



# Kitchen Talk

*Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter*

## February

### FROM THE PRESIDENT



Wouldn't you know it? I invoke the sacred name of Murphy, feel he hasn't had anything to do with our club, so I declare that the new Courts are done! Boy, was I wrong. The new courts may effectively be done, but the continued construction in the area apparently continues to be an issue so that we cannot use the new courts yet. The developer is still in charge of the courts, not the CA, and as such, the Developer's insurance (or lack thereof) does not allow our club to use the courts. Fortunately, the Developer does realize that we could use the courts sooner, so they have agreed to turn

over the use of the courts as soon as the sidewalks are installed. When, you ask, will the sidewalks be installed? Well, as the proverbial mushroom in this situation, I'm sure it will be before the next presidential election. So, stay tuned, and we will send out an eblast as soon as we are given the green light.

What else is new? Not too much, we continue to move forward on several initiatives using our recent survey as a guide. The weather is of course day to day which makes us all itchy for warmer weather and more time on the courts. And then there is Cedar Fever for several of us. I have never had allergies in my life, but apparently, I have developed this wonderful condition, so if you see me out on the courts, ignore my sneezing, crying, and coughing. This too will pass.

See you on the courts

Hutch

**JUST PLAY. HAVE FUN.  
ENJOY THE GAME.**

**Michael Jordan**



# CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FROM OUR TREASURER



The Pickleball Club fund balance as of December 31st is \$8,805. Total revenues for the year were \$9,900 and total expenses were \$10,465 for net loss of \$565. We budgeted a loss for the year of \$2,000 giving us a positive variance of \$1,435.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE EVENTS

Don't forget - Tuesday, February 6th will be "Dinks, Chow and Chat" of 2018 at Wriggley's from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Come join your SCTPC friends and enjoy discounts on house drinks and pitchers!



## HAVE A PADDLE YOU DON'T NEED?



Why not consider donating it to our club to use during training events for new members, as well as for grandkids' camps this summer? Please see Peg O'Toole if you'd like to donate.

## LEAGUE PLAY IN COLD WEATHER

Leagues will automatically be canceled in the event of weather below 45 degrees F. We will also send an eblast out to club members when leagues are called off.





# LEAGUES & TRAINING

## WINTER LEAGUES

Winter Leagues will run 8 weeks from January 15 through March 5 starting at 1:00. Format is round robin - 3 games to 11 points.

### DIVISION

Beginners (2.0 to 2.9) Mondays

Intermediate (3.0 to 3.4) Wednesdays

Advanced (3.5 and above) Fridays

These will be drop-in leagues. All you need 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. You must be a Club member to participate in the leagues. An individual can only play in one league per week.

## INTRO TO PICKLEBALL CLASSES

Classes are scheduled twice a month on Saturdays from 3:00 to 5:00. Classes are currently scheduled for February 10 and 24. You do not need to be a Club member for this class. Equipment is provided. **YOU NEED TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THE CLASS** with Peg O'Toole (see email address below).

## BEGINNER MENTORING

A new session of Beginner Mentoring Classes will be held in February. Classes are from 1:00 to 3:00 on Saturdays, February 3,

10, 17 and 24. Participants need to commit to all four weeks.

## BEGINNER SKILLS AND DRILLS

Beginner Skills and Drills will start on Thursday, February 8 and continue for four weeks. Classes are from 1:00 to 2:00. You do not need to sign up in advance for this training.

**For all training and leagues, except the Introduction to Pickleball Class, you need to be a member of the Pickleball club.**

## 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](mailto:jgmlo@yahoo.com).

**It's all good...  
I played  
PICKLEBALL  
today!**



# PADDLE RACK SYSTEM CHANGE

Concerns about the use of the Paddle Rack System have been expressed to the SCTPC Board recently through both emails and our member survey. In an effort to alleviate the problem of groups of 2-3 players being "skipped over" by 4 players who just came off the court, a new policy has been instituted for use of the Paddle Rack.



## **OLD POLICY:**

*If a court becomes available, but the next to play group has fewer than 4 paddles in it, the group should ask other waiting players to fill out the group. If the request does not yield 4 players, the next set of players with 4 paddles will take the court.\**

**\*This last item is only meant to assist in increasing court flow and is NOT intended to be abused. The SCTPC expects that all members will fill out the waiting group whenever possible and, above all, will be courteous.**

## **NEW POLICY:**

*If a court becomes available, and 2 or 3 paddles are next in the rack, those players get the court. They get to play/practice until their foursome is completed.\**

**\*SCTPC expects that all members will fill out the group whenever possible and, above all, will be courteous.**

The complete policy for the Paddle Rack System can be found under the "Rules and Regulations" section of our website or by clicking here - [Paddle Rack System](#)



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*More questions from our members:*

## **Why don't we install a wireless webcam system to see if there's anyone playing on the courts before members travel to the courts?**

The initial response by the CA was that there was a problem with bandwidth. This problem seems like it could be fixed, but no real progress has occurred as yet. The board is looking into this possibility, especially given the addition of 4 more courts for our use.

## **Why can't we have a source of cold water for the players during the hot weather?**

Two approaches have been attempted. The first was to provide the PB courts with an ice water jug that is maintained by the CA, similar to the Golf water jugs. We have yet to see this happen. The second was to work with the CA to rebuild the current water fountain so that it includes a chiller. This is ongoing, but there has been no firm commitment to follow through with this suggestion by the CA.

## **Maybe we can purchase a movable screen to use between courts when using Simon/Simone to keep the balls from getting into other courts?**

The board looked at the photos provided and listened to how this system was used in Arizona courts. There was a problem with some players running/tripping on the movable screen. The Board felt this potential issue was not worth the cost.

## **Can we place a leaf blower for easy access by members to blow leaves/water off the courts?**

Yes, this was implemented immediately.

## **We should raise the wind screens on the baseline sides of the courts a couple of feet to allow for faster drying during humid weather.**

We are going to give this a try starting in late January.

## **Can we start a singles league?**

The Board felt this was a great suggestion, but they want to wait until the new courts are available.

You can continue reading more FAQs here - [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

# INTERMEDIATE TRAINING

## Pickleball Club Serves Up Another Intermediate Class

It was a moment of reckoning for 12 recent graduates of the Club's Intermediate Pickleball Training Program. For 2 hours a day, 7 days in a row, they endured an immersion in the theory and practice of playing 'smarter pickleball'. They earned their certificate of completion and took the official pledge to incorporate what they had learned into their game. Now they were ready to test their mettle in a competition with previous course graduates from the 4 classes that preceded them.

IP Class #0005
Alan Adler
Randy Bayne
Danny Ballard
Ed Cahill
Steve Cramb
Christine Delamater
Brad Duffy
Val Hrobsky
Maggie Manley
Rick Piland
Ken Tupacz
Theresa Wolcott
Brad Duffy



*Intermediate Pickleball Training Class #0005 takes the pledge to employ what they learned and play 'smarter' pickleball.*

On January 14, 2018, Class #0005 hit the courts and participated in the Club's 3<sup>rd</sup> Unofficial No Frills Intermediate Training Program Graduate Mini-Tournament. Each competitor played 3 games to 11 points (win by 1). While Bob Bellmaine, Terrie Desa, Brad Duffy and Bonnie Schaeffer were all tied with a perfect score of 33 points, everyone who participated in the event was a winner.



*After a return of serve Cathy Stateler races to join her partner, Val Hrobsky, at the NVZ line on Court 4.*

*Over at Court 3, Danny Ballard and Ron D'Entremont establish their line of defense at the kitchen. Ron Longino officiates the game.*

# INTERMEDIATE TRAINING CONT'D.

The biggest thing holding back intermediate players is not their ball striking skill. Instead, it is their failing to understand smart play. Class focus is on playing smarter, not harder. Players are shown how to reduce unforced errors and to engage in playing percentage pickleball. They are introduced to tactics for various scenarios and strategies for doubles play. Drills are presented to reinforce proper execution of the ready position, serve, return of serve, volleys, dinks, drop shots, soft third shots, half volleys, overheads and lob returns.




*John and Barb Carter manage court assignments and track scores.*



*Dare Plantz stretches for an overhead, while partner, Chris Delamater, prepares to back him up. Jan North braces to receive a potential smash.*

To participate in the intermediate training program, interested candidates should meet the following pre-requisites and contact Peg O'Toole, Player Development Director. The next class is scheduled to run 12 – 18 March 2018.



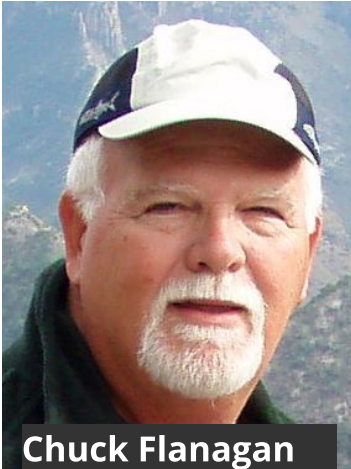
**Intermediate Training Prerequisites**

- Know 100% of basic the basic rules;
- Execute basic shots (serve, forehand, backhand, volley, dink, lob, & smash);
- Maintain slow-paced rallies with players of equal ability;
- Routinely get to the non-volley zone to hit volleys;
- Try to be strategic about how and where to hit the ball;
- Understand court coverage;
- Work with your partner to win the point.

To see more photos from Intermediate Training, click here - [Intermediate Training](#)



# FROM OUR DISTRICT AMBASSADOR



**Chuck Flanagan**

## NEW RULES APPROVED

Well, after two years of hard work by the USAPA Rules Committee, the **2018 USAPA/IFP Official Tournament Rulebook** has been published (click to read). The rulebook chapters have been reorganized,

the wording clarified, and has more diagrams. Here's a short summary of the major changes, most of which generally only concern tournament players:

1. "Rule 2.F.1 Clothing of any color." has been removed and there is now no rule regarding clothing color.
2. Players are now responsible for confirming that their paddles are on the approved list.
- 3.4.A.2. The service motion begins with the server's arm movement initiating the swing, backward or forward, to contact the ball.
- 4.4.B.8. ... the serving team may ask the referee the score and "Am I the correct server?" **Players may not ask if they are in the correct position.**
- 5.4.C.2. Once the score has been called, the receiver cannot become "not ready" unless there is a valid hinder.  
(Note: the receiver may call a time out after the score is called but before the server begins the serving motion.)

**6.4.E. The 10-Second Rule now only applies to the server.**

7.T - 5.B.6. The maximum time allowed to switch sides during a game is 60 seconds.

8.6.D.3. A player may appeal to the referee to make the call if he or she did not clearly see the ball land.

9.11.L.5. Portable Net Systems- When net systems have a horizontal bar that includes a center base: If the ball hits the horizontal bar or the center base before going over the net, it is a fault. If the ball goes over the net and hits the center base or the horizontal bar or the ball gets caught between the net and the horizontal bar before touching the court, it is a let and will be replayed.

10.13.G.1. Technical Warning. Once a technical warning has been issued, **a second technical warning for any reason, given to the same player or team during the match**, will result in a technical foul being issued to the player or team.

These are by no means all of the changes and I'm still studying the rulebook to glean out all the subtle nuances some of the new wording imparts.

**Rules Quiz:** What happens if the receiver shows not-ready for too much time? Before the rule change the referee would call the score and the receiver had 10 seconds to get ready and then the server had an additional 10 seconds to serve. Now it's all on the server. What would you do?

*(Find the answer to this quiz in another section of this newsletter.)*





# CERTIFIED REFEREE TRAINING

## REFEREE TRAINING

The *USAPA/IFP Rulebook* and *Referee Handbook* have been updated, reorganized and reissued to reflect the 2018 rules and officiating *best practices*, which go into effect January 31, 2018. There are noteworthy changes in both documents that players, referees and line judges will be expected to know and begin applying January 31, 2018. To facilitate that requirement for the 2018 USAPA Mid-South Regional tournament, a North Texas District training/update session is scheduled for:

**Date:** Saturday, February 17, 2018

**Time:** 11:00AM-3:00PM

**Place:** Bessie Mitchell House (in Heritage Park)  
411 Ball Street  
Grapevine, Tx

**WITH FREE LUNCH PROVIDED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS**

(Limited to the first 50 respondents)

This four-hour session is designed to bring up to speed certified referees, non-certified refs who referee on a regular basis, and want-to-be referees interested in learning how the new 2018 Rulebook affects pickleball tournament play and officiating. The session also satisfies the *training prerequisite* for applying to become a certified referee.

**ALL certified referees and anyone who referees on a regular basis are strongly encouraged to attend.**

**To attend, please RSVP to Bob & Irene Romagosa at [reromago@yahoo.com](mailto:reromago@yahoo.com).**



# OKLAHOMA STATE GAMES

The State Games of Oklahoma were held on 01/19/18 - 01/21/18 at the Oklahoma City Tennis Facility. SCTPC members, some of whom were playing in their very first tournament, represented our club very well. 200 medals were awarded to the over-60 crowd and SCTPC players brought home 25 of those. Kudos to all who participated, as well as everyone who provided support.

<b>Name(s)</b>	<b>Event/Age/Level</b>	<b>Medal Won</b>
Jim Brown	Men's Singles 60+, 4.5/4.0	Bronze
Davey Stateler-Dale Staton	Men's Doubles 70+, 3.0	Silver
Bob Cleaver-John Carter	Men's Doubles 60+, 3.5	Bronze
Scott Brady-Bill Treadway	Men's Doubles 70+, 3.5	Bronze
Bill Chalmers-Jack Warner	Men's Doubles 75+, 3.5	Silver
Jim Brown-Will Saunders	Men's Doubles 60+, 4.5	Silver
Dave Stout-Steve Timmons	Men's Doubles 60+, 4.5	Bronze
Chuck Flanagan-Larry Honeycutt	Men's Doubles 70+, 4.5	Gold
Cathy Stateler-Davey Stateler	Mixed Doubles 65+, 3.0	Bronze
Diane Cleaver-Bob Cleaver	Mixed Doubles 60+, 3.5	Silver
Barb Patterson-Steve Timmons	Mixed Doubles 60+, 4.0	Gold
Diane Cleaver-Cheryl Janssen	Women's Doubles 60+, 3.0	Gold
Cathy Stateler-Eva Myers	Women's Doubles 65+, 3.0	Gold
Shaz Douglas-Sally Baynton	Women's Doubles 60+, 3.5	Gold
Barb Patterson-Kathy Carr	Women's Doubles 60+, 4.0	Gold

# OKLAHOMA STATE GAMES, CONT'D.



Rules Quiz Answer: See Section 13.G.3.f.



# MAINTENANCE INFO

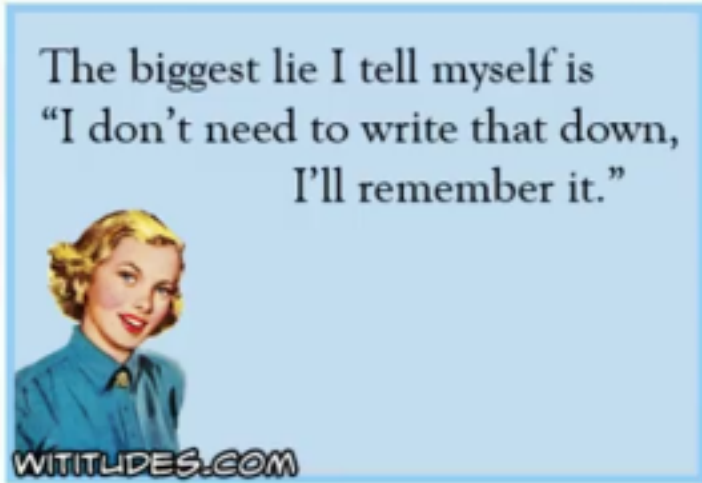
Maintenance Activity Log & Expense Report (If Applicable)				
<b>Name</b> Bob Cleaver				
<b>Month</b> January 2018				
<b>Total Reimbursement Due</b> <b>\$0.00</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description / Activity</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>	<b>Amount</b>
12/2/2017	Court - All	Installed the Christmas pickleball wreaths on the court entrances.	12/2/2017	N/A
1/2/2018	Court - All	Completed inventory of club assets and created a spreadsheet listing of them. Sent list to Kathy G. so she could submit it to the CA.	1/2/2018	N/A
1/3/2018	Court - All	Replaced a large amount of various broken plastic ties that secure the windscreens to the fence. Had help from Charles and Bill C.	1/3/2018	N/A
1/4/2018	Court - All	Removed the Christmas pickleball wreaths on the court entrances and have stored them in my attic.	1/4/2018	N/A
1/4/2018	Court - All	Gave the courts a good cleaning and removed leaves with a leaf vacuum/shredder.	1/4/2018	N/A
<b>Total Reimbursement:</b>				<b>\$0.00</b>



*The ONLY important thing when choosing a paddle is how many donuts it can hold.  
Everything else is irrelevant!*

*(permission for use granted by Billy Reader)*

# JOKES AND FUN STUFF!



Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Officer asks a young engineer fresh out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "And what starting salary are you looking for?"

The engineer replies, "In the region of \$125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package."

The interviewer inquires, "Well, what would you say to a package of five weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every two years, say, a red Corvette?"

The engineer sits up straight and says, "Wow! Are you kidding?"

The interviewer replies, "Yeah, but you started it."

=====

A husband and wife were driving through Louisiana. As they approached Natchitoches, they started arguing about the pronunciation of the town. They argued back and forth, then they stopped for lunch.

At the counter, the husband asked the blonde waitress, "Before we order, could you please settle an argument for us? Would you please pronounce where we are very slowly?"

She leaned over the counter and said, "Burr-r-gerrr Kiiing."



## MORE JOKES AND FUN STUFF!

### Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder

This is how it manifests:

I decide to wash my car.

As I start toward the garage, I notice that there is mail on the hall table. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car.

I lay my car keys down on the table, put the junk mail in the trash can under the table, and notice that the trash can is full.

So, I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the trash first.

But then I think, since I'm going to be near the mailbox when I take out the trash anyway, I may as well pay the bills first.

I take my checkbook off the table, and see that there is only one check left. My extra checks are in my desk in the study, so I go to my desk where I find the can of Coke that I had been drinking.

I'm going to look for my checks, but first I need to push the Coke aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over.

I see that the Coke is getting warm, and I decide I should put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold.

As I head toward the kitchen with the coke a vase of flowers on the counter catches my eye--they need to be watered.

I set the Coke down on the counter, and I discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning.

I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers. I set the glasses back down on the counter, fill a container with water and suddenly I spot the TV remote. Someone left it on the kitchen table.

I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV, I will be looking for the remote, but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back in the den where it belongs, but first I'll water the flowers.

I splash some water on the flowers, but most of it spills on the floor. So, I set the remote back down on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill.

Then I head down the hall trying to remember what I was planning to do.

At the end of the day: the car isn't washed, the bills aren't paid, there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter, the flowers aren't watered, there is still only one check in my checkbook, I can't find the remote, I can't find my glasses, and I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all day long, and I'm really tired.

I realize this is a serious problem, and I'll try to get some help for it, but first I'll check my e-mail.

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## 2018 SCTPC BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGERS

President - Hutch

Vice President - Charles Desa

Secretary - Judy Blackman

Treasurer - Kathy Goodall

Player Development Director - Peg O'Toole

Communications Director - Barb Patterson

Maintenance Director - Bob Cleaver

Pball Machine Coordinator - Wayne Schaefer

Social Committee Chair - Sharon Douglas

Sunshine Ambassador - Pat Hall