



The Pickle Vine

Volume 4, Issue 3
April 2022

APRIL 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

Hello Fellow Picklers,

On March 13 we recognized the many volunteers that facilitate our leagues and our drills and all of the activities that makes PRP the great organization that it is. I would like to continue to express my gratitude and the gratitude of the entire Board for the selfless contributions our volunteers make every week for our PRP members. And I want to highlight one volunteer in this issue of the PickleVine.

Most of you have never met Jim Mays. For three years Jim was our technical expert behind the scenes to enhance our website and to keep it running smoothly. Jim put in countless hours to solve the hiccups our website would experience. He enhanced the event registration process to automate the input and data collection of the participants. He was always vigilant in keeping track of the website transactions, enrollments, registrations, receipts, and making sure everything was running smoothly. All of this was done on his own time, as a volunteer.

Here is a message from Jim:

"All that I accomplished was a result of a great team effort by the board members and committee leaders. We worked hand-in-hand identifying needs and reviewing site modifications. I especially would like to thank our past president Deb Sarkasian for always being available and her amazing attention to detail!"

"My wife, Kathy and I are living back in the Myrtle Beach area where we first met and married. Our kids and grandkids will be hours away instead of days, we hope to see more of them. Our thoughts are that we will come back to PG to visit OLD friends and hope to see you on the courts." ~ Jim

All of us owe Jim a great debt of gratitude for all he has done for PRP. I will be starting a FaceBook acknowledgement dedicated to Jim and ask each of you to send your words of thanks to Jim for all he has done after this edition of the PV is published.

Pickle on,

Tom



Tom Ward, President

RECENT LOCAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

APP Punta Gorda \$40K

Hosted by Eden Lica and Barry Waddell

Wed 02/23/22 thru Sun 02/27/22

65 and OVER Mixed Doubles

4.5, 4.0: GOLD:

Tom Ratzki

Amateur Mens Doubles

4.0: bracket 35+ BRONZE:

Marc Labrosse

65 and OVER Amateur Mens Singles

4.0, 3.5, 3.0: bracket 70+ SILVER:

Tony Gray

Senior Amateur Mens Doubles

4.0: bracket 60+ GOLD:

Tom Ratzki

4.5: bracket 50+ BRONZE:

Jeff Houhoulis

65 and OVER Mens Doubles

3.5, 3.0: GOLD:

Tom Ward

4.5: SILVER:

Paul Richards

BRONZE:

Gary Zepnick

4.5: bracket 60+ GOLD:

David Moore

Senior Amateur Mixed Doubles

4.0: bracket 60+ GOLD:

Kren McManus

4.5: bracket 60+ SILVER:

Paul Richards

3.5: bracket 70+ GOLD:

Tony Gray and David Allenick

Senior Amateur Womens Doubles

4.0: bracket 60+ SILVER:

Kren McManus

65 and OVER Womens Doubles

4.0: GOLD:

Jonsey Rainville

RECENT LOCAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS (continued...)

PicklePlex of Punta Gorda Spring Fling

Sponsored by UnitedHealthcare

Fri 03/18/22 thru Sun 03/20/22

Mens Doubles Open

Medals \$\$ Play Off: SILVER:

Blake Wilson

Mens Doubles Groups 60+

3.0: bracket 60-69, 70-79 GOLD:

Ron Johnson

SILVER: Joel Shaffer

3.5: bracket 60-64 SILVER:

Jim Trowbridge

3.5: bracket 70-79 GOLD:

David Allenick and Tony Gray

BRONZE: Lee Freeman and David Pike

4.0: bracket 64+ BRONZE:

Ron Kurtz

4.5: bracket 60-69, 70-79 BRONZE:

David Moore and Gary Wilson

Mens Doubles

3.5: bracket 50+ GOLD:

Dan McQuhae and Ron Horton

BRONZE: David Allenick and Tony Gray

Womens Doubles 60+

3.0: bracket 70-79 BRONZE:

Diane White

3.5: bracket 60-69 BRONZE:

Paula Rockwell

4.0: bracket 60-63 BRONZE:

Donna Wilson

Womens Doubles

3.5: bracket 19+-56 SILVER:

Suzanne Smith and Nancy Wang

3.5: bracket 57+ SILVER:

Laura Moore and Donna Roberts

4.0: bracket 50+ SILVER:

Mac Moody

4.5: bracket 19+, 35+, 50+ GOLD:

Karen Memoli

RECENT LOCAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS (continued...)

PicklePlex of Punta Gorda Spring Fling

Sponsored by UnitedHealthcare

Fri 03/18/22 thru Sun 03/20/22

Mixed Doubles

3.0: bracket 19+, 35+ GOLD: Helmut Braun	3.5: bracket 60-65 BRONZE: Anne McColgan & Jim Trowbridge
3.0: bracket 50+ SILVER: Eulalia Ralph and John LaFeldt	3.5: bracket 66+ GOLD: Lee Freeman
3.0: bracket 60+ GOLD: Susan Sitzberger	4.0: bracket 19+, 35+ SILVER: Rob Jamros
3.0: bracket 70+ BRONZE: Mary Olsen and Ron Johnson	4.0: bracket 50+ GOLD: Harry Bittner
3.5: bracket 50+ SILVER: Suzanne Smith and David Allenick	4.0: bracket 60+ BRONZE: Sheryl Brunken and Tony Mateus
	4.5: bracket 50+, 60+ GOLD: Martin Pickup

UPCOMING 2022

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENTS

HOPEN its OPEN—The Place at Corkscrew & Seasons at Bonita....Esterro 04/14-04/17

Minto US Open Pickleball Championships—East Naples Community Park 04/23-04/30

Sanibel Sundial Cinco De Mayo Fiesta—Sundial Beach Resort & Spa....Sanibel 05/05-05/07

All tournaments above are within the PRP Southwest Florida Region.

Find a comprehensive list of tournaments, searchable by region, by visiting:

https://www.pickleballtournaments.com/pbt_main.pl

Pickleball Around the Web



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.

Easy Tips for Improving Your Third Shot Drive

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/easy-tips-for-improving-your-third-shot-drive>

3 Common Mistakes Made by Beginner Pickleball Players (and Most Players 4.0 and Below)

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/3-common-mistakes-made-by-beginner-pickleball-players-and-most-players-40-and-below>

11 Ways to Improve Your Lob Shot in Pickleball

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/11-ways-to-improve-your-lob-shot-in-pickleball>

As your chief editor, I am pleased to present the above articles for your reading pleasure. The choices are many and the articles well written, making it sometimes difficult to choose. If you enjoy these articles, I encourage you to visit

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

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

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:



CHECK OUT RECENT UPDATES!

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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PICKLEBALL

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.



Happy Easter

Did You Know?

PRP members can receive a **5% discount** on everything they order through [PickleballCentral.com](https://www.pickleballcentral.com) with our PRP promo code? It also provides **5% in funds for PRP** to use at the end of the year! This year that fund will help us to purchase new pickleballs.

**OUR EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT PROMO CODE IS CRpuntagorda.
AND IT IS ONLY FOR PRP MEMBERS.**

Now go out and buy those new shoes and a new paddle.

For a full calendar of PRP events & details:

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

FOLLOW MAJOR LEAGUE PICKLEBALL NEWS HERE:

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

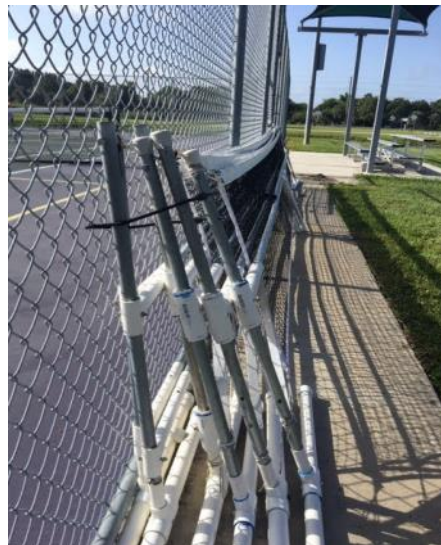


Pickleball Nets

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!