PebbleCreek Pickleball

Monthly Club Newsletter

July, 2024

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Upcoming Dates

August BOD Meeting is cancelled.

Heat is hard on you - but its also hard on the ball because it softens the material allowing it to become misshaped and out of round which greatly affects the playability of the ball. So when you leave the court to hydrate, put the ball in the sleeve (or better in your ice cooler) to keep it firm and ready for the next game.

Humor on the Courts

Pickleball has captured the hearts of people all over the world. We are easily addicted to its fast-paced rallies and friendly competition. Humor thrives on the court along side the intense volleys and strategic shots, creating a unique camaraderie among players. As any seasoned player will attest, laughter is an essential part of the pickleball experience, fostering a sense of

community and sportsmanship that transcends the boundaries of the court. In many a game on the court the banter can be as swift as the pickleball. Players exchange witty remarks that not only entertain but

also highlight the friendly nature of the sport. These spontaneous and good-natured exchanges contribute to the unique charm of pickleball, creating memories that linger long after the final point. Pickleball is a sport that unites generations and its humor reflects this inclusivity. Humor that resonate with players of all ages create a shared language on the court. Whether it's a playful jab at a veteran player's agility or a lighthearted comment about a young player's boundless energy, they contribute to the sense of belonging that defines pickleball communities. As players continue to share laughs both on and off the court, the enduring appeal of humor in sports, especially in the world of pickleball, remains a testament to the game's ability to bring joy to players of all levels. So, let the laughter continue, and may every game be a rally of smiles and good times!



4TH OF JULY PARTY

What a celebration we had on the courts with everyone decked out in red, white and blue with so many fun activities to choose from. There were challenging games of pickleball with the added element of good ole rock and roll that made me want to dance right there in the middle

of my game. Kathy Mendel had a 3 ring circus of carnival games going on that

brought a crazy kind of fun to the courts. Of course, the best part was the smorgasbord of breakfast foods fit for a King - the empanadas were to die for. Thanks to Kathy Delaney and her lovely crew of ladies that decorated, served and cleaned up after the celebration was over.

Celebrating 248 years of freedom and independence.









Recently on the pickleball court, we had a discussion about the specific details of a foot fault in the kitchen. Is the danger over once the ball has crossed the net? Or once your opponent touches the ball? When specifically can your foot enter the non-volley zone? Here is the exact rule from the 2024 USA Pickleball Rulebook. For new players, volley is defined as making contact with or hitting the ball in the air before it has bounced.

Non-Volley Zone

- The non-volley zone is the court area within 7 feet on both sides of the net.
- Volleying is prohibited while standing within or touching any part of the non-volley zone. This rule
 prevents players from having an unfair positioning advantage as well as minimizing risk for injuries
 sustained when opposing players are in such close proximity to each other.
- It is a fault if, when volleying a ball, the player steps on or within the non-volley zone. This would include a situation where a player's momentum causes the individual to cross or touch the NVZ boundary or a piece of his or her personal attire (sunglasses, hat, neck scarf, hand towel, lip balm, wallet, keys etc....) falls onto or within the NVZ. Even if the point has concluded and the ball is considered "dead", momentum onto or into the NVZ by the volleying player is considered a fault.
- It is a fault if a player is unable to get back out of the kitchen (establishing BOTH feet on or off the court) before hitting the next ball out of the air.
- A player may legally be in the non-volley zone any time other than when volleying a ball.
- The non-volley zone is commonly referred to as "the kitchen."

It is interesting to note that this rule applies specifically to the surface of the court - not the space above the court. The Erne, an aggressive shot played from the air over the NVZ, will not result in a foot fault. This daring move is executed when a player either:

- 1. jumps outside the court, strikes the ball mid-air, and lands outside the kitchen.
- 2. runs through the kitchen establishing both feet outside the kitchen before striking the ball.



A message from: Pam Cagle Secretary

Future Events:

Please note that the August BOD Meeting has been cancelled.

Name Badges: 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 secretary@pcpickleball.org.

To order a replacement name badge place a \$7 check in the gray lockbox in the ice room in the Central Courts ramada. If you want your name different than what is on the check write the name in the memo section of the check with "new badge." The timeline to receive your badge is generally 2-3 weeks. 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.

Court Etiquette

DO NOT SPIT ON THE COURT SURFACE OR THE BALL No one wants to touch a ball that has rolled in spit on the court or that a player has recently spit on.

INTRODUCTIONS at DROP IN Before you 'start' play, don't forget to go to the net to greet and introduce yourself to all players.

PADDLE TAP Players typically tap paddles at the end of a game.

"GOING OUT" AND "COMING IN" Be sure to wait until all players have left the court before entering.

GATES CLOSED For player safety, keep gates closed at all times. Close the gate when you enter and when you leave.

RETURN BALLS TO THE BALL SLEEVES at the end of your game or drilling please remember to return all balls to the ball sleeves. If there are too many for the sleeve check the sleeves in the adjoining courts for space.

CALLING 'BALL ON' Player safety is #1 when playing pickleball and calling out loud and clear 'BALL ON' to the players on the court next to you is important, very important. If your neighboring court calls out 'BALL ON' to you, you are to immediately stop play.

SAYING THE SCORE It is player responsibility, per the USAPickleball rules to say the score before serving. At PebbleCreek we teach and encourage all players to say the score before serving and say it loud enough that your opponents can hear you. It's a courtesy all players appreciate and a rule.

HANG'EM LOW Pickleball bags are to be stored outside the courts during play. If you hang your bag on the fence, please hang them low to the ground so the players sitting and watching the games can see the games in action.

School Supply Drive is Huge Success

Arizona Desert Elementary School was overwhelmed with the generosity of the PebbleCreek Pickleball Club. The abundance of donations was impressive and since the date of the drive, four more large bags of supplies have been received. In addition, to school supplies, we collected roughly \$105.00 in gift cards and \$2,000 in cash donations. Your generosity has ensured that teachers and students will have the supplies they need for a successful school year. Thank you to all that made donations and especially to Kathy Delaney, Virginia Coffee, Renee Newton, Becky Trimble and Kim Corbel (PCPBC member and teacher at Arizona Desert) for managing this event.



Message from the Secretary (continued)

REFRESH YOUR NECK COOLERS Please use the bathrooms to rinse and refresh your neck coolers not the water fountains. Many summer players do bring your own small bucket, a large Ziplock bag or a small cooler, fill with ice and water to dip, cool and refresh their neck coolers.

EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE Sometimes pickleball brings out expletives during or after a play. Learning replacement words can be most helpful when venting as swearing is not appropriate or appreciated by many.

NAME TAGS & I.C.E. We ask all players to wear their Club name tag when at the courts playing. Name tags help everyone learn player names. ICE: The new style name tag has ICE on the front which means "In Case of Emergency". Using a permanent marker, please write a contact name and number on the back of your name tag in case there is an incident and your emergency contact person needs to be called.



How can I help my pickleball community you ask? Here is an easy way to give back: Volunteer for one month to help straighten up the courts. It takes very little time to straighten up the chairs, make sure the balls are in the sleeves and gates are locked. Feel free to call me and I can answer any questions you have. 661-904-1954 Michelle McKee

Thank you to Jeff and Judy Gauvin and Wendy Langhals for cleaning the courts in July.

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