



Kitchen Talk

Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter

August–September

FROM THE PRESIDENT



August has been the typical brutal hot month, but the pickleball courts remain pretty full! That speaks to our dedicated members and how much FUN it is to play. In fact, our courts have been pretty full in the evenings as well with a little social gathering typically finishing the night. AND it's all fun.

Speaking of fun, how 'bout our new social director, Sharon (Shaz). As I'm sure you're all aware, she has put together our first Wriggley's get-together (which will be the 1st Tuesday of each month) and has touted our evening get-together's on the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings of the month between courts 4 & 5.

Switching gears a little, several members have been asking about the new "Queen's Tract" courts, so I thought I'd update y'all as to what we know at this point. We are told that the courts will be built before the other amenities and is still scheduled to be finished by the end of the calendar year. Court usage is still being discussed and we have had numerous suggestions from our members.

One decision that has been made by the Board is to move all training to the new courts. That means we will also move Simon/Simone to these courts for training. At this juncture, the Board is still discussing other possibilities. For example, if we move the ball machines, then maybe we should purchase another for use on court 6. One other idea that has been proposed is the use of the courts for rated players by giving them dedicated court time. For example, dedicated time for beginners and for advanced rated players. However, this would mean our club would have to establish a rating system and a rating committee. There are obvious pros and cons to this system which is why we are still discussing them.



FROM THE PRESIDENT CONT'D.



The picture shows the clearing for the 4 courts in the background. The cleared area in the foreground is for the bathrooms and water (chilled) fountain.

One other thing I would like to inform our club about is the submitted plan for improvements to our courts and adjacent areas. We learned that a plan had to be submitted to the Property and Grounds Committee for approval before any approved items go to David Hahn for budgeting and implementation. This has now been done and we are waiting to hear from the Property and Grounds Committee. Included in our requests were items such as addressing the more severe cracks on our courts, placing additional tables and chairs at our existing and new courts, adding shaded cover for the bench areas of courts 5 & 6, as well as upgrading the existing water fountain near court 3 to one that has chilled water. We will keep everyone informed as to what items have been approved and which ones we will have to continue to pursue.

With all that, may the cloud cover increase and the line gods be with you.....

Hutch

"THE DEPRESSING THING ABOUT PICKLEBALL IS THAT NO MATTER HOW GOOD I GET, I'LL NEVER BE AS GOOD AS A WALL." (WITH APOLOGIES TO MITCH HEDBERG)



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

On Wednesday, July 12th a general meeting of the SCTPC was held with a good turnout in the Jarrell/Walburg Room at Cowan Creek. Thanks to everyone who attended and participated in our discussions. Your voice matters! Here is a link to the minutes from that meeting - [Meeting Minutes](#)

SUNSHINE AMBASSADOR

Pat Hall, volunteer extraordinaire, has offered to be our SCTPC "Sunshine Ambassador." Pat will be bringing cheer to our members who have suffered injuries on the pickleball courts. Thanks to Pat for taking on this mission!



CLUB CALENDAR UPDATED

We've updated our SCTPC Calendar online and will also be posting it on our bulletin board by the courts. This should help members remember when drills, classes, events, meetings, etc. are being held. Click [Club Calendar](#) to check out the online version.



SAVE THE DATES

"BIG BOPPER" CHARITY TOURNAMENT

The first-ever "Big Bopper" Pentathlon will be held on September 25-28 right here in Sun City. It features 5 events: Pickleball, Putting, Horseshoes, Bocce and Water Volleyball. A different event will be held each day. On Thursday, September 28th there will be an After-Tourney Covered Dish Social held at Cowan Creek. All proceeds from the Big Bopper will be donated to Georgetown Animal Shelter and the Caring Place. Stay tuned for more details on how to register for the tournament and/or the social event.

2ND ANNUAL SUN CITY SHOWDOWN AND SHRIMP BOIL

Save Saturday, October 14th, for our annual Fall Pickleball Tournament, followed by the always-popular Shrimp Boil at Cowan Creek Pavilion. Details on how to register to play in the tournament and/or attend the Shrimp Boil will be coming soon in a Pickleball Newsflash.

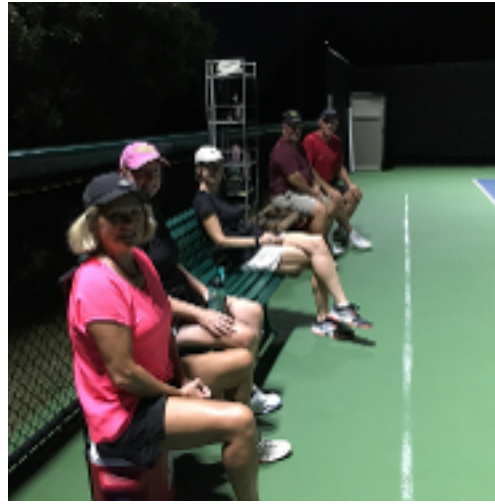


"DINKS, CHOW AND CHAT"

Shaz Douglas, our new and very energetic Social Chairman, is busy organizing all sorts of new events for SCTPC. The first "Dinks, Chow and Chat" was held at Wriggley's on August 1st and was a big hit. So mark your calendar for the first Tuesday of every month (same time - 2:00 pm, same place) for more fun!



AROUND THE COURTS



The courts were hopping at the first "BYO Dinks and Paddles" event sponsored by the social committee. Come on down on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 8:00 - 10:00 pm to join the fun.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Ed Cahill

Debra Cobb

Gregg Donde

Steve Dulle

William Francis

Wayne Giles

Jim Hamilton

Don Hankey

Kris Hooks

Dave Lampl

Vicki Lampl

Dan Leffingwell

Ilene McCarroll

Larry McCarroll

Laurine Moon

James Podnar

Karla Podnar

Rob Puetz

Sue Puetz

Sylvia Sjoberg

Annette Thurmond

James Trowbridge



LEAGUES & TRAINING

"DROP-IN" LEAGUES - 1:00 PM

Fall Leagues will run 8 weeks from September 11 through November 3 starting at 1:00 pm. Format is round robin - 3 games to 11 points.

Beginners (2.0 to 2.9) - Mondays

Intermediate (3.0 to 3.4) - Wednesdays

Advanced (3.5 and above) - Fridays

These are "drop-in" leagues. All you have to do is show up and sign up (first come, first served). About 30 minutes before start time a sign-up sheet will be available. After all players (up to a total of 24) have signed up, there is a random draw for court assignments.

INTRO TO PICKLEBALL CLASSES

Classes are scheduled twice a month on Saturdays from 3:00 to 5:00. Classes are currently scheduled for September 9 and September 23. You do not need to be a Club member to take this class. Equipment is provided.

BEGINNER MENTORING

There are still a few openings for Beginner Mentoring classes starting on September 9. This is a four-week program on Saturdays from 1:00 to 3:00. Players need to commit to being present all four weeks.

BEGINNER SKILLS AND DRILLS

Beginner Skills and Drills will start on Thursday, September 14 and continue for five weeks through October 12.

9/14 - Forehand & Backhand Groundstrokes,

9/21 - Volleys

9/28 - Dinks

10/05 - Lobs

10/12 - Overhead, Defend Smash, Dropshots

INTERMEDIATE TRAINING

Next class dates are scheduled from 9/30/17 - 10/7/17. The class is full. Class size is limited to 12 participants. There is a wait list for these classes. Before requesting to be added to the wait-list, please review the minimum prerequisites:

- 1) Participants must have completed the Beginners' Mentoring Program (waiverable), **played pickleball in Sun City for at least 6 months, and participated in the Club's Intermediate League.**
- 2) Should know 100% of basic rules
- 3) Can execute basic shot strokes (serve, forehand, backhand, volley, dink, lob, overhead smash)
- 4) Can maintain slow-paced rallies with players of equal ability
- 5) Can routinely get to the NVZ to hit volleys
- 6) Are strategic about how and where to hit the ball
- 7) Understand court coverage
- 8) Can work with his/her partner to win a point

FOR MORE INFO OR TO SIGN UP

If you are interested in any of the training classes, please send an email to Peg O'Toole, Director of Player Development, at jgmlo@yahoo.com.



JUNIOR CAMP



Summer Camp 2017: Some of our member's grandkids participated (upper pics), Tons-O-Fun on the courts, and Braden from the Lil Doggies says he became an instant Pickleball fan.

"I like when we get to play a sport like pickleball or table tennis, and I like swimming."
- Braden Lili Doggies

Big kudos to Janice Cozart and her committee for their excellent job with Junior Camp. Many thanks to the following volunteers: Tom Hobbs, CJ Jamison, Ron Longino, Bill Tomlinson, Ron D'Entremont, Pat Hall, Sandy Gilmore, David Persilver, Jack Reeves, Colin Murphy, Mike Boothe, Ashley Shelton, Laura Cozart Shelton.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



JANICE COZART

Janice Cozart can often be seen at our Sun City courts, either playing, taking drills or helping out at events wherever she is needed. Her superb organizational skills resulted in a hugely successful Junior Summer Camp experience for many Sun City grandchildren this year. Thanks so much Janice!

In her own words.....

We were one of 21 organizations in Sun City that participated in this Jr Camp experience for our grandchildren. There are 200 volunteers from the area. It is a wonderful experience to allow grandchildren from 7 to 11 years to participate in all that Sun City offers its residence. They provide a wonderful breakfast and lunch (from HEB). The children love it! I know from first

hand experience since I have had two grandchildren for two years. There is such demand that participation is by drawing. All information about the camp starts in the Sun Rays magazine in November.

Our team did a wonderful job. It was a grueling 4 hrs in the summer heat to teach pickleball to 160 grandchildren. It was a fun time for the kids; and, a rewarding event for our team!

I am a native Texan born and raised in San Antonio. However, because of my husband's employment, we have lived in many different states. We have three children - 2 boys and one girl. I have eight grandchildren from age 23 to 6 years. Sadly, I lost my husband to a brain tumor in 2003. We married young, so for the first time in my life I was totally alone. At the urging of my daughter, Laura, I moved to Sun City 3 years ago. It is closer to her as she lives in Round Rock and I was in the Houston area. I was not aware of pickleball and in fact had never played any ball sport like that. I love the sport. Starting a sport like this at this age, I may be a forever novice. The only sport I participated in was bowling. The highlight of that venture is I won the women's highest scoring in a bowling event in Paris, France. It was a company event sponsored by husband's employer, Schlumberger Ltd. Being employed by an international company we traveled throughout much of the world. I am a retired Certified Travel Consultant.

I am so happy to be here and to know such wonderful people in the pickleball club. I feel a need to give back to the club that means so much to me.



TOURNAMENT NEWS

CEDAR PARK CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Cedar Park Championships will be held on Thursday, October 26 through Sunday, October 29 at the Cedar Park Rec Center. There are both "age" and "open" events. This is a USAPA Sanctioned Tournament. There are age events for 50+ on both Thursday and Friday with slots still open for teams. Some "Open" events are already full, but check the tournament listing on PickleballTournaments.com to find out more info here - Cedar Park Championships.



CEDAR PARK



LEAGUE CITY PICKLEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The League City Pickleball Championships will be held on Thursday, September 7 through Sunday, September 10. This USAPA Sanctioned Tournament features skill-based events. Click League City Pickleball Championships to find out more at PickleballTournaments.com.

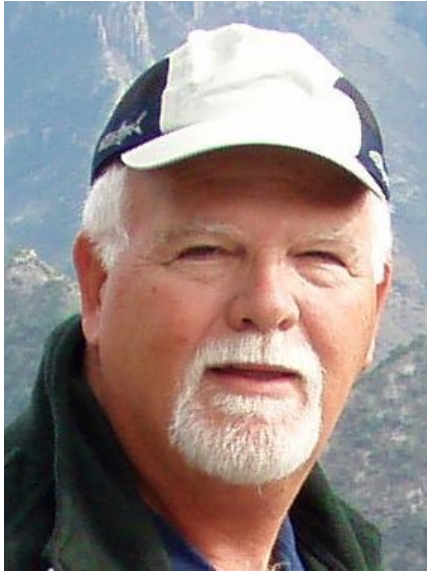
TOURNEY RESULTS

Barb Patterson teamed up with a tennis friend from Chicago to grab the silver medal for 60+ 4.0 Women at the Great Lakes Regional Tournament held in Kalamazoo, Michigan at the end of July.





FROM OUR DISTRICT AMBASSADOR



Almost daily someone on the USAPA Ambassadors Forum post a query about the interpretation of one of the rules. This week it was about a ball that bounces

back over the net without being struck by the opponents and lands 'off the court' on the side where it was originally struck. Well, the answer is that it doesn't matter. Section 12.J.4. is very explicit - "If a player hits the ball over the net into the opponent's court, and then the ball bounces back over the net without being touched by the opponent, the striking player wins the rally."

The Non-Volley Zone (NVZ) seems to generate the most questions. This is surprising to me because the rule (Section 9) is very straight forward and unambiguous and goes into a lot of detail to explain some of the 'what if' situations. One of these situations that surprises many experienced players happens when dinking. As the ball comes over the net and a player crouching outside of the NVZ scrapes his paddle in the NVZ and then

lifts it out to volley the ball. If you only look at Section 9. D., "... If a player has touched the non-volley zone for any reason, that player cannot volley the return until both feet have made contact with the playing surface completely outside the non-volley zone.", you might argue that the player was in the NVZ and then left as soon as the paddle was no longer in contact with the ground and both feet were outside the NVZ. However, because the player's scraping paddle was part of the swing it is a violation and the fault is clearly described in Section 9.B., "IFP Comment: The act of volleying the ball includes the swing, the follow-through, and the momentum from the action. If the paddle touches the non-volley zone during the swing, it is a fault regardless of whether the touch occurred before or after contacting the ball."

I always enjoy the rules discussions on the forum or with club members because I invariably learn something new or get a different perspective on a particular situation. Feel free to ask me when you have rule questions and when you have the time, ask me about the rule that would eject you from a double-elimination tournament after only one loss.

And as a special treat, here's a link to the latest issue of "**PICKLEBALL MAGAZINE**"....



SECOND ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL BRINGS THE FAMILY TOGETHER

For the 141 club members who attended the Second Annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, 25 June 2017, from 6:30 – 8:00 pm, it was not your typical night of sitting at home and watching summer reruns on TV. Nope, for these folks it was an evening of social engagement, ice cream eating and, of course, pickleball.



Colin Bludau looks on as Barbara Carter and Toni Briggs prepare a root beer float.

Unfortunately, it wasn't all cherries and whipped cream for Toni Briggs, the event organizer. She spent the better part of the afternoon staring at the sky, pacing and wringing her hands. The weather channel predicted a 40% chance of rain, while black clouds hung overhead and intermittent showers randomly attacked Sun City neighborhoods. At 3 pm Toni made the bold decision to hold the event regardless. She scurried to HEB to pick up the ice cream, while her team of volunteers set up tables and decorations outside Courts 5 and 6. About 5 minutes prior to start time, a light shower blew through – wet enough to force pickleball players off the courts for about 30 minutes, but not enough to chase away social participants who were anxiously lining up at the registration table. Following the shower, the sun came out, yielding heat and humidity – perfect conditions for ice cream floats and sundaes. Toni reports a 14% increase in the number of participants over last year. Members and their guests managed to consume 4 ½ gallons of vanilla, 2 gallons of chocolate and 1 ½ gallons of strawberry ice cream; 5 gallons of

root beer, 4 cans of whipped cream and an assortment of nuts, syrups, and fruit toppings. Many chose to work off the calories with pickleball, while others just relaxed and enjoyed the relaxing environment and sense of community. Clearly, a smile was found in every scoop of ice cream.



Club members mingle and converse, while others watch pickleball games on the courts.

As with all Club events, this day would not have been possible without the support of our volunteer members. Thanks so much to Toni Briggs, the event coordinator, and the following team of volunteers who gave of their time: Colin Bludau, Kathy Carr, Barbara Carter, Bob Cleaver, Diane Cleaver, Antoinette Costello, John Costello, Janice Cozart, Sharon Douglas, Darius Plantz, Georgia Wahlquist, Justice Wahlquist, and Judy Worth.



Having completed her registration duties, Janice Cozart and friends engage in a game of pickleball.

Article and photos submitted by Kathy Carr

ODDS AND ENDS



PATTIE'S GIFT

Pattie Black received "the lesson of a lifetime" as a birthday gift from her husband, Larry, in July in Madison, WI. Yep - that's "The Badger" Dave Weinbach, (one of the top pros in the country) with her in these photos. Look out SCTPC members - when Pattie comes back she's probably going to wow us with her new-found skills!

OVERHEARD AT THE COURTS

Have you ever had that urge to tell a fellow Pball player what they're doing wrong, how they can improve, what they need to do better, etc? Well, after I listened to some stories and complaints at the courts recently, I'd recommend resisting that urge to be a pickleball coach unless you meet these two requirements:

- 1) The person directly asked for your advice, help or coaching;
- 2) You both believe that you are the better player.

Otherwise it's best to just keep those coaching instincts in check and concentrate on your own game.



Just one question - where did they find these pickleball "onesies?"

ODDS AND ENDS CONT'D.

COLD PACKS

Occasionally we have injuries on our courts and we need to break out the First Aid Kits and grab the Instant Cold Packs. A few people have had problems getting them to work, so Dave and Maggie Manley suggest the following:

- 1) Don't smash it on the ground. That doesn't work!
- 2) Do press your thumbs firmly into the middle of the pouch to break the inner pouch.
- 3) Remember to throw the cold pack away after use; these are "one-time" items.



TWINS?



We still have a lot to look forward to, however who decided that the peak age for Pickleball is 58?



JOKES AND FUN STUFF!

George Phillips, an elderly man from Walled Lake, Michigan, was going up to bed, when his wife told him that he'd left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window. George opened the back door to go turn off the light, but saw that there were people in the shed stealing things. He phoned the police, who asked "Is someone in your house?" He said "No," but some people are breaking into my garden shed and stealing from me." Then the police dispatcher said "All patrols are busy, you should lock your doors and an officer will be along when one is available" George said, "Okay." He hung up the phone and counted to 30. Then he phoned the police again. "Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed. Well, you don't have to worry about them now because I just shot and killed them both; the dogs are eating them right now," and he hung up. Within five minutes, six Police Cars, a SWAT Team, a Helicopter, two Fire Trucks, a Paramedic and an Ambulance showed up at the Phillips' residence, and caught the burglars red-handed. One of the Policemen said to George, "I thought you said that you'd shot them!" George said, "I thought you said there was nobody available!" (True Story) Don't mess with old people. *(Submitted by VA Miller)*

"Time is like a river. You cannot touch the water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again. Enjoy every moment of life. As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the Nova Scotia back country. As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions.

I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch. I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late. I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played my heart and soul out for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man.

And as I played "Amazing Grace," the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, and we all wept together. When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head was hung low, my heart was full.

As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen anything like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years." *(Submitted by Chuck Flanagan)*

2017 SCTPC BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGERS

President - Hutch

Vice President - Bill Chalmers

Secretary - Judy Blackman

Treasurer - Kathy Goodall

Player Development Director - Peg O'Toole

Communications Director - Barb Patterson

Maintenance Manager - Bob Cleaver

Pickleball Machine Coordinator - Lee Miller

Social Committee Chair - Sharon Douglas

Sunshine Ambassador - Pat Hall