

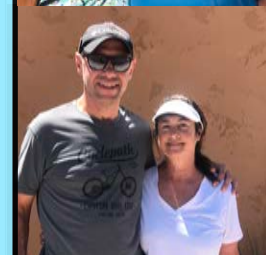
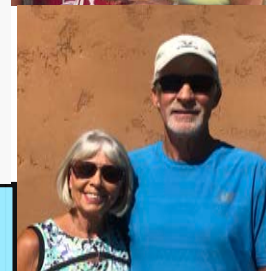
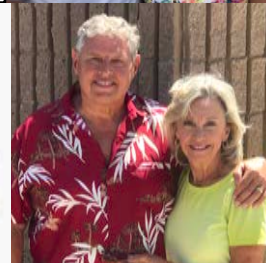
PebbleCreek Pickleball

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

April / May 2023

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Recognition of our Volunteers

Do you know who keeps our court area clean and organized?

The club has maid service? NO
We have a Club Mom? NO

Member Volunteers come to the courts every evening to straighten the chairs, wipe down the tables, pick up trash, put balls back in the sleeves, make sure all the court gates are closed, collect clothing and other articles left behind and put them in the lost and found. People have been volunteering for years to do this so you, our members, have a nice clean place to play every day.

The first time Debbie and Brian Bernhardt volunteered was in 2017 and they have done so several times since, including this January when it was dark and very cold. Valerie Spiegel, April Volunteer, says "The hardest part is staying up late. People are still playing in the evening and Todd wanted to really do a good job so we would come down later in the evening."

Most Volunteers typically clean between 5 and 7 pm. If you see them out scooting chairs under tables, like Brenda and Scott Weide will be doing as our May Volunteers, give them a big thanks; better yet, pitch in and help them. Lynn and Tom Hunsaker, who have also volunteered a couple of times, would like to see more awareness about how members can get involved so the same people don't have to do it over and over again.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Charla McGue at 408-512-3006 or charlamcgue@yahoo.com



Volunteers (Top to Bottom)

- Lynn & Tom Hunsaker
- Debbie & Glenn Schneider
- Valerie & Todd Spiegel
- Debbie & Brian Bernhardt
- Michelle & Jerry DiLeonardo
- Brenda & Scott Weide

When will you Volunteer?

Friday Fun Day



Our last Fun Friday of the season coincided with Cinco de Mayo and Sheri Sears had the courts decorated for the festive event. Many members brought gently worn tennis shoes to be donated to local schools. Sheri said there were over 100 pairs and she hopes to continue the trend at future Fun Fridays. There was plenty of food and fun for all. A special thanks to Sheri and all the Coaches and Volunteers who always make this event so successful. Have a safe and enjoyable summer and we look forward to seeing you at our next Fun Friday in the Fall.



Thank you Sheri, our Coaches, Volunteers and everyone who donated shoes

Fellow Members:

It has been a long, long road but finally you can go up to the new court complex and they are actually pouring the concrete! This arduous journey had many, many, many twists and turns. The Club has been working on this for almost 9 years and 9 Boards and tons of heartache and intrigue. It has been an on and off again ordeal as many of the members who have been here over 5 years can tell you.

I would like to thank all of you who have helped get us here. I haven't forgotten those who are not among us any more and their valuable work laid the groundwork for what followed. Art House, Pancho Epstein and Bob Charlton all come to my mind. Please keep them in yours. They helped all of us and served our Community and Club. There are so many of you that helped make this a reality that I cannot list all of you in my few paragraphs and do it justice.

So, we are expecting to formally open the New Court Complex in the fall of 2023. All contracts are in place and materials have been ordered by the Robson Corporation.

Barring unforeseen weather delays, we should be playing on these courts in October.

On the OTHER major Board initiatives, we expect to have some clarity on new processes for player evaluations and precise criteria for moving up or down. We have heard the membership in regards to trying to remove some of the subjectivity and trauma of the process. Please look for further communications here in the newsletter and via emails. We are also actively working to create the platform for player development to aid ALL members in their respective Pickleball journeys. More news on this over the summer and that will be spearheaded by our VP, Jeff Gauvin.

A big thanks to all the volunteers who make this Club work, from Socials to the Newsletter, Player Evaluations, Coaching, Court Allocation, Medical, Tournaments, Maintenance, Court Clean-up, Technical (website, Court Reserve) and the wonderful folks (Sharon, Jeff, Pam and Marty) who agreed to take on being on The Board of Directors with me. It can be a

full time job at times. There are so many things that happen in a Club our size and you may not even know that VOLUNTEERS do it all.

Please remember that when the weather is hot and the courts are full, let's be KIND. We are all doing the best we can in balancing our schedules and time.

Personally, it is a privilege to serve this Membership again. Thanks to all of you for the well wishes!

Watch this space for more news in the future months. Have a fun and safe summer wherever you may wander.

As always, see you on the Courts.

Bob Chester

President, PC Pickleball Club
president@pcpickleball.org



Pickleball Poem (credit to Bill Nee, his son, Ryan, and ChatGPT-4)

In PebbleCreek, where skies are blue, Pickleball players gather anew.
With lively banter, they take the stage, Defying limits, forgetting age.
They serve and smash with youthful zest, Each spirited match, a joyful quest.
Beneath the sun, they find their groove, In every play, their spirits move.
In PebbleCreek, where life's a ball, Pickleball unites them, one and all.

Social. Improve. Compete.

I tried to come up with three simple words to describe what members want out of Pickleball. These seem to work. Let's go with it. The Board is looking ahead to how the Club utilizes sixteen additional courts come fall. It's clear we need more opportunities for fun, **social** events. We can offer more clinics and coaching sessions for members to help **improve** their game. And yes, we'll have additional events available to members who want to **compete**. Our goal is to make progress in each of these three areas. Until then, we need to get through another court and heat constrained summer. (The good news: we don't anticipate projects to replace fencing or to resurface the courts.)

We intend to pilot different ideas over the summer. The results could help inform long term decisions on court utilization. This is where you come in! If you have an idea, let me know. Many expressed ideas in the comment sections in the survey. We also ask that you give the pilot programs a chance, and, please provide constructive feedback! We hope you love some of them while some might fall flat. That can't stop us from trying!

What might these pilots look like over the summer? We might combine levels from time-to-time (get friends back on the court together)? Offer social round robins distinct from competitive round robins (again)? Provide "play up" opportunities (means others are playing down - at times that may be you)? Offer in-play coaching during round robins? Continue color blind play? Use a rating evaluation process outside of round robin play with specific, defined criteria, against control players at the next level up? Pursue a DUPR pilot? A periodic challenge court?

Some are similar to things we've done in the past. Others are not. We're also looking at what other clubs are dealing with (don't think for a second we are the only club in the country struggling with things like ratings!). We know we can't try them all. The goal is to move the needle on **Social. Improve. Compete**. And as we learn what works and what doesn't, be agile enough to make positive change. Bottom line: At over 1600 members in the club, it is clear a "one size fits all" approach won't work.

We thank you for your responses to the survey and your continued feedback as we move our Club forward in a kind, gentle, and fun way!

Jeff Gauvin, Vice President, PC Pickleball Club
vp@pcpickleball.org



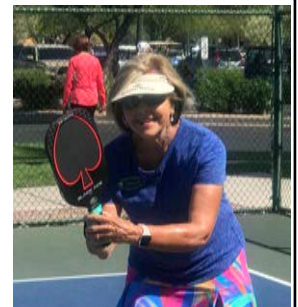
April has been a whirlwind of meetings, plans, ideas, and 238 emails concerning club business. I am so honored to represent you on the club Board. Here are some of the answers I send in response to some emails:

How do I get a new badge? For each badge put a \$7 check (payable to PCPBC) with the name you want on the badge, type of backing (magnet or pin), if you are a lifetime member and place it in the lockbox in the ice room in the Ramada.

I cannot make my Coaching for Courts reservation. Please contact the coach. The coach's email can be found on Court Reserve>Members >search

I cannot make it to my round robin. First try to withdraw. If it is too late to withdraw contact the RR captain, Jennifer Tamparo, 206-734-0273, for women, Steve Cain, 970-819-7890, for men, Glenn Schneider, 360-903-6234, for mixed or the Co-Captain for your round robin.

Pam Cagle, Secretary, PC Pickleball Club
secretary@pcpickleball.org



WE DID IT – \$500,000 (and counting)!

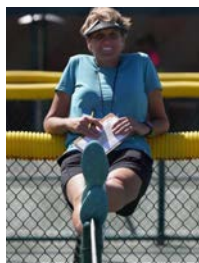
Thank you to everyone who jumped on board and purchased a brick, or two, this past month. We smashed our goal of \$15,000 with over \$25,000 in bricks sold.

Based on our last Annual Meeting we voted to continue Lifetime Memberships until the \$500,000 goal was met, AND until the next annual vote which will be in November 2023.

We will continue to raise money for the new courts until the next annual meeting as the club will need to supply the new courts with many items that are not factored into the \$500,000. All additional funds raised will go to the new courts.

At the April Board Meeting a motion was passed to spend up to \$4,000 on items necessary for operations at the new courts, such as signage, ball tubes, paddle boxes, etc. At the last Annual Meeting the Membership approved \$5,000 of board discretionary capital improvement spending. We will pay for these new court related expenses out of the New Courts Fund.

Sharon Hadley
Treasurer, PC Pickleball Club
treasurer@pcpickleball.org



As you look at the table below, please recognize the HUNDREDS of members and volunteers who contributed to our success. Lifetime members, outside tournament volunteers, new members (initiation fees), fundraising event volunteers and our outstanding pool of Coaching for Courts coaches.

THANK YOU ALL!

Sources of New Courts Fund	Amount
Lifetime Member Dues	283,600.00
Transfer from Operations	100,000.00
Brick sales	25,725.00
Coaching for Courts	23,720.00
Other - Donations	23,561.60
T-Shirt Sales	20,760.00
Fundraising Events	10,656.00
Golf Tournament	5,061.00
Club Championship 2021	4,044.53
Cards for Courts	3,025.00
Interest Income	2,234.63
Outside sponsorship	1,730.20
Neck Coolers	185.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 504,302.96

Before and Beyond the Game. Would you pick up a ping pong paddle and head to the Pickleball court? Of course not because we all understand that elements of the paddle: weight, grip, surface, shape, composition, etc. are important in helping us play our best game. So don't just grab any pair of athletic shoes you have in the closet either. Pickleball shoes are constructed for the elements of the game: multidirectional movement, quick starts and stops, shock absorption, durability, weight distribution, traction and most importantly, safety. The heel to toe drop design enables us to turn on our heels and make lateral movements with support and stability. The herringbone style tread allows for quick rotation with adequate traction to avoid slips and falls. So when heading out to get your new court shoes, keep in mind that you want a snug fit without slipping in the heel and about a thumbnail space between the toes and the end of the shoes to allow for foot expansion, consider a half size larger. Make sure they are comfortable and, yes, stylish too. See you at the courts. Charla McGue

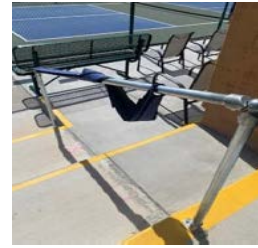
Maintenance Report - May 2, 2023



1) Work Orders

Ongoing/Update:

- a) Spray weeds on exterior of courts
- b) Repair patio stone near water fountain by court 4
- c) Replace Thermal sleeve on step rail by Ramada



2) Projects

- a) Shade over Fountain by court 4 – Still waiting on Contractor
- b) Shade over area between courts 1 & 12 – Still waiting on Contractor
- c) Quote to address rock area west of court 20 – waiting for approval from Pickleball Club
- d) Address rock area on east side of court 8

3) Maintenance Committee Projects

- a) Paint touch-ups ongoing
- b) Adjusting & repairing gate hinges. Reminder Please push or pull gates into courts
- c) Received two Lobster Pickleball Machines
- d) Installing Emergency contact signs on Pickleball gates
- e) Tightening up permanent speaker wire & painting speaker masts
- f) Purchased and installed Clock next to TV in the Ramada
- g) Having 38 chairs re-slung (new fabric)



4) Volunteers (Thank You's)

- Thank you Todd & Valerie Spiegel and Tom & Lynne Hunsaker for straightening furniture for April
- Thank you Scott & Brenda Weide for assuming these duties for May
- Net adjusters – April - Thank you Sean Weaver
May – Thank you Jeff Antrican & Charlie Conroy
- Thank you – Eddie Cortez for helping blow off the courts last Sunday



Marty Branden
Officer-At-Large
PC Pickleball Club
officeral@pcpickleball.org



Badges Ready for Pick Up in the Ice Room at Ramada

Mary Allen
Ron Beltramo
Ann Carder
Darla Donahue
Jeff Donahue
Geoffrey Driver
Craig Earl

Tracy Fagan
Judy Farless
Cindy Greiner
Margie Guck
Hank Holz
Mark Jackson
Neal Kay
Chuck Kesting

Catharine Lawson
Kathy Pevonka
Janet Sanford
Judith Schmidt
Bernard Sheerant
Chip Wickens
J. Wittmus

Coaching for Courts. To schedule some personal time (2 to 4 players) with any of our Coaches, go to Court Reserve - select Coaching for Courts - select the Coach you wish to work with - select the time you wish to meet. You will receive an email confirmation.

Skills and Drills

Warm-Up Routine by Jonathan Colter

99% of the Pickleball community warms up dinking. Although dinking is an important skill shot, many players never or rarely dink during a game. This is likely because players get into a “slam fest” early in the point where each side tries out slamming the other. I’m often asked, what does a player have to do to reduce the chances of a “slam fest?” The most common answer is dropping more shots into the kitchen and keeping these shots low so the ball doesn’t bounce very high. Below is a good warm-up routine for the Serving Side to practice before you play.

Hit 5 Drop shots into the kitchen from the baseline.

1. Receiving side feeds the ball 5 times to player at baseline
2. Serving Side practices the drop shot into the kitchen

Hit 5 Drop shots into the kitchen from Position 1.

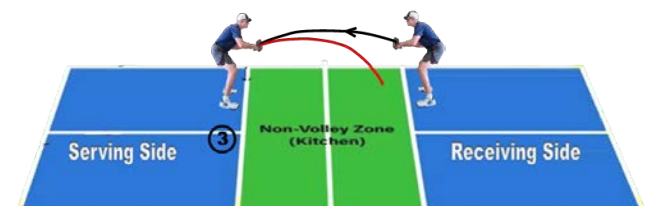
1. Opponent feeds the ball to player in Position 1
 - a. 5 times cooperatively into the air for the Serving Side to gently volley (drop) into the kitchen
 - b. 5 times cooperatively on a bounce for the Serving Side to gently drop it into the kitchen.

Hit 5 Drop shots into the kitchen from Position 2

1. Opponent feeds the ball to player in Position 2
 - a. 5 times cooperatively into the air for the Serving Side to gently volley (drop) into the kitchen
 - b. 5 times cooperatively on a bounce for the Serving Side to gently drop it into the kitchen.

Hit 5 Drop shots into the kitchen from Position 3.

1. Opponent feeds the ball to player in Position 3
 - a. 5 times cooperatively into the air for the Serving Side to gently volley (drop) into the kitchen
 - b. 5 times cooperatively on a bounce for the Serving Side to gently drop it into the kitchen.



What is the Correct Call? The other day I was walking by the drop-in courts and watched a pretty unusual ball pattern. The ball was hit into the kitchen on the opponent side, bounced and had enough spin and energy to then cross back over the net without the opponents touching the ball. The players were not sure what the correct call should be. This exact situation is addressed in the **2023 USA Pickleball Official Rule Book** as follows:

Rule 11.I. Plane of the Net. Crossing the plane of the net prior to striking the ball is a fault. After striking the ball, a player or anything the player is/was wearing or carrying may cross the plane of the net. The player may not touch any part of the net system, the opponent's court, or the opponent while the ball is still in play.

11.I.1. Exception: If the ball bounces into a receiving player's court with enough backspin or wind aid to cause it to return to the other side of the net, the receiving player may cross the plane of the net (over, under or around the net post) to hit the ball. It is a fault if the receiving player (or anything the receiving player is wearing or carrying) crosses the plane of the net before the ball has first crossed back over the plane of the net to the opponent's side. It is a fault if the player touches the net system, the opponent's court, or the opponent while the ball is still in play.



So what does that mean? If you are the receiving team and the ball bounces on your side of the court then continues up and over the net to the opponent's side of the court, lean over the net and tap the ball with your paddle without touching anything else. Make sure your clothing doesn't touch anything either. If you are successful, you win the point.

To review or download the USA Pickleball 2023 Official Rulebook go to www.pickleball.org

Look for our next edition of the
Pebble Creek Pickleball Newsletter
on July 31, 2023