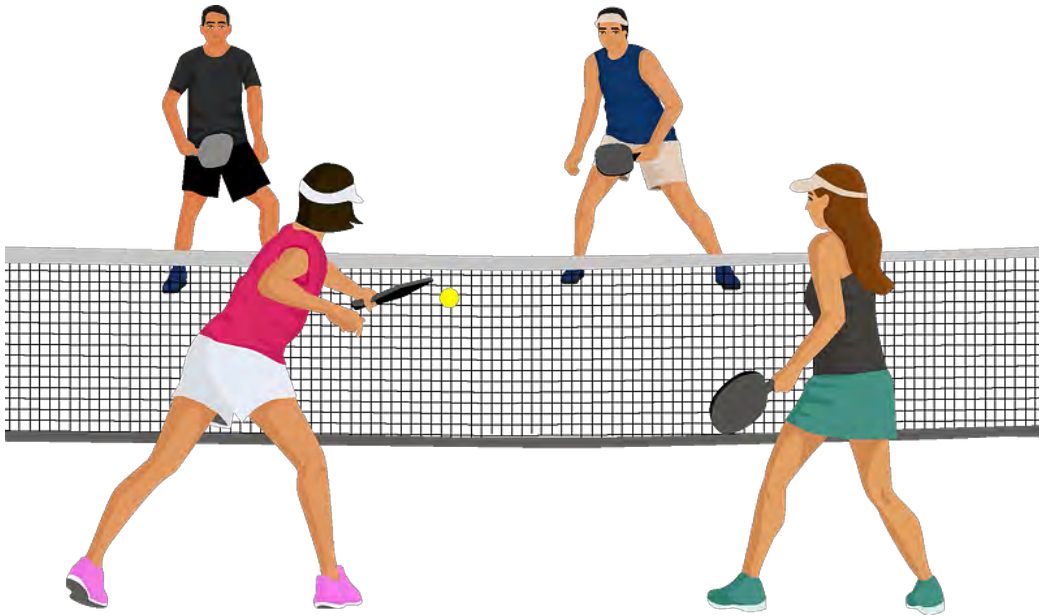


# PEBBLECREEK PICKLEBALL CLUB NEWSLETTER

**Bimonthly  
newsletter  
August/  
September 2023**



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## WELCOME TO JULY AND AUGUST NEW MEMBERS

*Tod Pickett  
Susan Gavin  
Moe Crandall  
Gayle Lykowski  
Carlene Large  
Gayann Wescott  
Joyce Raidle  
Kevin Wescott  
Jenifer Petras*

*Lisa Henriksen  
Theresa Connell  
Matt Miller  
Alan Shapira  
Mike Krier  
Kathi Braun  
Ke He  
Christa Bakarich  
Jeff Schmitz*

*Deborah Mansfield  
Jennifer Kull  
Jennifer Gwynne  
Andreas Bonnofsky  
Gerard Maglio  
James Neal  
Ronda Gutierrez  
Kris Schmitz*



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# PEBBLE CREEK ULTIMATE TEAM CHALLENGE

## EXTRA, EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT!

The first team pickleball event will be the second week of December. This event will encompass all players and levels into a "Team" event format that is the first of its kind for our club. The event will be held on December 9th and 10th.

When it comes to playing tournaments many of our members choose not to participate for various reasons, with the most common reasons being people don't have fun or they are worried about their ratings or they are worried about playing against people who are much better. Well, you won't have to worry about that with our newest event.

This Ultimate Team Challenge is an excellent time to participate in an organized event if you haven't done so previously. You will be part of a team of players of all levels. However, you will only compete against players that are your level. This is not your typical tournament where you play 2 out of 3 games. You will be part of a rotation of players on your team playing 4 points at a time. Then you will be stepping out as your other teammates come on the court for 4 points. All teams will have players of each skill level on it.

This event is being introduced to our club as more of a fun tournament with a little competition at the same time. If you have never played an event like this but love playing pickleball then this is the event for you.

The tournament committee will be putting on some clinics as we get closer to December to allow everyone to learn this format and just what you can expect if you choose to participate. Dates for the clinics will be announced in October so everyone has a chance to sign up for at least one.

- ◆ Get your friends that you play with and make sure they sign up for this event so that you can come out and be a part of this new and exciting team pickleball format.
- ◆ We will make everyone aware of when you can sign up on Court Reserve. I encourage everyone to register as soon as registration opens because we will have a restriction on how many players we can accept. Additionally, please understand when you sign up for this event you will be playing on both days. You cannot just sign up for one day.

If you have any questions regarding this event please contact any of the tournament committee members listed below.


Thanks, and we look forward to seeing everyone in December for this brand new event for our pickleball club.

Your tournament committee,

Chris Stelplugh  
Robin Weaver  
Bill Cagle  
Dick Burns



# Maintenance Report - Marty Braden September 15, 2023

So you can enjoy your pickleball experience, it takes many hours of behind the scenes (Maintenance Committee) volunteer work. These guys and gals are great, dedicated, hardworking volunteers. Most of the work is done in the hot afternoons. Here is what our Maintenance volunteers are up to. 



Chris Johnson, Joe Sagsorsky, Rich Holden, Kit May, Mike Meline, Dave Graeff, Dave Poppe



Removed rocks west of Court 20 in preparation for contractor to grade & install artificial turf on September 25



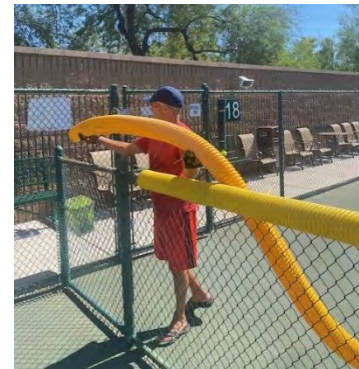
Mike Meline, Joe Sagsorsky & missing from the picture, Mike Behrendt



Sean Weaver blowing off the courts



Rich Holden helping haul Safety tubes donated by the Softball League



Rich Holden helping install Safety tubes on the top of the fences around the courts



Maintaining Shade structures  
Replacing all the tie-downs on shade

## Thank You's

Becky & Alan Collinworth for straightening furniture for August

Lori & Doug Adair for assuming duties for September

Net adjusters for August – Leon Mosse, Bernie Bangert, Chris Johnson & Jeff Antrican

## Helpful Hints

**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, your Club Secretary, **Pam Cagle, at secretary@pcpickleball.org.**

Are you a new player and would like to have someone help you with how to use Court Reserve or go with you to drop-in play? Contact **Michelle McKee** at **mckee100@aol.com.** She will be glad to connect you with a 'Buddy' player that may be your level or above and definitely can help you.

Early warning. On 12/2 we will have the **Toy Drive**, that is also the date the Creative Arts Center will have their 2023 Holiday Fest, 9am-3pm. Please leave parking space for people attending the Holiday Fest.

SVG | PNG | DXF | EPS



## HEALTHFUL HINTS



I recently was near a player with Heat Exhaustion and decided even though it is close to cooler weather we need to remember the symptoms and what to do. 911 recommended to get the player in a horizontal position with feet above their heart.

Keep an eye out for your friends and make them leave the courts. A game of pickleball is not worth the stress on your body from heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

### Symptoms:

- ⇒ **Heavy sweating**
- ⇒ **Cool, pale, clammy skin**
- ⇒ **Fast and or weak pulse**
- ⇒ **Muscle cramps**
- ⇒ **Dizziness , nausea, headache and or fainting**

### First Aid:

**Move person to cooler environment, loosen clothing, apply cool wet cloths**

# RATINGS

## Where are we now?



By Kevin Hillstrom

We completed a three-month pilot this summer. 161 players helped us determine if a computer can be used to rate players accurately. During the pilot, we learned that a Computerized Rating System, or CRS, is effective at creating equal matchups and facilitating movement of players to higher ratings levels. We learned that the UTPR rating used in pickleball tournaments nationwide can be applied to PebbleCreek club members. We are using the UTPR formula to facilitate rating changes.

Beginning in September with the help of our Court Allocation Committee, we converted our Pilot events (Men on Tuesday morning, Women on Thursday morning) to CRS Ladder events. Players are typically placed in Flights of nine or ten players. Players play a round-robin format. The outcome of each game is recorded. If you beat a team you are supposed to beat, you will earn about 0.02 rating points. If you beat a team that is equal to you, you will earn about 0.05 rating points. If you beat a team you should not be able to beat, you will earn about 0.08 rating points. Similar outcomes happen if you lose, except you give up rating points to your opposition. Your rating point change will depend upon your partner and who you play against. You and another player in the flight might win 3 games and lose 2 games and end up with different rating changes. Finally, score does not matter. We proved in the pilot that scores equalized over time. Winning 11-9 yields the same rating outcome as winning 11-3.

We learned that it takes about 15 games before your rating stabilizes. As a result, all participants will start at their color level (Teal = 2.625, Red = 2.875, Purple = 3.125 etc.). If, after fifteen games, your computer rating (CRS) passes the threshold required for the next level, you can be promoted to the next ratings level. If a player believes they are at the wrong level, the player may appeal their rating (<https://www.pcpickleball.org/ratings>). If successful, the player will earn an additional 0.25 rating points, but will have to play harder competition while maintaining the rating over at least fifteen games.

Without an appeal, the player must earn 0.125 rating points after fifteen games to qualify for a rating adjustment. We encourage our members to try our CRS Ladder. Whether you want a higher rating level or comparable competition, the CRS Ladder is the place to be. Visit (<https://www.pcpickleball.org/quick-summary>) to get started!

## **Hot off the presses!**

The Rating Panel has added clarification to the rating process on the website. Please refer to the [“How to Change my Club Rating”](#) and [“Appeal of Initial Player Rating for CRS”](#) pages for the updated guidelines.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◆ No Risk means No Risk. If you play in the CRS events between now and 12/31/2023 and your rating goes down, on 1/1/2024 your initial CRS rating will be restored. By playing during the trial period players can adapt to the natural rise and fall of their CRS rating and get comfortable with the competitive nature of the play as well as a CRS rating that changes weekly.
- ◆ Players wanting to advance to 2.5 – 3.75, only need 15 games and meet the minimum threshold to advance one level. Players wanting to advance to 4.0 – 5.0 must complete 30 games to advance. (Note: The 30-game requirement only applies to new players to CRS. Current players are grandfathered into 15 games to move one level.)
- ◆ After 30 games, any new threshold reached will result in automatic advancement. However, players are not required to move to the new level.
- ◆ The appeals process will end on 10/15/2023. If you believe you belong in a higher-level, file your appeal now. Even if you will not be back to play until after the first of the year, file it!
- ◆ Use of active UTPR or DUPR as a rating tool will end 10/15/2023.

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## A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS...AND HOW WE SHOULD CALL THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER.

By Jeff Antrican

Every year, we ramp up for peak season. Our friends return. The balls play faster. It might be kind of loud on the court. I'm so excited!

This year is no exception. We need more volunteers than ever because we'll (soon) have more courts than ever. Fortunately, with our membership now over 1,700, we have a larger pool of potential volunteers...and that just might be you.

What interests you? Social events, mechanical tinkering, technology, or organizing pickleball matches? Do you bake? Are you a detail-oriented person? Are you friendly? Can you move a box? Push a broom? Wave a flag? There are many pieces to the pickleball club that you might not be aware of.

Please consider sharing a little bit of your time to make the club the most popular in Pebblecreek. Just drop an email to [secretary@pcpickleball.org](mailto:secretary@pcpickleball.org) and we'll take it from there.

While we're at it, can you help us encourage volunteers and not berate them? We've heard members do everything from refusing to pick up the ball on their court, or refusing to help dry off a court after it rains, and yelling at others while they are volunteering. It's hard to imagine some would treat their fellow members with anything less than gratitude, but unfortunately, I've seen it happen.

If you've read this far, you're probably already a volunteer. Or, you're the type of person who tries to make the world a better place. Thank you for being you.

### **More Volunteer opportunities**

- ◆ Do you have a computer and color printer?
- ◆ Do you have a laminating machine? We need help creating more Round Robin sheets.
- ◆ If we could get a volunteer to print the pages and a second volunteer to laminate, that would be great.

Please email [secretary@pcpickleball.org](mailto:secretary@pcpickleball.org) if you will volunteer.

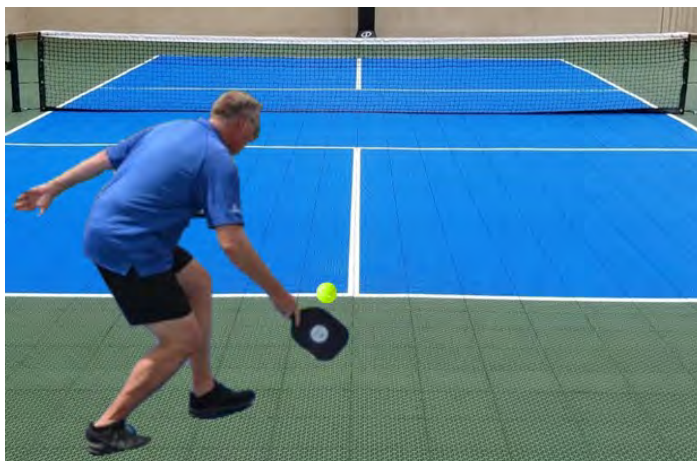
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# Proper Etiquette Making Line Calls In Pickleball

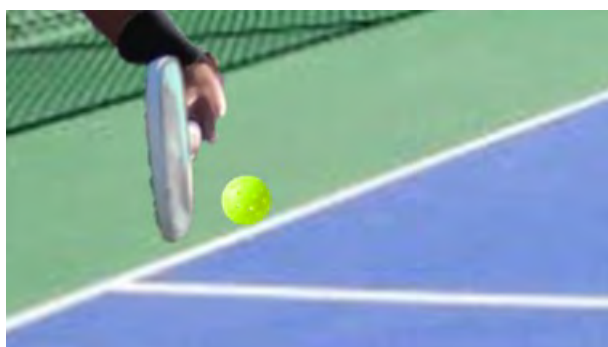
Written by Jonathan Colter

The game of pickleball is a fast-moving game often requiring good reflexes and good judgement. Quite frequently, a player's shot inadvertently "flirts" with the white boundary lines resulting in questionable line calls. Why can it sometimes be so difficult to make an accurate call that all players agree with?

Here's one reason why: Look at the picture below. If this picture was taken at the moment the ball landed on the ground, would the correct call be in or out? From this perspective, half the ball appears to be on the white line.



Now let's look at a picture where the ball landed in the exact same spot using a close up angled front view:



The correct call based on this picture is **OUT!** No part of the ball made contact with the white baseline.

Similar pictures could be shown using sideline shots as well. The problem is simple. **A player attempting to make a shot while simultaneously attempting to judge accurately whether the ball has landed in or out can easily make a questionable call.**



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## So, what options do we have to handle a situation like this?

If the player making the call is certain of his or her call, the opposing team has four options:

- Accept the call and move on to the next point. This is considered the most courteous and common way to play the game.
- Alternatively, one could POLITELY ask the opposing team's partner if he or she saw whether the ball was in or out. If he or she saw the ball in, the final ruling should be IN. If he or she could not make a definitive call in or out, the final ruling should remain OUT. This second option should only be used when BOTH players feel certain the player making the line call was clearly wrong.
- In rare circumstances, a point ends where both players on the receiving end of the shot are unsure whether the ball landed in or out. They can ask their opponents if they saw where the ball landed. If the receiving team chooses this option, they are bound by their opponent's in or out call. If all 4 players are uncertain whether the ball landed in or out, the ball should always be ruled **IN**.
- If one is participating in tournament play, players have the right to turn to the referee for a second opinion on a line call. If the referee clearly saw the shot, he or she can overrule the call made by the participating player. If the referee could not clearly and decisively see the ball in or out, the final ruling stands based on the original player's call.

Pickleball at PebbleCreek is predominantly about outdoor fun and play that brings our community together in a social environment to enhance our quality of living. Should one lose perspective of this while playing pickleball and feel the need to challenge players' calls on a regular basis, there is a tool (we North Carolinians use) to help players refrain from such behavior. It's called **DUCT TAPE!** It's guaranteed to reduce controversy on the court (as well as in the home)...just ask my wife!



# PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Intro to Pickleball is open to residents and renters new to pickleball - whether members of our club or not. Doug Brajcich and his team lead these “one and done” sessions. Sessions cover pickleball basics: safety, scoring, and basic court position, as well as a tour of the facility. The primary goal is to ensure participants have fun, learn the basics, and have a strong desire to return to the courts!

Assuming all of the above; new members then attend two distinct training sessions led by certified instructors Dave Trimble (Novice A) and Beth Kelly (Novice B). These are no longer “sequential sessions”, but instead each focuses on specific skills. Dave and Beth, and their team of coaches determine how often new members might repeat their respective sessions. The goal at the end of A and B is that players have learned to serve, return, groundstroke, drop, dink, volley - and hit both forehands and backhands. The last portion of each session is the ever popular in-game coaching. The objective of Novice A and Novice B is to get members ready to join the world of round robin pickleball.

The majority that complete Novice A and B advance to 2.5. Others with more advanced skill and athletic ability may be referred to the New Member Placement process, found on the Club website, to determine an appropriate level.

There may be some that aren't quite ready for 2.5. The team is recommending to the board that we add a 2.25 level, where new members that have learned the skills can move out of Novice and into round robin play similar to the rest of the club. These Round Robins would include mentors that would provide continued guidance on court positioning, scoring and skills. If when implemented, the 2.25 Round Robin will replace Novice B Play with Coaching.

For each of the three sessions, progress was made over the summer transitioning to online registration from paper handling to make the process easier for all.

What does that mean - no more use of the Green Box outside Court 5 for manual sign-up for the Intro Class!

## Player development continued

Watch for the return of Skills & Strategies and Coaching for Courts in the fall, around the time our new courts become available. The Court Allocation Committee is working on a proposed schedule to present to the board for approval. We will have more information on these programs in the next newsletter as well as future e-blasts.

In the meantime, we have heard from many members that they watch a fair amount of pickleball videos. As always, whether it's a club member providing a tip, or a video, remember there are different approaches to various aspects of the game! We encourage you to find a coach as well as videos that speak to you and your game. Not all are created equal!

You will find dozens of videos on our website under Player Development:

<https://www.pcpickleball.org/copy-of-training-videos>

And, in no particular order, some of the more common pickleball training sources include:

[brionespickleball.com](http://brionespickleball.com)

[primetimepickleball.com](http://primetimepickleball.com)

[thedinkpickleball.com](http://thedinkpickleball.com)

[youtube.com/c/thekitchenpickleball](https://youtube.com/c/thekitchenpickleball)

[youtube.com/@johncincolapickleball](https://youtube.com/@johncincolapickleball)

[youtube.com/c/SimoneJardimPickleball](https://youtube.com/c/SimoneJardimPickleball)

**There are many others. Enjoy. Zero-zero-two!**



Next newsletter will  
be  
November 30th

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**October** – Board Meeting,  
3:00pm, Milan Room

**November 16** – Women’s Final  
Four Tournament

**November 17** – Men’s Final Four  
Tournament

**November 19** – Mixed Final Four  
Tournament

**December 2** – Toy Drive

**December 9-10**—Ultimate Team  
Challenge

PICKLE  
ball is a  
BIG DILL