



Volume 4, Issue 5
June 2022

The Pickle Vine

JUNE 2022

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Note to readers: The Pickle Vine is best when viewed on a larger screen, e.g. a tablet, laptop, desktop, TV, projection screen, outdoor movie screen or even an IMAX screen...

The Pickle Vine team expresses thanks to the Peace River Pickler community for their support during our tenure.

Chief Editor: Kellee Gabel - kellee-web@live.com

Tournament reporter : Maureen Blanton - mblanton116@gmail.com

MESSAGES FROM THE PRP BOARD

TOM WARD, PRESIDENT

"Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another."

– Erma Bombeck

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

– Aesop

"No one has ever become poor by giving."

– Anne Frank, 'Diary Of Anne Frank'

"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands — one for helping yourself, the other for helping others."

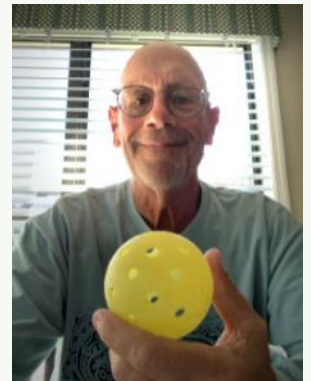
– Sam Levenson, 'In One Era & Out The Other'

"What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good."

– Aristotle

Dear Fellow Picklers,

This issue of the Pickle Vine focuses on our wonderful volunteers. Without our marvelous volunteers there are simply no PRP events, leagues, classes, tournaments, or social activities. Our volunteers are the very lifeblood of Peace River Picklers. You should thank them often and profusely. I want to highlight a few.



Tom Ward, President



Heather Washik

Heather Washik has been our treasurer for the past few years. She keeps track of our revenue, pays all of our bills, issues refunds when necessary, does our taxes, and performs these tasks timely and expertly. Heather has also volunteered to be our "Beginner's Ambassador" in the fall to help our newer players get organized to play each other. She is a joy to have our Board of Directors. When you see her, thank her.

Ann Horton monitors our PRP email and provides prompt and accurate responses. Nobody appreciates what she does for our club more than I do. Many of you reading this message have had email exchanges with her. When you see her, thank her.



Ron and Ann Horton



Julie Frainier

Julie Frainier and **Ron Horton** have been organizing all of our leagues the past couple of years as well as keeping our supplies organized and distributing them each session. They are highly organized, extremely capable, and dedicated to serving the PRP membership. When you see them, thank them.

Kellee Gabel is the editor of our Pickle Vine. I will be the first to admit I am terrible at spelling, punctuation, and grammar. Kellee always makes me sound halfway intelligent. She expertly assembles and organizes all of the content in the Pickle Vine. When you see her, thank her.



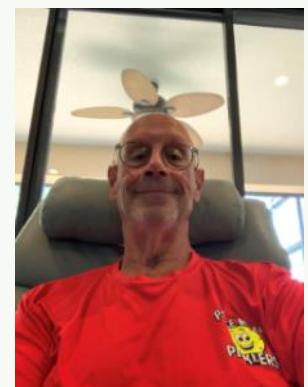
Kellee Gabel



Maureen Blanton

Maureen Blanton tracks down and publishes all of our PRP medal winners at various tournaments. How she finds all of that information is a mystery to me...but she does it every month. When you see her, thank her.

At the risk of appearing self-congratulatory, in addition to serving as President this past year, I have also been responsible for organizing all of our "Skills and Drills" and now "Drills and Play" activities for the past couple of years. That means finding coordinators and instructors, training instructors, and organizing a weekly lesson plan for each class. This is a pure labor of love for me. It is deeply gratifying to me to see so many of you improve your



Tom Ward

pickleball skills, because of the training we offer. I have also made so many great friends by being immersed in this activity.

I also want to thank our current Board members for their insights, guidance, and concern for all things PRP. They are: Vice President, **Dave Brotzman**. Treasurer, **Heather Washik**. Secretary, **Pam Volk**. Directors **Dave Pike**, **John Hace**, and **Susan Bell**. When you see them, thank them.



Left to right: David Brotzman, Heather Washik, Dave Pike, John Hace, Pam Volk and Susan Bell

Finally, I am giving a shout-out to **Doug Gammie**. In addition to repairing our nets immediately, Doug has been our liaison behind the scenes with the Charlotte County Parks and Recreation officials. He has an established relationship with them that dates back to the very start of the Peace River Picklers. He has been very quietly ensuring that PRP has a voice in the upcoming renovations to the South County Recreation Center. I can't thank Doug enough.



Doug Gammie

Tom

Pickle on...

Pickleball Central DISCOUNT

PRP members will receive a 5% discount from Pickleball Central when they use our membership discount code.

The website is PickleballCentral.com and our discount code is: **CRPuntaGorda**.

Not only do you receive a 5% discount but PRP also receives a 5% Club Reward over the course of a year.

OUR EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT PROMO CODE IS CRpuntagorda.

This past year **we saved \$294 toward the purchase of new pickleballs,**
because of your use of our discount code.



Below is the list of League Leaders who have provided the oversight for our recent leagues. Again, these folks are the very lifeblood of PRP. They are each deserving of our thanks and appreciation.

Dave Allenick
Cheryl Bellio
Kim Brotzman
David Brotzman
Lin Coe
Susan Frass
Mary Ann Gilroy
Kathleen Harrigan

Ann Horton
Renee Jackson
Lori Larson
Jean McGee
Sue Myer
Kris Murphy
Jon Ralph
Doug Rogers

Anastasia Settle
Jane Standifer
Sandy Sullivan
Pam Volk
Barb Wambold
Jane Warren
Barry Washik
Heather Washik

PRP's Drills and Play continues to be very much in demand. This is largely due to the dedicated instructors that donate their time each week to help others improve their pickleball skills. Here is a list of instructors that have helped in the past year. I cannot thank these members enough for their contributions to PRP, Drills and Play, and to the membership in general. There is simply no better value in pickleball instruction anywhere than PRP's Drills and Play. Thank you all.

Pam Volk
Lin Coe
Renee Jackson
Louise Bouck
Deb Sarkasian
Marsh Fernholtz
Joan Wedekind
Deb Downing

Julie David
Betty Ray Lorentz
Tony Mateus
Steve Hocker
Judy Robertson
Jenny Townsend
John Hace
Joanne Hace

David Brotzman
Kim Brotzman
Maureen Blanta
Patty Pink
Sue Carman
Susan Frass
Steve Schaab

I also want to acknowledge our Pickleball 101 stars. This is a class that is open to non-members that explains everything a person that has never played before needs to know about the sport. Laurie and Casey Price headed this endeavor up for many months. More recently this has been taught by Pete Parsill and Brooke Minnich with assistance provided by Fred Graham and Marsh Fernholz. More examples of our great pickleball community.

LOCAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Presented by Maureen Blanton

Minto US Open Pickleball Championships

April 23 – April 30, 2022

Mens Doubles

- 3.5: bracket 60+ - **BRONZE:** Tony Mateus
- 3.5: bracket 70+ - **BRONZE:** Tony Gray and David Allenick
- 4.5/5.0: bracket 70+ - **SILVER:** Gary Wilson
- Open: bracket 30+ - **SILVER:** Blake Wilson

Mens Singles

- 3.0/3.5: bracket 70+ - **SILVER:** Tony Gray

Pictona Super Seniors Tournament

May 6-8, 2022

Mixed Doubles

- 4.0: bracket 65+ - **SILVER:** Tom Ward and Jane McDonald

SVB Spring Pickleball Tournament

May 14-15, 2022

Mixed Doubles

- 4.0: bracket 50-64 – **SILVER:** Tom Ward and Val Thomopalos

National Senior Games

May 10 – May 17, 2022

Mens Doubles

- 5.0/4.5: bracket 60-64 – **GOLD:** Jeff Houhoulis



Third from left: Jeff Houhoulis on the medal stand is Special thanks to Gary Wilson for capturing and sharing this moment with the Pickle



For a full calendar of PRP events & details:

<https://www.peaceriverpicklers.com/>

FOLLOW MAJOR LEAGUE PICKLEBALL NEWS HERE:

<https://www.majorleaguepickleball.net/>



RECENT WINTER II LEAGUES

Presented by Julie Frainier, Ron and Ann Horton

LEAGUE NAME	LEAGUE LEADER	WINNERS
W22B (1) Mens 70+ 3.0+ Shootout	Barry Washik/Heather Washik	Butch DeLong
W22B (2) Mens 3.5 - 4.0 Shootout	David Brotzman	David Brotzman
W22B (3) Burnt Store Marina Coed 3.5 - 4.0 Shootout	Dave Allenick	Todd Potokar
W22B (4) Ladies 3.0+ Shootout	Anastasia Settler	Jeannie Mather
W22B (5) Coed 60+ 3.0-3.5 Shootout	Jane Warren	Butch DeLong
W22B (6) Coed 3.5-4.0 Shootout	Kim Brotzman	Tony Mateus
W22B (8) Coed 3.0+ Round Robin	Susan Frass	N/A
W22B (9) Ladies 60+ 3.0+ Shootout	Pam Volk	Lori Larson
W22B (10) Coed 2.5/3.0 Round Robin	Jean Standifer/Doug Rogers	David Stuart
W22B (11) Ladies 3.5 Round Robin	Sandra Sullivan	Donna Roberts
W22B (12) Ladies 2.0/2.5 Round Robin	Kris Murphy	N/A



For a full calendar of PRP events & details:

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Kevin Semanes passed away suddenly on Friday, May 27. Kevin was well known at the PicklePlex as a great guy who was always willing to partner with any group of players needing an additional player. Those of us that played with him and against him loved his competitive nature coupled with his friendly demeanor. While Kevin was not a PRP member, he was a part of our wider pickleball community that makes the social aspect of the sport so important to each of us.

Rest in Peace, Kevin



**MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER & HONOR**

Pickleball Around the Web



The logo for Pickleball University (PBU) features the letters 'PBU' in a large, bold, blue serif font. Below 'PBU' is the text 'PICKLEBALL UNIVERSITY' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. The entire logo is centered and flanked by horizontal lines above and below.

Pickleball University is an interesting website with a mission “to inspire and equip you with custom content, information and education in the pickleball world.”

Here are some recent articles from Pickleball University to help you hone your skills and build a competitive edge.

The Best Ways to Avoid Pickleball Injuries, According to a Doctor

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/the-best-ways-to-avoid-pickleball-injuries-according-to-a-doctor>

Try These 2 Things the Next Time Your Mind Wanders on the Court

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/try-these-2-things-the-next-time-your-mind-wanders-on-the-court>

Want to Level Up? Here’s How to Make Rec Play More Meaningful

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/want-to-level-up-heres-how-to-make-rec-play-more-meaningful>

Enjoying these articles? For more, visit:

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com>.

2022 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	Tom Ward	rocknpickleball@gmail.com
Vice President	Dave Brotzman	hotonpi@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Heather Washik	hwashik@att.net
Secretary	Susan Bell	mom8348@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS

Pam Volk	pambvolk@yahoo.com
John Hace	johnhace@gmail.com
Dave Pike	davidleopike@gmail.com



Mission Statement

Peace River Picklers Pickleball club is a nonprofit organization established to cultivate the game of Pickleball through social play, competitive leagues and standardized, consistent educational programs for our members. These activities provide opportunities for players to realize their own potential in an environment that promotes socialization, fun & exercise.

USA PICKLEBALL AREA AMBASSADORS

THE ROLE OF AMBASSADORS

Ambassadors are volunteers who have pledged to promote the sport of pickleball and the USA Pickleball in the local area that they represent. They are individuals or couples who work with the communities, clubs, and other various recreational facilities to guide and help build pickleball programs for all to enjoy. These Ambassadors work together as a teams within their Districts and across their Region to enhance the development of the USA Pickleball and pickleball. The main prerequisite is a love of the sport and the desire to share our game with others of all ages.

Below is a listing of current ambassadors within a 25 mile radius of Punta Gorda.

Jorge Aguilar	Venice, FL	Ambassador: Venice; FL
Colleen Blakley	N. Ft. Myers, FL	Ambassador: Key West; FL
Sue Carman	Venice, FL	Ambassador: Sarasota County; FL
Linda Coe	Port Charlotte, FL	Ambassador: Port Charlotte; FL
Dick Crossland	Englewood, FL	Ambassador: Englewood; FL
Gloria Reilly	Punta Gorda, FL	Ambassador: Punta Gorda; FL
Robert White	Arcadia, FL	Ambassador: North Port; FL
Dave Pike		Ambassador: at Large

A complete and searchable list of USA Pickleball ambassadors and email addresses, can be found at:

https://www.memberleap.com/members/directory/search_USAPA.php?ambassadors

Further information on USA Pickleball Ambassadors can be found at:



PICKLER PLAYGROUNDS

Englewood

Englewood Sports Complex	1300 S. River Rd, Englewood, FL 34223	941-681-3742
Ann & Chuck Dever Park	6961 San Casa Drive, Englewood, FL 34223	
Tringali Park	3460 N. Access Rd, Englewood, FL 34223	

Port Charlotte

Centennial Park Rec. Center	1120 Centennial Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33953	941-613-3230
Harold Ave Reg. Park Rec. Center	23400 Harold Ave, Port Charlotte, FL 33980	941-627-1074
McGuire Park	21125 McGuire Ave, Port Charlotte, FL 33952	941-681-3742
Midway Park	23023 Midway Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33952	941-625-7529
Port Charlotte Beach Park	4500 Harbor Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33952	
William Gaines Veterans Park	20499 Edgewater Dr, Port Charlotte, FL 33952	

Punta Gorda

Bissett Park	12455 Path Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-681-3742
Deep Creek Park	25555 Sandhill Blvd, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	
Frank Ross Park	19333 Quesada Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	
Gilchrist Park	400 W Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	
Harbour Heights Park	27420 Voyageur Dr, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	
Pickleplex®@ FSW Campus	26300 Airport Rd, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-451-9923
South County Regional Park Rec Center	670 Cooper St, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-505-8686

Rotonda

Rotonda Community Park	100 Rotonda Blvd, E Rotonda, FL 33947	941-681-3742
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The Peace River Picklers Merchandise Store

Have you visited the PRP online Store yet?

Available through the [Peace River Picklers website](#)....



FROM THE PEACE RIVER PICKLERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The purpose of the Peace River Picklers (PRP) is to promote the game of pickleball. This implies that sportsmanship, etiquette and generosity will be foremost in all PRP efforts. Pickleball can be competitive or it can be recreational. PRP will respect the wants and goals of all players, endeavoring to provide events, activities, and play to meet all members' needs.

PEACE RIVER PICKLERS (PRP) CODE OF CONDUCT

- I will not act in a way that threatens my safety or the safety of others.
- I will refrain from verbal outbursts which are profane, threatening or abusive.
- I will refrain from acts or language which harasses or belittles a teammate or opponent, or which creates turmoil and/or dissension among players.
- I will respect the pickleball courts and property and perform no action which may cause damage.
- I will comply with posted court schedules.
- I will make fair line calls and respect calls made by others. I will consider the ball to be "in" if uncertain of the line call.
- I will behave in a manner consistent with this code and, as such, will be an ambassador for the sport of pickleball.

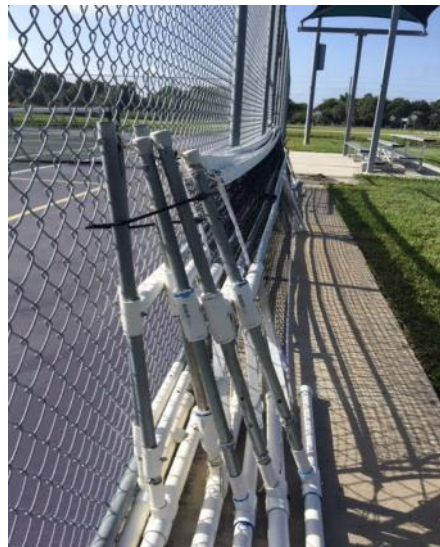


Pickleball Nets

The pickleball nets at South County Regional Park are owned by Peace River Picklers, with repair and maintenance work coordinated by Doug Gammie of PRP.

It is in our collective best interest to properly maintain these nets to insure quality of play and keep replacement costs and repairs to a minimum. Members of PRP are asked to review the following suggestions from Deb Sarkisian and Bruce McPhee that will help to prolong the “life and health” of our nets.

1. Nets should be stored at the two opposite ends of the courts—the parking lot end and the Cooper Street end. Nets brought onto the court from one side should be returned to the same side.
2. Nets should be stacked together with the center bars facing out.
3. Nets stored on the parking lot end of the courts should be secured against the wooden barrier structure on that end. Nets stored at the opposite end of the courts should be secured against the chain link fence.
4. Bungee cords should be wrapped around the nets as tightly as possible to keep the nets upright.



Should nets be found to be in need of repair, please contact Doug Gammie at gammie72@msn.com or 941-505-0893.

Combination for the net locks can be found at: <https://www.peaceriverpicklers.com/net-code>

PRP Leagues, Skills/Drills, & Advanced Clinics Refund Process Update

We would like our membership to know that the PRP Board has updated our Refund Policy to include:

Any/all refunds will ONLY be given to those who make a request no later than two weeks prior to the start of the event. After that, no refunds will be issued.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

All of our events require a certain amount of players for the programs to function both physically and financially, thus the reason for this policy change!!

Setting up these events requires a great deal of work including:

- **Court Rentals:**
 - o Determine and pay for the number of courts required by event
 - o Work with South County Regional Park team to contract/rent the courts
- **Leagues:**
 - o Recruit enough volunteers to be League Leaders
 - o Define which Leagues to offer:
 - § Shootout
 - § Round Robin
 - § Ladder
- **Skills/Drills, Advanced Clinics, & PB101:**
 - o Recruit enough teachers to adhere to teacher/student ratios
 - o Recruit Skills/Drills Coordinators

Due to these events being driven by the number of members who sign up, it's a constant work in progress up until a few days before the events launch. Again, all of our events require a certain amount of players for the programs to function.

This doesn't get done easily. This process requires numerous volunteers working with PRP board to ensure all events are organized and ready to go when players arrive. Late/last minute requests are not acceptable.

I'm sure you can all understand the need for this change!

Thank you

Peace River Picklers Board



PEACE RIVER PICKLERS

South County Regional Park

Pickleball Court Etiquette Guidelines

South County Pickleball Courts are considered "Open Play" when Leagues & Skills & Drills are not in session. Please adhere to the following Pickleball court etiquette guidelines so that we make open play fun for everyone:

During open play, players' play 4 to a court, play to a score of 11, team must win by 2 points.

There are three gates to enter & exit from the courts. Please be respectful and use the gate that is closest to the court you are going onto or leaving. This will alleviate disrupting another group's game.

Make sure you enter & exit the courts when you have all 4 players together.

Move on/off the court quickly so that you are not holding up another group's game.

Close the gate after last person enters or exits!

If you have to cross an active court to get onto a vacant court or to leave a court, wait until their current point is over. Ask the players for permission to cross their court.

If your ball goes into another court during play, please call out "ball" to notify the team so they can stop play. We do not want anyone to get hurt.

If you are standing around waiting to play, please be assertive and ask any player if you can join next game. Open play means everyone has an opportunity to play, but you own making that happen!