

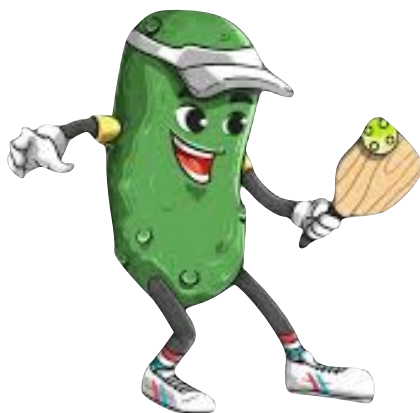
PebbleCreek Pickleball

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

December 2023/January 2024

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Upcoming Events



Feb. 7 - 9	Tournament & Silent Auction
Feb. 10 @ 10am	CRS Meeting - Chianti Room
Feb. 21 @ 9am	CPR/AED Course - Chianti Room
Feb. 21 @ 3pm	Board Meeting - Milan Room
Feb. 24 - 25	Team Challenge
Mar. 20 @ 3pm	Board Meeting - Milan Room
Mar. 21 - 24	Club Championship

Why did the pickleball paddle break up with the tennis racket?

It couldn't handle the strings attached!

Mike and Sandy Crabtree Win African Safari in 2023 Silent Auction

In February 2023, the PebbleCreek Pickleball Club successfully hosted its 7th annual USA Pickleball sanctioned tournament. During the tournament, the club organized a silent auction, featuring a unique one-week photo safari to South Africa. This incredible experience was generously donated by African Spirit Photo Safaris. Interestingly, Mike also held the role of tournament director for the event. As an unexpected bonus, African Spirit Photo Safaris extended the offer to include Mike's brother, Pat, and his wife, Jeanne, at the same bid price.

In October, 2023, the foursome left for South Africa. The package included 6 game drives which were each spectacular with sightings of the BIG 5 and many other animals. In addition to spending a week at their lodge nestled within a 60,000 acre Big Five Endangered Species Reserve near Mikuze, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, the group also explored Cape Town and other interesting places. Obviously this was the trip of a life time with incredible memories.



PebbleCreek Pickleball Tournament Silent Auction Feb 7-9th

An African Photo Safari will be offered at the Silent Auction only on Thursday February 8th during the PebbleCreek Pickleball tournament. The auction opens at 10:00am and is located at the pickleball courts. Mandatory minimum bid of \$4,200 is required for the 7 days, 6 night African Photo Safari for 2 people. Cash or Checks ONLY. For more information visit africanspiritsafaris.com or talk to some of your neighbors who have been on this safari.

Visit our Fun Vendors

Soliture Therapy
Rays Rackets
Pickleball Bella
Block 4 Elements
Banner Physical Therapy
Jolt Therapy Tool Bling Clothing
Wellphora

Thank You to Our Major Sponsors

Sunder Energy	Dermatologist Partners
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AZ Rainfall	Keven's Landscape
Dermacare Plastic Surgery	

REDUCTION IN CLUB RATING:

Pickleball is fun. Pickleball is most fun when the four players on the court are of similar ability. Often, the player is “the first to know” that they are not as competitive as they once were. A player that is consistently losing five or six games in their round robin, and/or is averaging fewer than six points per game, should consider requesting a reduction in club rating. A player can make this request by sending an email to ratings@pcpickleball.org.

In addition, if a player is observed performing significantly below their current level in Round Robins, a member of the rating committee will meet with them and discuss the situation. If it is determined by the rating committee that the player should be moved down a level, their club rating will be reduced. That player can advance to the next level again via CRS.

TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN CLUB RATING:

Injury or illness can take a player away from the game for an extended period. While the player is working their way back into playing condition, a player may request a temporary reduction in club rating. When the player deems themselves “ready”, their club rating will be restored at the player's request.

To initiate a reduction in rating due to illness or injury, contact your round robin captain and/or send an email to ratings@pcpickleball.org. When ready to have your club rating restored, send an email to ratings@pcpickleball.org.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT:

Our Sunday Skills & Strategies sessions are in full swing after the holiday. Special thanks to our following session leads: Bill Cagle (2.5 to 2.75), Vicki and Nick Sharp (3.0 to 3.25), Steve Elliott and Greg Wellington (3.5 to 3.75) and Mark Clark (4.0+). Sessions rotate by skill level each week, so that each level has a session about once a month.

Coaches demonstrate the drills for the session during the first 15 minutes. Participants then break out 4 players per court. A team of 10 coaches lead the participants through a series of drills. The sessions conclude with about 20 minutes of “in-game coaching” where coaches provide real time feedback on decision making and court position, as well as execution of the specific skills covered during the sessions.

Registration for the Sunday sessions opens seven days in advance, at 6:30 pm. The purpose of the sessions are to help our members become better pickleball players. Many players then take the drills they learned during the sessions and work on them with drilling partners during the week.

Special thanks to all our coaches and session leads!

Jeff Gauvin, Vice President,
vp@pcpickleball.org

New Court Update!

VP Jeff Gauvin and I met with the PebbleCreek HOA Board:

- President Bob Paine
- VP, Jack Gregory
- Treasurer, Jack Sarsam (Robson Corp)
- Secretary, Mark Giannonatti
- PC General Manager Bill Barnard
- Assistant GM Greg Fausto

Additionally, I met with the Project Manager for Farnsworth Construction on site

Based on these meetings, we are looking at the following schedule.

- Courts are FINISHED
- Pavers are set
- Robson Landscaping Crew will commence landscaping the site starting next week
- Plumbers are finishing bathrooms and water fountains in Ramada
- Electrical work HAS commenced. Wiring and setting of the circuit boxes has begun

It is estimated that the work will continue for most, if not all of February. Besides site landscaping and electrical, the parking lot will need to be finished and some concrete corrected.

If all goes well with the weather, we are looking for a potential Occupancy Permit on or around the first week in March. This seems to be the consensus with all the moving parts and still represents a guess, but it seems realistic to the entire team.

I have been asked by the Team to please, please curtail any site visits while they are working the next 6 weeks. I know we are ALL interested in the progress and want to see the fruition of many years of waiting and many hours of time working by so many folks to make this happen. I know it is hard not to, but let's get this thing DONE!

Thanks, and hope to see you soon
on the NEW COURTS

Bob Chester, President
president@pcpickleball.org



CHILI COOK OFF AND PADDLE DEMO DAY

The January 13th combined Chili Cook Off and Paddle Demo Day were an absolute success. I don't know which was the biggest hit between the chili and the Costco hot dogs. There were around 200 club members enjoying the food, fun and fellowship. Courts 1 and 8 were a mixed level drop-in that was constantly full. We had eight paddle reps willing to let players demo their paddles and one rep that planned to be there and couldn't because of illness. This was a record number of paddle reps, each had multiple styles of paddles and a couple had some of their company merchandise. We definitely can use more demo courts next year, if we have this number of paddle reps. We were also fortunate to have Danni Cortez bring a small display of her pickleball shirts and drink ware to sell. Thank you to Bill Wood and volunteers that ran the chili cook off and Chris Morlan for the paddle demo. The winners of the chili cook off were:

First place - Linda Tompkins \$40.00 gift card
Second place - Debra Bernhardt \$20.00 gift card
Third place - Dara / John Tysver \$10.00 gift card



Volunteers NEEDED for New Members, New to Pickleball:

Though an increasing number of the over 200 new members that join the club each year bring prior pickleball experience, there are still a number of members joining the club with little or no pickleball experience.

To help those members early on their pickleball journey, we have a robust curriculum. Our Intro to Pickleball session, led by Doug Bracjich and his team, and the subsequent facility tour led by Kathy Aalto, sets new members on the right track. After that start, members enjoy skill building sessions led by certified instructors Dave Trimble (Novice A) and Beth Kelly (Novice B). And, new in the past several months is a 2.25 mixed round robin format - which takes the skills learned in Intro, Novice A and Novice B and applies them at "game speed", in a round robin format. The 2.25 session is led by another certified instructor, Ron Nelson.

Our objectives with these sessions are to ensure our newest players have fun, learn the basic rules of the games, understand basic shot making skills and court position, while staying safe on the court (ie, no backpedaling, proper shoes, etc.).

If you are interested in volunteering to help our newest members learn the game of pickleball, please contact Beth Kelly at 970-218-9470 to discuss various opportunities at each level!

December Toy Drive Is a Huge Success

The toy drive event raised almost \$6,000 in cash and gift card donations not to mention the overflowing train of gifts. Kathy Delaney and her crew were helping serve breakfast as our Club members showed up with their generous donations. The Goodyear Fire Department picked up the donations and delivered them to local families in need for the Holidays. Great job to all the volunteers that made this event fun and festive in their elf and holiday attire.



Team Challenge Was The Most Fun You Could Have On A Pickleball Court

If you were one of the 180 players that had the opportunity to play in this event you know exactly what that means. With 6 skill levels on each of the 30 teams that battled it out, it was a fun and fascinating game to watch. The first place winners were team Commanders - K Hock, J Manobianco, R Magpie, S Coffee, T Dana Bashian and M Mitchell. Second place winners were team Panthers - T Pickett, G Hereford, K McElroy, M Calderone, R Henson and R Salko. Due to overwhelming success, the club will host a second Team Challenge on Feb. 24th. Don't miss it.



CPR and AED Course

Would you know what to do if someone was having a heart attack

If not it is time to take a CPR / AED course.

Hopefully you will never have to use these skills,
but if you do, knowing how to do CPR and use the AED could be a life saver.

When: February 21st, 2024

Presented by the Goodyear Fire Department and Dennis Carter

Where: Chianti Room on the Tuscany Falls Side

Time: 9:00 – 11:00

Cost: Free to all PebbleCreek Pickleball Players

To attend please email Dennis Carter at dwcarter@rogers.com

Space is limited so sign up now

Be there to help save a life

Class size limited to 40 Participants

(Please bring a towel to kneel on when doing CPR)

Changes to the 2024 Official US Pickleball Rules

With the new year comes the new official US Pickleball rule changes. There were only a few changes this year as noted below. For the complete 2024 Official Pickleball Rulebook www.usapickleball.org



1. Arguably, the most significant rule change is the removal of the words 'deliberately' and 'unintentional' in Rules 7.L (the carry rule) and 11.A (the double hit rule), respectively. Why? It eliminates having the referee determine intent. The bottom line is that any carry is now a fault; there is no longer the need to determine whether the carry was deliberate or not. Please also note that double hits are still permitted. Players should make sure they understand the definitions of and the difference between a carry and a double hit. See Rules 3.A.1 and 3.A.8.
2. For non-officiated play, if players feel their opponents are using an illegal paddle, they are now specifically authorized to ask the Head Referee or Tournament Director to determine the legality of their opponent's paddle.
3. Additional clarifying criteria have been added to Rule 11.E to cover 'degraded' and 'soft' balls, both of which can potentially result in an 'out of round' ball. The bottom line is for non-officiated play, a replay of a **completed** rally is only permitted if the ball is cracked or broken, and, in that case, all players must agree the cracked or broken ball affected the outcome of the **completed** rally. If the ball is merely 'degraded' or 'soft', there is no replay of the rally, but if all players agree, the ball can be replaced. The rule for officiated play is similar.
4. Players may now use any remaining regular timeouts after a medical timeout. The 2023 rule implies that if a player cannot resume play after the 15-minute medical timeout, the player must retire. The rule change for 2024 allows a player to use any remaining regular timeouts after the medical timeout to extend the time to resume play.
5. There is one new rule change that is still in a **pending** status; the decision regarding rally scoring. USA Pickleball Board of Directors has decided to collect data before making a final decision.

Look for our next edition of the
Pebble Creek Pickleball Newsletter
on March 31, 2024