



The Pickle Vine

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MAY 2022

In This Issue:

Messages from the PRP Board

From the President

Court Updates

Summer 2022

Mini Singles Results

Beginners' Organized Play

Drills & Play Photos

Regional Tournaments

Pickleball Around The Web

Board of Directors Roster

Area Ambassadors

Play Locations (UPDATED!)

PRP Club Info, Policies and Procedures

And more...

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,

Good News!

As you know, the South County Recreation Center has been approved to make improvements to their facilities for some time. The funds for the pickleball courts have now been approved. The plan is for the current temporary pickleball courts to become permanent courts with permanent nets and pickleball lighting. The tennis nets that separate the two sides now will be replaced with a fence. There is also supposed to be some additional shade constructed. New tennis courts will be created across the road that will have ghost lines for temporary pickleball courts. That means there will be 16 pickleball courts instead of 8. A concrete apron will be made outside the fence of the tennis courts, so that we may stack our temporary nets on it. The contractor has been approved.



Tom Ward, President

We do not know when this project will start or how long it will take to be completed. Hopefully the construction will begin soon now that the funds have been authorized.

SUMMER 2022

What is PRP doing for the summer months? Last year we experimented with having a couple of leagues during the summer months. While the initial response was favorable the league leaders were forced to search for substitute players each and every week. Therefore, the experiment showed there really isn't a commitment for summer leagues. Also, with the refurbishing of the courts up in the air, we will not attempt to have any summer leagues this summer.

MINI SINGLES SUCCESS!

The mini singles tournament was a huge success and many people have requested that we have mini singles leagues. We will attempt to do just that in the fall leagues. Stay tuned.

ORGANIZED BEGINNERS' PLAY

Another repeated request that we get is for some type of organized play for our beginning players and 2.0 Drills and Play participants. Our beginners are seeking players of similar skills to play together but they do not know each other. Heather Washik has volunteered and will be our "Beginner's Ambassador" in the fall to help organize beginning players to play together. PRP will rent court time specifically for these players to have their own time together as they learn the sport. Thank you Heather. Beginners stay tuned.

Below are some photos of our recent Drills and Play classes.

Pickle on...

Tom Ward



A special shout-out to the Pickle Plex for donating the medals that were awarded at our recent mini singles tournament.

Thank you Pickle Plex!!

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.

3.5 DRILLS & PLAY



3.0 DRILLS & PLAY



3.0 DRILLS & PLAY



2.0-2.5 DRILLS & PLAY



2.0-2.5 DRILLS & PLAY



UPCOMING 2022 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENTS

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

2022 MINTO US OPEN PICKLEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

If you attended the 2022 Minto US Open Pickleball Championship in Naples, congratulations on making it to one of the biggest pickleball parties on the planet. If you happened to miss out or just didn't get enough of the action, here's a YouTube link to some great US Open videos.

2022 MINTO US OPEN

For a full calendar of PRP events & details:

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

FOLLOW MAJOR LEAGUE PICKLEBALL NEWS HERE:

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



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

The Top 10 Pickleball Strategies to Beat a Pickleball Banger

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/the-top-10-pickleball-strategies-to-beat-a-pickleball-banger>

Top 10 Pickleball Tips for Players of All Levels

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/top-10-pickleball-tips-for-players-of-all-levels>

8 Strategies to Improve Your Pickleball Defense

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/8-strategies-to-improve-your-pickleball-defense>

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.

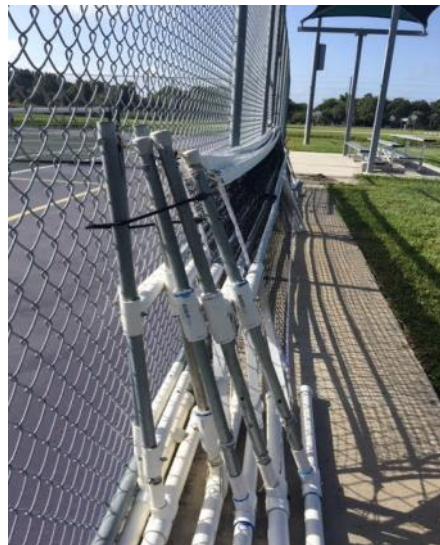


Pickleball Nets

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!