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March 2022

The Pickle Vine

MARCH 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.

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MESSAGES FROM THE PRP BOARD

TOM WARD, PRESIDENT

Hello Fellow Picklers,

I remember the very first time I visited the Pickleplex. I was new to pickleball and I was new to the area. I didn't know anyone and I didn't know about "stacking paddles" or how to go about entering into a game. A very nice and welcoming couple invited me to play with them and a third person. I will call them "Howie and Donna" (their real names). They were so friendly and so helpful. We played several games together that day. To this day, whenever I see Howie or Donna I get a smile on my face because of the way they treated me on that very first day.

Maya Angelou wrote; "**People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.**"



Tom Ward, President

Pickleball has many healthy benefits. However, the best benefit from pickleball is the social aspect of making friends while competing together. Psychologists have long known that "belonging" to a community is essential to our well being. Two university professors wrote a paper in 1995 that stated that belonging significantly impacts our well being, our achievement behavior, and our mental health. They went on to say the human mind has a universal desire to form and keep relationships with others. Pickleball is a great vehicle to create and grow healthy relationships. In a nutshell, Pickleball is good for us.

Paula and I frequently comment on the many wonderful people we have met through pickleball. PRP has three very dynamic instructors I will call Bob and Deb and Jeff (their real names) that can be seen playing with much lower skill level players in their spare time. No pickleball "snobbery" with them. What a great community to be associated with. PRP also has a certified instructor I will call Lin, (her real name) that helps multiple players nearly every day of the week to improve their skill level and encourages them to become volunteer coaches for PRP's Drills and Play. And she does this for free. PRP has multiple certified instructors that volunteer their time to teach Drills and Play several hours each week. What a welcoming community we have. What a great organization to be a part of. PRP also has dozens of League Leaders and volunteer coaches that donate dozens of hours so that others may have a great experience in their club activities.

PRP also has a couple of volunteers I will call Pete and Brooke (their real names) who donate their time to teach beginners the sport of pickleball. Who wouldn't want to be a part of this dynamic, welcoming, and thoughtful club?

This week I encourage you to be a Howie or a Donna or a Bob, Deb, Jeff, Lin, Pete, or Brooke to a fellow pickleball player. People will forget what you said or what you did. But they will always remember how you made them feel. It's a great time to have fun playing pickleball with our friends in the warm Florida sun. And, it's a great time to be a PRP member.

PRP EDUCATION AND SKILL ENHANCEMENT OFFERINGS

PRP's Drills and Play (formerly Skills and Drills) continues to be a hot ticket. Our next six-week classes sold out within minutes of the open registration for our 2.5, 3.0, and 3.5 skill levels. For a volunteer run program, the skill training provides a high caliber and very desired product. In our next 3.5 class all four instructors have gone through either a PPR or IPTPTA certification process and are therefore, certified instructors. (PPR = Professional Pickleball Registry; IPTPTA = International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association). We have some certified instructors in the other skill level classes as well. These folks volunteer their expertise to the PRP membership.

Additionally 5.0 and PPR Clinical and Professional Instructor, Deb Mascarin, has provided continuing education to our volunteer coaches. Her training for us has been invaluable. She not only teaches the mechanical and technical aspects of properly executed pickleball shots, but she also teaches us how to teach those shots to others.

We will be using Deb's expertise as we refine our syllabus and class instructions in the future. Bob White's and Jeff Houhoulis's Advanced Clinics continue to sell out as our membership eagerly takes their training in a more compressed format that focuses on a different skill each week. The repeated complaint that I get is that the classes fill up so quickly and not everyone can get in to them. Your Board will be working on that in the future. Please understand these classes require a huge time commitment from your volunteer instructors.

I personally take a great deal of pride in our educational program. We have no way of knowing, but I believe you would be hard pressed to find another pickleball club in the country that offers the skilled training that PRP provides to our membership. This instruction is also provided at a very modest price and is a huge value to our membership.

Pickle on,

Tom

UPCOMING LEAGUE PLAY & DRILLS & PLAY & CLINICS

WINTER SESSION W22B

The following leagues and Advanced Clinics still have openings available.
You may register through our PRP website.

League Openings				
Day	Time	League	Leader	openings
Monday	10:00am-12:00pm	W22B (2) Mens 3.5 - 4.0 Shootout	David Brotzman	5
Wednesday	10:00am - 12:00pm	W22B (7) Coed Team 3.5 Round Robin	Ann Horton	6 couples
Wednesday	6:00pm-8:00pm	W22B (8) Coed 3.0+ Round Robin	Susan Frass	5

Clinic offerings				Openings
7-Mar	Monday	9:00am-10:30am	2.0-2.5 lobs and drives	full
		10:4am-12:15pm	3.0 lobs and drives	full
		12:30pm-2:00pm	3.5 lobs and drives	full
14-Mar	Monday	9:00am-10:30am	2.0-2.5 Overhead smash and blocks	5
		10:4am-12:15pm	3.0 Overhead smash and blocks	full
		12:30pm-2:00pm	3.5 Overhead smash and blocks	1
21-Mar	Monday	9:00am-10:30am	2.0-2.5 Dinking and dinking strategies	8
		10:4am-12:15pm	3.0 Dinking and dinking strategies	full
		12:30pm-2:00pm	3.5 Dinking and dinking strategies	2
28-Mar	Monday	9:00am-10:30am	2.0-2.5 learning to hit balls out of air with purpose	7
		10:4am-12:15pm	3.0 learning to hit balls out of air with purpose	full
		12:30pm-2:00pm	3.5 learning to hit balls out of air with purpose	5
4-Apr	Monday	9:00am-10:30am	2.0-2.5 quick hands and resets	8
		10:4am-12:15pm	3.0 quick hands and resets	1
		12:30pm-2:00pm	3.5 quick hands and resets	5
11-Apr	Monday	9:00am-10:30am	2.0-2.5 double strategies	10
		10:4am-12:15pm	3.0 double strategies	4
		12:30pm-2:00pm	3.5 double strategies	7

PLEASE NOTE: The possibility exists that one of our proposed Leagues will not have sufficient interest to be viable. If that proves to be true, we will attempt to replace that League with an additional Drills and Play class. It may be a class that has one court at the 2.5 skill level, another court at the 3.0 skill level, and a third court at the 3.5 skill level. This will be a last minute change and will require an addition to our website so that members may register.

Stay Tuned

UPCOMING 2022

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENTS

APP Punta Gorda \$40K—Pickleplex....Punta Gorda 02/23-02/27

The Pickleball Club March Moneyball—Englewood Sports Complex 03/04-03/06

PicklePlex 2nd Annual Spring Fling—Pickleplex....Punta Gorda 03/18-03/20

Pickleball for Prevention—Bonita Springs YMCA 03/24-03/27

HOPEN its OPEN—The Place at Corkscrew & Seasons at Bonita....Estero 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

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/>



WINTER ONE SEASON WINNERS

LEAGUE NAME	winners
W22A Mens 70+ 3.0+ Shootout	Frank Panhuise
W22A Mens 3.5 - 4.0 Round Robin	Carl Uggerholt
W22A Burnt Store Marina Coed 3.5 - 4.0 Shootout	Mike McKeogh
W22A Ladies 3.0+ Shootout	Gabby Thompson
W22A Coed 60+ 3.0-3.5 Shootout	Steve White
W22A Coed 3.5-4.0 Ladder	Tony Mateus
W22A Ladies 60+ 3.0+ Shootout	Jane Eiser
W22A Coed 3.0+ Shootout	Maddie Stibbard
W22A Coed Team 3.5 Round Robin	Tom Ward & Kathryn Seward
W22A Coed 2.0/2.5 Shootout	Debra Hoyt
W22A Ladies 3.5 Round Robin	Donna Roberts
W22A Ladies 2.0/2.5 Shootout	Jacqueline Kerr
F21A Coed 3.0-3.5 Shootout	Kim Halford

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

RECENT LOCAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

AMERICAN PICKLEBALL BY LOANWITHRICK.COM JANUARY \$\$\$

Fri 01/14/22 thru Sun 01/16/22

MEN'S DOUBLES SKILL/AGE

5.0 \$\$\$ BRONZE

Blake Wilson

3.5 70+ GOLD

Tony Gray and David Allenick

4.5: 19-70+ BRONZE

Martin Pickup

MIXED DOUBLES SKILL/AGE

5.0 \$\$\$ BRONZE

Blake Wilson

4.0 60+ SILVER

Renee Barkman

WOMEN'S DOUBLES SKILL/AGE

3.0 60+,70+ SILVER

Sandy Venne

3.5 19-50+ SILVER

Paula Callaghan

3.5 19-50+ BRONZE

Cindy Schiffer

4.0 60+,70+ BRONZE

Lora Ash and Renee Barkman

4.5 19-70+ SILVER

Kren McManus

PICKLE BOWL

Sponsored by Charlotte County
Recreational Center

Saturday 01/22/22 thru Sunday 01/23/22

MEN'S DOUBLES

3.0 SILVER

Ron Johnson

3.5 GOLD

Martin Pickup

3.5 SILVER

Steve Roforth

3.5 BRONZE

Tom Ward & Dan Monaco

MIXED DOUBLES

3.0 BRONZE

Monika & Peter Feldhusen

3.5 GOLD

Sally Hussey & Harrod Duncon

3.5 BRONZE

Lee Freemon & Diane Liberti

4.0 GOLD

Sheila Moffatt

4.0 BRONZE

Kathy Seward & Tom Ward

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

3.0 GOLD

Renee Jackson & Barbara Shanahan

3.0 SILVER

Susan Sitzberger & Gail Olsen

3.0 BRONZE

Susan Frass & Cindy Penfield

3.5 GOLD

Heather Washik

3.5 SILVER

Paula Rockwell & Sally Hussey

3.5 BRONZE

Sharon Burst & Tammy Shorb



Heather Washik & Dave Pike
SILVER in Mixed Doubles
Viking Pickleball Cupid
Classic
Englewood Sports Complex
Feb 12-13

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 between two horizontal green lines.

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 current articles including the following subjects:

Will Pickleball Be an Olympic Sport?

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/will-pickleball-be-an-olympic-sport>

5 of the Best Strength Training Exercises for Pickleball Players

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/5-of-the-best-strength-training-exercises-for-pickleball-players>

When Can You Be in the Pickleball Kitchen?

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/when-can-you-be-in-the-pickleball-kitchen>

Why Court Shoes?

<https://www.pickleballdepot.ca/blogs/news/court-shoes-vs-running-shoes-whats-the-difference>

Article courtesy of Pickle Ball Depot

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:



The Peace River Picklers Merchandise Store

Have you visited the PRP online Store yet?

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



Pickler Playgrounds

Englewood

Englewood Sports Complex	1300 S. River Rd, Englewood, FL 34223	941-681-3742
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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

Punta Gorda

Bissett Park	12455 Path Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-681-3742
Gilchrist Park	400 W Retta Esplanade, 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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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.

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.

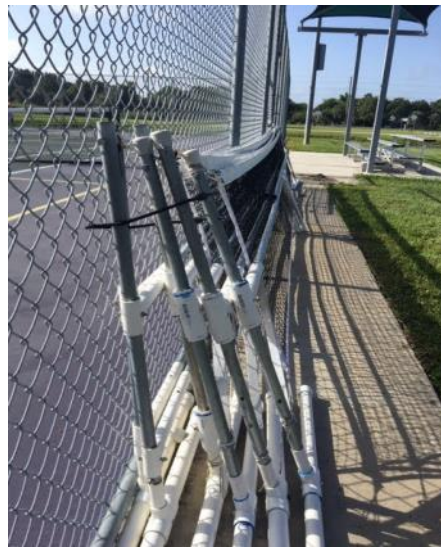


Pickleball Nets

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!