



# The Pickle Vine

Volume 2, Issue 7  
May/June 2020



## Future Events

Mother's Day 	May 10
Memorial Day 	May 25
Father's Day 	June 21
LevelUp Pickleball Camp (with Tyson McGuffin). Signup online @ LevelUp	Oct 16, 17, 18
Halloween Hallow PicklePlex® Tournament	Oct 31- Nov 1
World Championships @ PicklePlex®	Dec 16-20
APP Master's Tournament @ PicklePlex®	Jan 6-10, 2021



## Covid-19 Brings Our World to its Knees!

Seriously, three months ago we could not have imagined our lives today and how different it would be and may continue to be for some time. The change was abrupt and drastic, but necessary. We are all feeling the life changes because of Covid-19 and are all doing our part to keep this nasty virus from spreading. Stay safe and healthy!!

## BUT WAIT... WE HAVE NEWS!!!

We hope this publication finds you in good health and looking forward to getting back on the courts. We thought this might be an abbreviated newsletter but as we shared information and ideas, we are happy to present you with 9 pages of hold-your-breath news!!! While we do not know the timing of our return to the courts, we know it will happen. Allow us to share some information and give each other hope for what will be.

Our very good news is that our next issue (July/August) will be coming to you from a new team of very capable and enthusiastic writers and we are so excited for you to meet them, get to know them, and help them to produce a great newsletter.

We introduce Katie Gove, Jack Laflamme, and Maureen Blanton as they take the reins for the next issue, which will include an introduction from each of them. Welcome aboard, kids!!!



Katie Gove



Jack Laflamme



Maureen Blanton

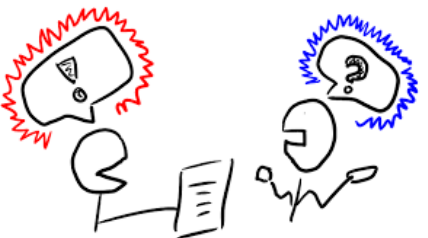
## PEACE RIVER PICKLERS

### Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Peace River Picklers, Inc. pickleball club is to promote pickleball through education, clinics, and competitive tournaments to residents of Charlotte County and surrounding areas as well as providing opportunities for competitive and social pickleball activities. Our overall theme is to encourage sportsmanship and camaraderie through fun and exercise.

And.... while we have the opportunity and a little space, Ginny and I would like to take a moment to thank the membership for putting up with our foolishness over the last two years. We've had a ball and we have appreciated your submissions, your participation in our contests, and especially your compliments along our journey as the first Pickle Vine news editors. Pickle on, people! Let's play PICKLEBALL!!!

Sue Meyer & Ginny MacDonald





# PRP COMMUNITY PAGE



## A Word From PRP's BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

To our Peace River Pickler Members:

Hoping this article finds all of our members healthy and safe. It's been a long three weeks and a bit unsettling as we continue to move through the COVID-19 process. I want you all to know that the PRP board continues to stay focused on our mission and we will get through this together!!

As a result of this pandemic having us all under "quarantine", the board now has more time to spend working on PRP's strategy via "Zoom" technology!! This technology has allowed us to have numerous virtual planning meetings taking into account a significant amount of YOUR feedback provided in the member survey.

Our priorities are to develop enhancements to our website to ensure members have ease of access and a positive experience. In addition, we are rebalancing our Leagues, taking a deeper dive into Educational programs/formats, and mapping out our social plan. It's still a work-in-progress, and it's been a significant amount of work, but we are beginning to see the process evolve.

We will continue to keep you updated, and look forward to seeing everyone back on the courts hopefully soon!!!

Please stay safe!!!!

Deb Sarkisian & PRP Board of Directors

## WHAT THE PROS ARE DOING DURING THE QUARANTINE

There are a number of ways we can all stay engaged if we choose to. There is a multitude of videos and podcasts that can help us with new drills, while being entertained by our favorite pros.

**Simone Jardim (and husband Chad Edwards)** have an awesome set of YouTube videos that are posted on their Facebook page. Some are drills you can do alone or with a household member and some are a series of exercises that she does, or ones that she challenges other pros to do along with her via social media). It is all fun, and you soon realize WHY she is the queen of pickleball! She does this from the comfort of her home and invites others to join her (Ben Johns, Dekel Bar, Kyle Yates, Irena Terashenko, her kids, and an occasional dog!).

**Mark Renneson**, from **Third Shot Sports**, is doing a daily podcast called the PB Drop that typically begins at 1pm EST and is quite informative. Find that by searching for Mark Renneson on Facebook or Instagram.

**Sarah Ansbury** has also released some exercises that she invites to do with her, helping us stay in shape. Find them by searching for her Facebook page!

**Aspen Kern** has hosted a few contests on his Facebook Pickleball Forum, as has many other Pros who have goodies to share.

**Jemuel Morris** has a fantastic set of exercises that help with hand-eye coordination. [https://youtu.be/Oo16PQu\\_LeM](https://youtu.be/Oo16PQu_LeM) He promises more to follow.

Also posted on the Pickleball Forum in Facebook are a number of **Glenn Lucey** videos that are fun to watch, some long and excellent rallies. Some have added voiceovers, poking fun at other players. There are also some humorous videos of pets, pros imitating other pros, and players trying to find fun ways to entertain us. No shortage of stuff there.

Facebook added a relatively new site, **Pickleball Lifer**, with new videos of suggested drills and ways to practice.

And of course, there are our local Facebook pages sharing information and messages while we are all quarantined.

**PEACE RIVER PICKLERS**

**PICKLEPLEX OF PUNTA GORDA AT FSW**

**Pickle on, friends !**

# SUMMARY OF PRP'S 2020 EDUCATION PROGRAM

**By Sue Meyer and Lin Coe**

Our Educational Program was proposed by the Education Team and approved by the PRP Board in early December and provided classes from January to mid-March. The second session was proposed and approved in late February but was interrupted by the COVID-19 quarantine. The whole second session was canceled shortly after, and our pickleball life came to a very sudden stop. PRP is offering a refund, you are welcome to request that via email PRP through the website. A big thanks to many players that donated their registration fee back into the Education Program. As always, any donation will go a long way to support our expenses for class materials, evaluations, balls and equipment, etc.

The overall program had the participation of 9 lead instructors and more than 20 coaches. It was an extraordinary effort, and we thank each of you for all your time and dedication. You were the real heroes in this program!! And you are the reason for our high satisfaction responses.

Students received a course evaluation form the last day of class and that summary was reported to the Board, along with our final report. These evaluations will be very helpful as we make improvements for next season. The overwhelming response from students was that they were satisfied with the classes, felt the courses were extremely helpful or beneficial, and also saw significant improvement in their skills. Thanks to all those who participated in our classes and in helping to evaluate them.

	# of Players	# of additional Wait-listed	Cancelled for Pandemic
3-day Intro to Pickleball	32	11	8
Skills & Drills for Novice—2.0	16	9	16
Skills & Drills 2.5-3.0	16	9	0
Skills & Drills, Women 2.5-3.0	16	5	20
Skills & Drills 3.5+	24	2	15
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>59</b>





## SUMMARY OF PRP'S 2020 LEAGUE PROGRAM

By Bruce McPhee

We introduced a new league format this year for several of our leagues, called a Round Robin. For the first session, the Round Robin was for leagues with specific skill levels and we utilized 4 courts. Each of the 16 players played with every other player twice, and against all other players twice. We tracked the wins and losses and had a playoff in the final week to determine the overall league champion. This format was well received, and feedback told us that players enjoyed this type of play. We will continue to offer this format in the future.

We also introduced a Ladder format this year, whereas an algorithm (Excel based spreadsheet) helped to determine a player rating between 0 and 100, based on which court was played on, the number of points, wins, and point differential. This was mostly used by the advanced skill levels and was also well received. We will also be continuing this format in the future.

In our first session, we had 17 different leagues! The skill levels ranged from Novice through 4.0+, and were held at South County or PicklePlex®. Four leagues were Round Robins and 5 were Ladder leagues. The rest of the leagues utilized a Shootout format, which was introduced in 2018. This first session of leagues was very successful, drawing more than 400 players!

Our second session unfortunately ran into the Covid-19 situation and we ended up having to cancel everything. But we were ready to go with 14 leagues with more than 350 players registered and playing at least 1 week. We had 6 Round Robin and 3 Ladder leagues. We also expanded one of the Round Robin leagues from 16 to 32 players, which ended up being a challenge to schedule... it didn't work out as nicely as the 16 player format. Hopefully we will iron out those wrinkles by the time leagues start up again.

When we were ordered off the courts we were not sure how long the postponement would be, who would have guessed this long? But many players offered their registration fee as a donation to the League Program. Thus, we did not send out blanket refunds. However, if you decide you would like a refund or partial refund, send an e-mail to Andrea Gately ([56agately@gmail.com](mailto:56agately@gmail.com)) and she will process that for you. We thank you all for your generous donations that will help our future endeavors. As of right now, we are not sure when we will be able to start our next rotation of leagues.

I would like to thank all of the league leaders and the participants. Without the leaders, we can not offer leagues. Look for our future schedule in an upcoming Pickle Vine! And as always.... Your willingness to be a league leader is always welcome!



Rest up, Buttercup! We will be back soon!





# Miscellaneous Announcements

I  Pickleball!!



Send us some family pics...



shutterstock.com • 1675145770

HELP!!!! We know picklers are a creative, determined group...so we know you have found some unique ways to stay fit during these difficult times. Some of you have shared on social media how as families you have kept our sport alive! Please send us some pictures of your new exercise routines, your drillings and games during quarantine and social distancing.

We would love to include these in our next issue!



A picture is worth a thousand words....



2-Woman Canal Parade on Easter morning. Our Pickleballers know how to have fun!





## THE CHALLENGE!



Talk about a literary challenge! Producing a pickleball newsletter when there is no pickleball has to be right up there. But here we are, needing to give it a valiant attempt. And we could start by focusing a bit on the reason that we have no pickleball—this coronavirus thing.

While our pickleball lives have undoubtedly been altered by the coronavirus, another aspect that has been changed forever is our vocabulary. Several months ago, how many of the following terms would have been a part of your daily conversations? Probably very few. Yet today, here we are, used to hearing them and even conversant with most of them. So, let's just look at some of these recent additions to our daily word usage. It really is a fascinating little review:

apex	asymptomatic	chloroquine	CDC	community spread	contact tracing
Coronavirus	covid-19	curbside pickup	distance learning		
doorstep delivery	elbow bumping	epidemiology	exponential		
flatten the curve	furlough	immunity	immunocompromised		
incubation period	isolation	lockdown	mitigation	N95	pandemic
physical distancing	quarantine	respirator	shelter in place		
social distancing	ventilator	WHO	Wuhan	Zoom	

The impact on our beloved game, as we all know, has been Wow! For some of us, it is now daily walks, bike rides, hallway pickleball, parking lot pickleball....anything to stay active and hopefully retain some of our hard-earned energy level and court skills. To this, we can add the increasing abundance of online videos by some well-known pickleball pros with tips and suggestions for maintaining your game without being on a court, as indicated in page 2.

The social loss has also been significant. Many of those smiling faces on the courts, some who were friends known only by their first name, are now gone from our daily contacts. Thankfully, technology has given us the means to continue these relationships with online text and video resources like Skype, Zoom, Google Duo, Apple FaceTime, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, Snapchat and numerous email apps. For most of us, these avenues would be another learning experience (like the vocabulary words), but worth undertaking in order to “stay in touch”.

For now, our sport is on a hiatus as far as active court play is concerned. Still, as new members of the editorial staff, we are proud to be part of the pickleball community and thankful for the opportunity to help maintain and grow this amazing sport. And, we will work to “keep the fires burning” here in The Pickle Vine.



....*Jack Laflamme*



## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE...



While the coronavirus has us off the pickleball courts and somewhat down in the dumps, we do have some points of light available. Check out some of these online sources that should help to brighten the day:

(Hold control down while clicking on link)

Pickleball music can set the mood:

<https://www.jigsawhealth.com/blog/i-wanna-dink-with-somebody-whitney-houston-parody-song-about-pickleball-funnyfriday/>

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Pickleball pro Dave Fleming with how to “rally” in these times:

<https://www.facebook.com/dave.fleming.7737/videos/10158200022609031/>

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Coach Mo with tips on how to practice indoors:

<https://youtu.be/0gUtmUqSQWk>

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Sports coach Dayne Gingrich attempting to escape for pickleball:

[https://www.facebook.com/dayne.gingrich/videos/vb.1090420381/10215398542852021/?type=2&video\\_source=user\\_video\\_tab](https://www.facebook.com/dayne.gingrich/videos/vb.1090420381/10215398542852021/?type=2&video_source=user_video_tab)

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Quarantine humor with Nik Waddell on TikTok

<https://www.tiktok.com/@nikatlwaddell/video/6806026909391047941?lang=en>

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**Halloween Hallow**



**Pickleball Tournament**

***October 31– November 1, 2020***

***26300 Airport Road***

***Punta Gorda, FL 33950***

**Registration Fee: \$40, plus \$10  
for each event**

- *Ages and levels may be combined if less than 4 teams*
- Round Robin Format



**Deadline: October 24, 2020, must be paid by deadline to participate**

**Ball: Dura Fast 40**

**Go to [Pickleballtournaments.com](http://Pickleballtournaments.com) to register**