



# The Pickle Vine

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## FEBRUARY 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**

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,

This is our first newsletter of 2022 and the commencement of our new Board of Directors.

Sunday, January 16, marked the end of the two year terms for four of our PRP Board Members. None of whom decided to run for another term. There was also the resignation of a fifth Board member. The two remaining members on the Board are Tom Ward and Heather Washik. Five new Board members were elected by acclimation at the annual meeting on January 16.

Tom Ward - President  
Dave Brotzman - Vice President  
Heather Washik - Treasurer  
Susan Bell - Secretary  
Dave Pike - Director  
Pam Volk - Director  
John Hace - Director



Tom Ward, President

While your new Board is short on PRP Board experience, it is not short on talent and leadership. For the present time it is “business as usual” for the Board. However, your new Board is willing and able to enhance your PRP pickleball experience as they move PRP into the future.

During the transition of responsibility on the PRP Board, continuity remains in some of PRP’s most important functions. First of all, Heather Washik continues as our PRP Treasurer. The Editor-in-Chief of the PickleVine, Kellee Gabel is still very much on the job and bringing you this publication. Also, Julie Frainier and Ron Horton are the organizers and overseers of our many Leagues. Julie and Ron have our second winter session of Leagues all mapped out and ready to go. Anne Horton continues to monitor and respond to our PRP email account inquiries. Tom Ward continues to organize, oversee, train and provide instructors for our Drills and Play offerings. You will not see any change in the level of great service PRP provides for these functions.

**Registrations for the second winter session of Leagues and Drills  
and Clinics will commence at noon on Monday, February 7.**

**Plan ahead as space is limited and player slots fill quickly.**

# MESSAGES FROM THE PRP BOARD

As we begin a new PRP year, it seems more than appropriate to recap and acknowledge the efforts and accomplishments of our 2021 PRP Board.

- \* 35 different leagues were held over four different sessions.
- \* 3 different sessions of Skills and Drills were held for 2.0/2.5, 3.0, and 3.5 skill level players. That's nine, 6-week sessions in the course of a year.
- \* Multiple advanced clinics were taught by Bob White and Jeff Houhoulis.
- \* Monthly PB 101 classes were provided for free to the community.
- \* We also had a PRP Volunteer Appreciation Day in March of 2021.
- \* 318 members responded to a survey sent out in June to hear the voice of the membership.
- \* We had a legal review of our participation waivers and bylaws.
- \* We created a PRP merchandise store.
- \* We hosted a PRP Christmas Party.
- \* We piloted summer leagues and a Drills and Play format.
- \* The Board also established rules for advertising training clinics on our Facebook page. The biggest benefit to us is the clinic must provide a discount to any PRP member that might want to participate.

As you can see, 2021 was a very busy year for your PRP Board. Thank you to President Deb Sarkasian, Vice President Jean McGee, Secretary Laura Price, Past President Mary Stewart, and Director and longtime League organizer Bruce McPhee.

Last, but not least, work is underway to host another Volunteer Appreciation Day sometime in March. Stay tuned, if you have been a league leader, skills and drill instructor, or have been a PRP volunteer in any other way in the past year.

See ya on the courts,

Tom Ward

# YOUR 2022 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

## OFFICERS

President	Tom Ward	<a href="mailto:rocknpickleball@gmail.com">rocknpickleball@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Dave Brotzman	<a href="mailto:hotonpi@yahoo.com">hotonpi@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Heather Washik	<a href="mailto:hwashik@att.net">hwashik@att.net</a>
Secretary	Susan Bell	<a href="mailto:mom8348@yahoo.com">mom8348@yahoo.com</a>

## DIRECTORS

Pam Volk	<a href="mailto:pambvolk@yahoo.com">pambvolk@yahoo.com</a>
John Hace	<a href="mailto:johnhace@gmail.com">johnhace@gmail.com</a>
Dave Pike	<a href="mailto:davidleopike@gmail.com">davidleopike@gmail.com</a>

On behalf of the new Board and the entire PRP membership, we extend a very heartfelt **thank you** to our outgoing Board members:

Deb Sarkasian, Past President

Jean McGee, Past VP

Laura Price, Past Secretary and PB 101 Organizer

Bruce McPhee, Past Director and Leagues Organizer

Mary Steward, Past Director and Former President

Your energy, insights, dedication, and especially your actions have served the PRP membership very well. You have set the bar very high for every subsequent PRP Board. Thank you for a job well done!!!



# UPCOMING LEAGUE PLAY & DRILLS & PLAY & CLINICS

## WINTER SESSION W22B

The second winter session (W22B) of League Play and Drills and Play starts the **week of March 7**.

Registration for those events will commence at noon on **Monday, February 7**.

As you know, many of those events fill up quickly. **So, please plan ahead.**

Peace River Picklers, Spring 2022 Schedule of Leagues, Drills & Play and Clinics									
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
8:00 AM		W22B Mens 70+ 30+ Shootout (4)	W22B Coed 60+ 3.0-3.5 Shootout 8:00am-10:00am (8)	W22B Drills & Play 2.0/2.5 (4)	FFP Member OPEN PLAY	W22B Ladies 60+ 3.0+ Shootout 8:00am-10:00am (8)	W22B Ladies 3.5 Round Robin 8:00am-10:00am (8)	W22B Coed 3.0-3.5 Shootout 8:00am-10:00am (8)	
9:00 AM	9:00 am-10:30 am 2.5 Bob W Clinic (4)								
10:00 AM		W22B Mens 3.5-4.0 Shootout (4)	W22B Coed 3.5-4.0 Shootout 10:00am-12:00pm (8)	W22B Drills & Play 3.5 (4)	W22B Coed Team 3.5+ Round Robin (4)	W22B Drills & Play 3.0 (4)	W22B Coed 2.5/3.0 Shootout (4)	W22B Ladies 2.0/2.5 Shootout (4)	FFP Member OPEN PLAY
11:00 AM	10:45 am-12:15 pm 3.0 Bob W								
12:00 PM									
1:00 PM	12:30 pm 2:00 pm 3.5 Bob W Clinic (4)	Leagues - 6 Wks Winter/Spring Skills & Drills - 6 Wks Winter/Spring Spring = March 7th ~ April 16th			Bob White Clinic details: Spring Session 6 Wks: Wk1 lobs and drives Wk2 Overhead smash and blocks Wk3 Dinking and Dinking strategies Wk4 Learning to hit balls out of the air with purpose Wk5 Quick hands and resets Wk6 Doubles strategies  Please sign up for the time of your appropriate skill level				
2:00 PM									
3:00 PM		W22B Burnt Store Marina Coed 3.5 - 4.0 Shootout 2:30 pm-4:30pm (8)							
4:00 PM									
5:00 PM									
6:00 PM									
7:00 PM									
8:00 PM	W22B Ladies 3.0+ Shootout 6pm-8pm (4)		W22B Coed 3.0+ Round Robin 6pm-8pm (4)						

## Did You Know?

PRP members can receive a **5% discount** on everything they order through [PickleballCentral.com](http://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.

## UPCOMING 2022

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENTS

Naples Pickleball Center Championship....Naples 02/04-02/06

Pitter-Paddle Pickleball—Fort Myers Racquet Club 02/11-02/13

4th Annual Conor Lee Green Memorial—Jack Peebles Park....Babcock Ranch 02/11-02/13

Cupid Classic, Viking Pickleball Tournament—Englewood Sports Complex 02/12-02/13

Florida Satellite PeakPerformance Pickleball Academy—Bonita Springs YMCA 02/17-02/20

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....Esteros 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](https://www.pickleballtournaments.com/pbt_main.pl)

**For a full calendar of PRP events & details:**

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

**FOLLOW MAJOR LEAGUE PICKLEBALL NEWS HERE:**

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





# 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 current articles including the following subjects:

## **10 Pickleball Rule Changes to Learn for 2022**

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/10-pickleball-rule-changes-to-learn-for-2022>

## **The Best Pickleball University Articles to Read if You're New to Pickleball**

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/the-best-pickleball-university-articles-to-read-if-youre-new-to-pickleball>

## **What Is the "X" Strategy in Pickleball?**

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/what-is-the-x-strategy-in-pickleball>

## **This Mind-blowing Pickleball Tip That Will Help You at the Kitchen Line**

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/this-mind-blowing-pickleball-tip-that-will-help-you-at-the-kitchen-line>

# 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](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
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Harold Ave Reg. Park Rec. Center	23400 Harold Ave, Port Charlotte, FL 33980	941-627-1074
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McGuire Park	21125 McGuire Ave, Port Charlotte, FL 33952	941-681-3742
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Midway Park	23023 Midway Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33952	941-625-7529
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## Punta Gorda

Bissett Park	12455 Path Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-681-3742
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Gilchrist Park	400 W Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	
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Pickleplex®@ FSW Campus	26300 Airport Rd, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-451-9923
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South County Regional Park Rec Center	670 Cooper St, Punta Gorda, FL 33950	941-505-8686
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## Rotonda

Rotonda Community Park	100 Rotonda Blvd, E Rotonda, FL 33947	941-681-3742
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## 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.

## 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.

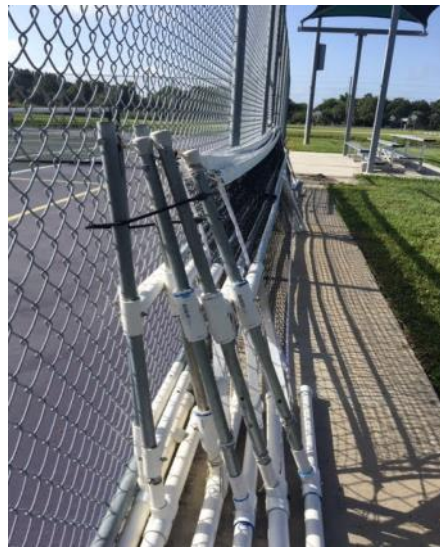


# Pickleball Nets

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](mailto: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!