



The Pickle Vine

DECEMBER 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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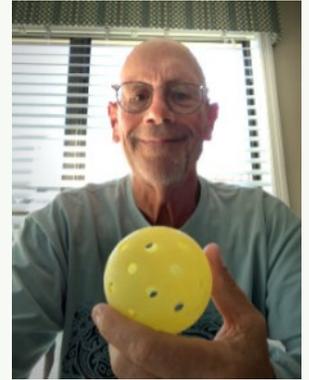
Tournament reporter : Maureen Blanton - mblanton116@gmail.com

MESSAGES FROM THE PRP BOARD

TOM WARD, PRESIDENT

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

PRP is in need of volunteers to help get our 2023 fall leagues off to a good start. Your club needs one volunteer that can map out the new fall schedule using Power Point. Editing can be done to an existing Power Point document with any additions or adjustments in league offerings. Your club also needs volunteers to help organize league materials and distribute them to the League Leaders and Drills and Play Coordinators. With the promise of eight permanent courts and eight temporary courts we will have the flexibility of offering many different possible schedules of activities for the membership. Please contact me or any one of the Board members, if this might interest you.



Tom Ward,

PRP also has one Board position open. This is an exciting time to help plan the future of PRP activities with our newly renovated courts and an additional eight courts available to us. Please contact me or any one of the Board members, if this might interest you.

We have had one person volunteer to help with organizing the league activities, and another person volunteered to help with our social events. That's a good start. Your club needs your talents, imaginations, and skills.

Please let us know how you can help out. Thank you.

UPDATE ON RECENT PLANNING

The County is not permitting the courts to be rented at other county parks and facilities at the present time. Therefore we are not able to offer an alternate site to have even limited league activities. We continue to wait for the completion of the renovated courts at the South County Recreational Center.

Likewise your current Board was planning a "Welcome Back" activity that didn't necessarily involve playing pickleball. But due to the County policy of not renting facilities at this time, we are unable to move forward with that proposal as well. There will be a "Welcome Back" activity eventually for the membership sometime after the first of the year. With all of the delays to the court renovations we simply do not know when that will be.



(UPDATE ON RECENT PLANNING cont'd)

The latest information we have from the county is that the resurfacing of the permanent courts will happen between the middle and end of December. Until we have a more definite start date from the County, we are unable to load our website with the league offerings for registration. All we can ask is for you to remain patient. We will undoubtedly have a short window period for registrations and then the leagues will commence just as soon as we have a reliable start-up date.

MOST RECENT UPDATE RENOVATIONS

As you can see from the pictures, the permanent six-foot fence that divides the two sides of the courts has been installed. The receptacles for the permanent net posts have also been cemented in. The cement sidewalk that surrounds all of the courts has been completed. The new shade structure framing has been erected. An additional gate at the west side of the courts will be added. Then there will be a gate on all four sides of the courts with a sidewalk to get to them.



(MOST RECENT UPDATE RENOVATIONS cont'd)

The old lights and poles have been removed and the new lighting has been installed. The most recent timeline for completion of the entire project is for the end of February. That means the new dual purpose tennis/pickleball courts are supposed to be completed by then. However, the ground has not been broken yet for the construction of those courts. Hopefully the permanent pickleball courts should be available to us in early January and leagues can start at that time.



*May the holidays bring
you comfort and joy and
carry you into a bright
and shiny New Year.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! UPCOMING REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

PicklePlex Christmas Classic, PicklePlex
Punta Gorda — 12/09-12/11/22

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APP 2023 Punta Gorda Florida, PicklePlex  
Punta Gorda — 1/11-1/15/23

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Punta Gorda Classic, Pickleplex
Punta Gorda — 1/27-1/29/23

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2023 Naples Pickleball Center Championship, East Naples Community Park  
Naples — 02/03-02/05/23

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Valentines Weekend Classic Tournament, Sundial Beach Resort & Spa
Sanibel — 02/16-02/18/23

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PicklePlex of Punta Gorda Challenge, Sponsored by UnitedHealthcare  
Punta Gorda — 3/23-3/26/23

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Minto US Open Pickleball Championships, East Naples Community Park
Naples — 4/15-4/22/23

Above dates reflect changes, which may be related to
cancellations or postponements following Hurricane Ian.

For a comprehensive list of tournaments, searchable by region, visit:

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

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](https://www.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.

Pickleball Around the Web

PBU PICKLEBALL UNIVERSITY

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 (a little something for everyone) from Pickleball University to help you hone your skills and build a competitive edge.

9 Pickleball Tips That Will Transform Your Game

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/9-pickleball-tips-that-will-transform-your-game>

3 Shots You Need to Play 4.0+ Pickleball

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/3-shots-you-need-to-play-40-pickleball>



Pickleball Holiday Gift Guide for 2022

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/pickleball-holiday-gift-guide-for-2022>

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.

[Christmas Ornament Vectors by Vecteezy](#)

[Christmas Bells Vectors by Vecteezy](#)

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 Aquilar	Venice, FL	Ambassador: Venice, FL
Colleen Blakley	N. Fort Myers, FL	Ambassador: Key West, FL
Sue Carman	Venice, FL	Ambassador: Sarasota County, FL
Tom Ward		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

Park Name	Physical Address	City	Indoor	Outdoor	Outdoor Lights	Outdoor Blended	Outdoor Dedicated	Restrooms
Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park	6791 San Casa Dr.	Englewood	4	8	Y	X		Y
Tringali Park	3460 N. Access Rd.	Englewood	3	16	Y	X		Y
Centennial Park	1184 O'Donnell Blvd.	Port Charlotte	4	0	N/A	N/A		Y
Franz Ross Park	19355 Quesada Blvd.	Port Charlotte	0	4	Y	X		Y
Harold Ave. Regional Park	23400 Harold Ave.	Port Charlotte	6	6	Y	X		Y-indoor only
McGuire Park	21125 McGuire Ave.	Port Charlotte	0	3	N	X		Y
Midway Park	23023 Midway Blvd.	Port Charlotte	0	8	N	X		N
Port Charlotte Beach Park	4500 Harbor Blvd.	Port Charlotte	0	4	N	X		Y
William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park	20499 Edgewater Dr.	Port Charlotte	0	8	N	X		Y
Bissett Park	12455 Path Ave.	Punta Gorda	0	4	N	X		Y
Deep Creek Park	2555 Sandhill Blvd.	Punta Gorda	0	8	N	X		Y
Harbour Heights Park	27420 Voyageur Dr.	Punta Gorda	0	2	Y	X		Y
South County Regional Park	670 Cooper St.	Punta Gorda	4	8	Y	X	Future-in progress	Y
Rotonda Community Park	10 Rotonda Blvd. E	Rotonda West	0	8	N	X		Y



The above **updated Pickler Playground** was recently presented in the article, "**It's Just the Beginning**" by Dave Pike, Board of Directors member and Ambassador at Large.

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

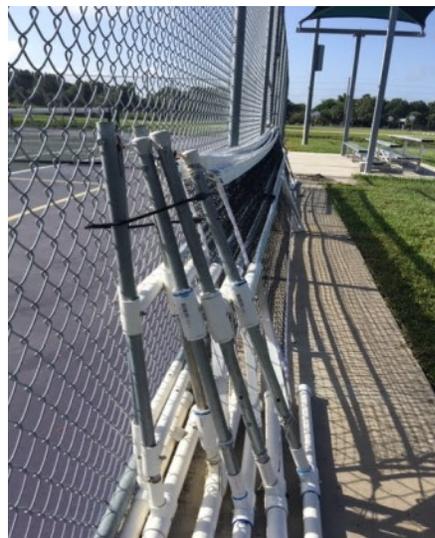
- I will not act in a way that threatens my safety or the safety of others.
- I will refrain from verbal outbursts which are profane, threatening or abusive.
- I will refrain from acts or language which harasses or belittles a teammate or opponent, or which creates turmoil and/or dissension among players.
- 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.



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.
5. Once nets are in place, wrap the cable lock to secure the nets against the barrier/fence. The pictures below show properly stored nets:



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>

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

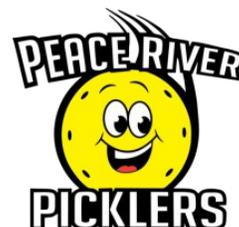
Due to these events being driven by the number of members who sign up, it's a constant work in progress up until a few days before the events launch. Again, all of our events require a certain amount of players for the programs to function.

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!