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The Pickle Vine

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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.

Chief Editor: Kellee Gabel - kellee-web@live.com

Tournament reporter : Maureen Blanton - mblanton116@gmail.com

MESSAGES FROM THE PRP BOARD

Deb Sarkisian, President

Dear Picklers,

Hope you are enjoying our Fall events which include leagues, skills and drills, drills and play and advanced clinics. Believe it or not this session is more than half over, but the good news is your Board is coming up with a whole new slate of many of your favorite events for January and March. Registration for these events will be early December and you will be notified by email. And wait...there's more good news. Many of our snowbird friends are making their way back to Florida to join us for fun and competitive play!! Welcome back everyone.

JANUARY 3, 2022 SESSION OF EVENTS - please be on the lookout for a mid-November email blast announcing the opening of registration for our upcoming January session of Leagues, Drills and Play and Advanced Clinics. In order to offer these events, we need your help. Please consider volunteering as a league leader or teacher for one of these offerings. We cannot do this without your help!! Training will be provided for all volunteers.

If you are interested in a league leader position, please contact Julie Franier at jafrainier@gmail.com or Ron Horton at aehtbeh114@gmail.com. If you can help as a teacher for our drills and play classes, please contact Tom Ward at rocknpickleball@gmail.com.

REMINDER – if you are a current member of Peace River Picklers, do not purchase a membership plan until you receive a system-generated email notifying you of your plan's expiration. If you wish to check to see when your membership expires, please log onto the PRP website, click on the upper right-hand corner on the drop-down arrow by your name and you will see My Subscriptions. Click on this to view your current plan and the date it expires. If you have any questions, please contact the Club.

continued...

MESSAGES FROM THE PRP BOARD

Deb Sarkisian, President

Christmas is right around the corner, so don't forget to [sign up for the PRP Christmas Party](#). It will be held December 12th at Twin Isles, from 5:00 – 10:00. Tickets are available on our website, along with all of the details. Please join us for food, dancing, comradery and even some great door prizes. I look forward to seeing all of you there!!

One final note, the terms for five of your seven board members are expiring on December 31, 2021. We will be electing new board members at our annual meeting in early January (date and location TBD). Our Nominating Committee is in place and ready to accept applications from interested parties, whether they be full or part-time Florida residents. If interested, please reach out to any of the following Committee members: Pete Parsil - pjpjuly44@gmail.com; Patti Pate – patti.pate@3ds.com or Karen Harrod – kkharrod@yahoo.com.

Thanks, and Happy Pickling!!



Deb Sarkisian



Skills and Drills Update

Tom Ward / PRP Director

PRP's **Skills and Drills** remains one of our most popular offerings. However, we are always looking for ways to improve the process. Currently, the PRP Board is considering changing **Skills and Drills** to "**Drills and Play**." That would be one hour of skill instruction with drilling, followed by 45 minutes of playing time to focus on that particular skill.

Going forward, PRP reserves the right to either find a better fit for a student in Drills and Play, or to issue a refund when a student has registered for a class that is clearly above his/her skill level.

Members need to be cognizant of what they are registering for. In other words, you should clearly be at a 3.5 skill level to register for a 3.5 class. It is not considerate of the other students when you are unable to drill and play at their skill level.

Not sure of your skill level?

[Click here to see how your game is stacking up.](#)

Reasons NOT to register for a particular Skills class:

"Tuesday is the only day I have in my schedule to take a class."

"The 3.0 class was full, so I registered for the 3.5 class."

"I wanted to be in the same class as my friend."

*"I wasn't sure what class to take,
so I signed up for both the 3.0 and 3.5 classes."*



Skills and Drills Update continued

Tom Ward / PRP Director

Frequently Asked Questions About PRP's Skills & Drills

Why are there so few slots available for the classes?

PRP is a volunteer organization. We offer classes per the number of qualified instructors that we have. When we have many interested instructors, we can offer more slots for classes. When a member signs up for a 6-week session knowing they will miss 2 or even 3 of the classes, they effectively block someone else, who would be present for all six sessions, from taking the class. Registration is based upon first come, first serve.

Why do I have 5 people on my court and the other courts only have 4?

We allow for extra students with the knowledge that some will miss a class from week to week. Every class has absent students. What we have observed is that class participation dwindles as the weeks go by. We have excellent instructors that travel from Sarasota to the north and Fort Myers to the south. It becomes discouraging when instructors are volunteering their time to help others and they have only 1 or 2 students show up. So, please only sign up if you are serious about taking all six classes.

Why do you not offer 4.0 advanced instruction?

4.0 advanced instruction will be offered again in the winter session.

Despite our challenges, the Skills classes we offer continue to receive rave reviews by participants. The fee charged is extremely reasonable for the quality of instruction presented.

Instructors Needed

We are gearing up for our next two 6-week sessions of Drills and Play. Those sessions will start on January 3 and then again on March 7. We need volunteer instructors for our 2.0, 3.0, and 3.5 skill levels. We would like to have the same instructors for all 6 weeks, if possible. However, we are also in need of substitute teachers that can fill in on short notice. The most important qualification is to have a positive attitude. The lesson plans are mapped out for each week.

Please contact Tom Ward at 269-375-7895 (talk or text) or email rocknpickleball@gmail.com, if you are interested or would like more information.

We need to hear from you now to prepare for the January 3 session.

Tom Ward / PRP Director

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Board Nominations are OPEN!!

Do you love pickleball and have a strong desire to improve and advance pickleball in both the club and the community in general? If so, please consider becoming a member of our board of directors. It's an opportunity to make a real difference.

We have five upcoming openings on our Board of Directors. Two members will remain. We're seeking dedicated individuals willing to put their time and talents toward the continued betterment of the Peace River Picklers. Full and part-time residents are eligible for Director vacancies; however, you must be a full-time resident to hold either the President or Vice-President position.

Elections will be held at our Annual Member's meeting (date TBD for early January, 2022)

If interested, contact any member of our Nominating Committee on or before **December 1**.

Patti Pate - patti.pate@3ds.com

Pete Parsil - pjpjuly44@gmail.com

Karen Harrod - kkharrod@yahoo.com

PEACE RIVER PICKLERS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--|
| President | Deb Sarkisian | debsarkisian@aol.com |
| Vice President | Jean McGee | jmmcgee@comcast.net |
| Secretary | Laurie Price | lauriep81@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Heather Washik | hwashik@att.net |
| Directors | | |
| | Bruce McPhee | bjmcphee@me.com |
| | Mary Stewart | marytomstewart@gmail.com |
| | Tom Ward | rocknpickleball@gmail.com |





PEACE RIVER PICKLERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Date: December 12th | Time: 5 pm (check in) to 10 pm

Where: Twin Isles Country Club

Price: \$45 / person

Tickets Available Online October 1, 2021

Includes Appetizers (5:30 pm) and Buffet Style Dinner (6:30 pm)

Vegetarian meals available

Cash Bar

Music & Dancing 7 pm to 10 pm

Entertainment by Escape

Festive Attire

NO REFUNDS after November 28, 2021

That is the 2 week cut off before the event.

There is still time to sign up... [click here](#)



Twin Isles Country Club 310 Madrid Blvd, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

UPCOMING SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENTS

Veteran's Day Tribute....Naples, FL 11/11-12/2021

American Pickleball Endless Summer Series....Punta Gorda, FL 11/12-11/14/2021

The Fall Brawl....Fort Myers 11/19-21/2021

American Pickleball Sundial Resort....Sanibel, FL 12/03-05/2021

Florida Challenger....Bonita Springs, FL 12/09-12/2021

The Holiday Paddle Battle....Fort Myers, FL 12/17-19/2021

Sanibel Island Pickleball Classic....Sanibel Island, FL 01/07-01/09/22

American Pickleball Endless Summer Series....Punta Gorda, FL 01/14-01/16/2022

Naples Pickleball Center Championship....Naples, FL 02/04-02/06/2022

Florida Satellite PeakPerformance Pickleball Academy...Naples, FL 02/17-02/20/2022

2022 APP Punta Gorda—40K Pickleplex...Punta Gorda, FL 02/23-02/27/2022

PPA Florida Grand Slam — Pickleplex...Punta Gorda, FL 03/08-03/13/2022

More info on these and other tournaments can be found at:

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

Members, if you have recently placed in a tournament, especially if it was not in Punta Gorda, please email Maureen Blanton at mblanton116@gmail.com.

Please provide your name, name of tournament, the event entered and placement.

Wherever you may be, you can find a tournament near you by visiting:

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

For a full calendar of PRP events & details:

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

For Pickleplex® events & details:

<https://www.pickleplex.org/calendar>

<https://www.pickleplex.org/>

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, 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 include the following subjects:

Learn to Attack with This Sneaky Pickleball Shot

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/learn-to-attack-with-this-sneaky-pickleball-shot>

The Skill You Need to Slow Down Pickleball Bangers

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/the-skill-you-need-to-slow-down-pickleball-bangers>

Try These 2 Things the Next Time Your Mind Wanders on the Court

<http://www.pickleballuniversity.com/home/try-these-2-things-the-next-time-your-mind-wanders-on-the-court>

A little pickleball humor...

*What do you call the lady
in the middle of the pickleball court?*

...Annette

PROFESSIONAL PICKLEBALL PLAYER

Note: Numerous groups rank the pros and all do not agree.

See the basis for rankings in the following two organizations.

**Top pro rankings as listed by the Professional Pickleball Association as of 10/28/2021,
now known as the Franklin PPA Player Rankings.**

Ranking based on player results in tournaments on the PPA Grand Slam Tour.

| Player | Points | | Player | Points |
|---------------------|--------|--|---------------------|--------|
| Men's Singles | | | Women's Doubles | |
| Ben Johns | 5750 | | Simone Jardim | 6100 |
| Jay Devilliers | 2700 | | Lucy Kovalova | 5850 |
| Tyson McGuffin | 2590 | | Catherine Parenteau | 3650 |
| Women's Singles | | | | |
| Catherine Parenteau | 3380 | | Mixed Doubles | |
| Lea Jansen | 2877 | | Simone Jardim | 5450 |
| Simone Jardim | 2450 | | Ben Johns | 5450 |
| Men's Doubles | | | Lucy Kovalova | 4150 |
| Ben Johns | 5550 | | Matt wright | 4150 |
| Matt Wright | 4500 | | Riley Newman | 3336 |
| Tyson McGuffin | 3525 | | | |

Top Pro Rankings as listed by Pickleball Global as of 10/28/2021

Ranking based on the best 12 tournament results during the last 52 weeks.

| Player | Points | | Player | Points |
|---------------------|--------|--|---------------------|--------|
| Men's Singles | | | Women's Doubles | |
| Tyson McGuffin | 17000 | | Simone Jardim | 12700 |
| Ben Johns | 16400 | | Lucy Kovalova | 12000 |
| Zane Navratil | 15600 | | Catherine Parenteau | 11300 |
| Women's Singles | | | | |
| Catherine Parenteau | 11800 | | Mixed Doubles | |
| Lea Jansen | 10300 | | Simone Jardim | 17800 |
| Anna Leigh Waters | 7800 | | Benjamin Johns | 16200 |
| Men's Doubles | | | Catherine Parenteau | 14800 |
| Ben Johns | 16600 | | Matt Wright | 14400 |
| Tyson McGuffin | 15800 | | Lucia Kovalova | 14400 |
| Collin Johns | 14500 | | Tyson McGuffin | 12800 |

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 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|

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 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|



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.

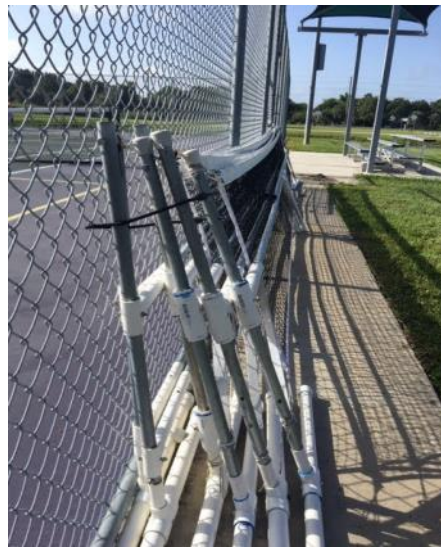


Pickleball Nets

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!