.com.

Furthermore, if you prefer not to participate as a player but are willing to contribute as a volunteer, information regarding volunteer opportunities will be made available soon. We are actively seeking the support of hundreds of volunteers to ensure the seamless execution of a high-quality tournament.

John Pihl
Tournament Committee

Annual Board of Directors Meeting

Over 140 members turned out to attend the annual BOD meeting on November 15th. On the agenda were such important topics as the projected 2024 budget, proposed new court expenditures, the upcoming USAP Tournament, input from the Court Allocation Committee, CRS updates and changes, as well as recognition of all our volunteers. It was great so have so many members participate and voice their opinion. Thank you to all that attended. The next BOD meeting will be on Wednesday, December 20th at 3 pm in the Milan Room at the Tuscany Falls Club House. Hope to see you there.



New Year, New Courts, New Game!!!

This is not a Club organized event.

It's a Pickleball Party. It's a Pickleball Dance. It's a Pickleball Fundraiser.

Join us with your pickleball friends on Saturday, December 30, from 6 to 9 p.m at the Tuscan Falls Ballroom. It will be a great time to celebrate the New Year. Come single, come as a couple or reserve your own table of ten. The cost is \$20 per person.

The evening is shaping up to be a fun celebration with our very own PebbleCreek band, Happy Hour, brought to you by **Roy Johnson Realty**. The band is made up of Creekers Bill Wises, Bryan Wentz, Becky Trimble, Joe Volstromer and Jim Ledford. Intermission entertainment is also in the cue and will be provided by some of our very crazy, wonky, and fun pickleball Club Members. The cash bar will also be open making it truly a "happy hour" celebration.



Final Four Medal Winners

WOMENS

Eagles
Jets
Cowboys
Patriots
Packers

Jaguars
Bears

GOLD

N Dugan-C Harper
E Lesh-C Brett
B Wieland-R Gutierrez
D Tessmer-T Lovell
A Bessette-K Barbe

S Meline-T Dana-Bashian
L McClafflin-A Dilger
J Comstock-J Lewis

SILVER

S Ford-B Trujillo
A Rhodes-J Embry
D Welsh-LA Thompson
J Biddix-D Jones
L VanSon-K Heigh

C Rickard-T Buckingham

BRONZE

T Rhodes-J Rhodes
C David-C Rickard
M Brdar-B Trimble
T Lorino-L Johnson
L Behrendt-C Ingersoll
S Johnson-J Hay
A Fish-S Marsh
M Boyer-TM Foster
M Charlton-L Milbrath

MENS

Vikings
49ers
Bengals
Ravens
Giants
Lions
Rams
Panthers

GOLD

J Shellhorse-R Krebs
J Lorino-A Bonnofsky
M Garverick-S Davies
M Adkins-D Hartman
C Virden-B Geiger
D Carter-M Williams
T VanSon-B Knapp
S Manns-A Potapoff

SILVER

T Tenold-S James
J Curry-B Segal
D Livingston-M Sellnow
G Mattevi-D Bigelow
S Weaver-K McDonald
B Riley-J Sagorsky
W Johnson-B Hay
S Schaefer-H Mendel

BRONZE

V Leo-J Gruenwald
P Rollison-M Schryver
K Recknagel-A Boyce
S Peterson-B Alford
M Laron-T Alvarez
K Hammer-B Brewin
G Luber-M Mitchell
G Wellington-M Huber

MIXED

Saints
Packers
Texans
Raiders
Seahawks
Cardinals
Titans
Chiefs
Dolphins

GOLD

P Lesh-B Lesh
J Shellhorse-K Perkins.
M Adkins-L Behrendt
R Henson-MM Henson.
P Diliberti-K Diliberti
B Knapp-S Mackey
B Reinschmidt-W Langhals
M Huber-L McClafflin
S Manns-J Comstock

SILVER

A Bonnofsky-W Shapiro
D Sies-J Jenkins
D Bigelow-B Graves
C Raher-J Armstrong
B Geiger-P Geiger
B Chester-A Fish
J Sagorsky-C Rickard
G Luber-S Hadley
A Potapoff-L Milbrath

BRONZE

R Flathers-J Rhodes
M Caputi-J Embry
G Maglio-R Gutierrez
S Noble-N Popenhagen
B Hay-J Hay
K Hillstrom-K Claypool
J Gauvin-C Stelplugh
D Burns-L Reibel
H Mendel-D Rochell

Note: Due to a rain out during the Women's competition, some awards were split with both teams

N E W M E M B E R S	Sue Abercrombie	Sue Abercrombie	John Abercrombie	Rich Andes
	Nancy Ashbaugh	Val Bethany	Dave Bethany	Nancy Biffle
	Jennifer Cammarata	Richard Camozzi	Sue Colbo	Shelley Cumley
	Dava Esman	Christ Phillip	Linda Gill	Suzanne Gudelj
	Malinda Jensen	Gretchen Johnson	Dee Jones	Steven Jones
	Kristine Kincaid	Lisa Kragerud	Desiree Levy	Linda Li
	Grant Lincoln	Jen Lincoln	Sherry Mankosa	Richard Mendick
	Carrie Moon	Tom Nadeau	Steve Numata	Laurie Olson
	Cathy Olson	Georgene Perrin	Jackie Peter	Barry Porter
	Cindy Rainey-Bell	Eileen Riccio	Tom Ricco	Susan Stamm
	Susan Sundsten	Gerry Tetrault	Steve Thor	Lisa Thor
	Dara Tysver	John Tysver	Jim Upchurch	Roger Voice
	Nancy Voice	Larry Weber	Jo Werner	Ed Westervelt
	Ed Willborn	Chen Xiang		

**LOOK FOR OUR NEXT EDITION OF THIS NEWSLETTER
ON JANUARY 31, 2024**