



Kitchen Talk

Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter

December

FROM THE PRESIDENT



A very BIG THANK YOU for your full cooperation and patience the last several weeks. From court reservation adjustments, to a COVID positive case (THANKFULLY, she is recovering very nicely) and a COVID protocol change in the court area, it has been a challenging month. THANK YOU!

And, I know I speak for the whole club board when I say, we VERY much appreciate all the feedback the last few weeks as we work through the reservation adjustments. We will continue to adjust as we learn from the data and your input and again, we just want to ensure all members get an opportunity to play, while at the same time

maximizing the available courts. As many of you have noted, it has been and continues to be a balancing act.

We also appreciate the fact that more than several groups are beginning to have regular play outside of Sun City. Please see the [Places to Play](#) link on our webpage. None of us **ever** expected we would suggest that you play outside of our Sun City Courts, but with 10 courts and 925+ members, your willingness to do so, is certainly a benefit to the club. The latest from the developer (Pulte) on the new court complex is a late Q1/early Q2 groundbreaking with a late Q3 opening. Please believe me when I say, I am pestering Pulte all the time in an effort to move the process along faster. Feel free to audit me on this statement and request the same.

And, please join me in a HUGE THANK YOU to Barb Patterson and Judy Blackman for their dedicated service to this club! Their contributions will be felt for many, many years to come, not just because of what they have done, but what they will continue to do...after all, once a board member, always a board member :). And, congratulations to Peg O'Toole and Mike Rhoda for their board member appointments as we very much look forward to their support, ideas and contributions.

Finally, a very, very Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season! The holiday spirit will remain strong, regardless of distance!

Ed Cahill

If you can't cook, don't tell someone that their food needs salt.



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

TREASURER'S REPORT SUBMITTED *BY ALLIE BOWER*



SCTPC: October 2020 Financial Synopsis

The Club began the month of Oct 20 with a balance of \$8,644; income for the month totaled \$180, all from new memberships. Expenses totaled \$265; \$188 for training support and \$77 for court cameras. Net income was (\$85); the club ended the month of October with a cash balance of \$8,559. We had 36 new members bringing our paid total through October to 923.

RECORD INPUT RECEIVED - THANK YOU!

This past month we received many emails from members with suggestions, complaints and compliments about the revised reservation system. In the four years I've served as Communications Director, I've never seen anything like it.

If we published every email we received, the newsletter would be about 100 pages long! So, to summarize, about 85%-90% of the emails were appreciative, with members excited that they were now able to book courts more easily. The other 10%-15% of the comments had complaints and/or suggestions for improvement. The emails are shared with the entire board and used as a basis for discussion, etc.

Thanks to everyone who wrote in; we appreciate it!

If you have feedback about a pickleball club issue, please feel free to contact any board member. Or, you can simply send an email to sctxpickleball@gmail.com.





CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT'D.

2021 PICKLEBALL CLUB MEMBERSHIPS BY ALLIE BOWER

Club Memberships for 2021 will be \$15.00 as approved by membership vote and tentatively available for online sale December 14, 2020. There will be no 2021 membership sales through any means prior to that date.

Background: While annual membership sales are typically available on 1 December the year prior, there will be a delay while the CA fields a new system called MembersFirst. The CA will provide user information to all residents prior to the system going live. Additionally, the club board will keep you informed of any updates or changes provided by the CA.

As a friendly reminder, all 2020 memberships expire December 31, 2020 irrespective of purchase date with a grace period for renewal through January 31, 2021.

LOST AND FOUNDS ARE OVERFLOWING

If you are missing a piece of your pickleball gear, please check the Lost and Finds at both Retreat and Texas Drive Courts. They are overflowing with jackets, water bottles, hats, towels, etc. We will be clearing them out very soon, with the bulk of the items heading to a charity such as Caring Place or Goodwill.

And please, be sure to label your pickleball paddles with your first and last name. We have had a number of paddles left at the courts and it's taken a lot of detective work to get some of them back to their rightful owners.



thank
you!

***Thanks to Davey Stateler, Billy Blackman,
Rick Piland and Ron Longino for their hard
work fixing all of the wind screens on
Courts 5 & 6 after a recent storm.
We appreciate your time and effort!***



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT'D.

LOOKING FOR PLAYERS? *BY RON FRANKE*

Are you having trouble finding people to play with so that you can have 4 or 5 players to make a court reservation? Do you want to let others know that you are available to play?

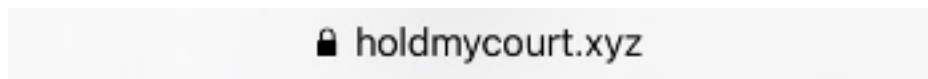
If you answered “yes”, HoldMyCourt (HMC) can help. HMC - the Club’s online court reservation system - has a list of people that want to play pickleball.

If you log in to HMC and select “Partner Search” you can see a list of people that want to play pickleball. As you can see from the screenshot below, the list includes each person’s self assessed skill level, what types of play they want (such as mixed doubles or singles), and their contact information. Many people have also included comments about what days and/or times they are available.

In addition, you can add your name and information to the list so that others know that you are available for others to ask you to play. You can edit your own information at any time by clicking on the edit link to delete or edit your listing.

Note that your name and information will be deleted automatically from the Partner Search page after 45 days. You can always add yourself back to the list if your information gets deleted, or if you make any edit to your information it will extend the expiration for another 45 days after the edit is made.

If you have any questions about using the HMC system, click [Ron Franke](#) to contact the Club VP.



Partner Search. This is a list of registered players that are looking for partners for arranged matches or upcoming tournaments. Registered players may add their name by clicking on the link below if signed in. Click on the edit link to delete or edit your listing. All entries will be deleted automatically after 45 days. Any edit will extend the expiration date.

[Add Your Name](#) [Reservation Page](#)
Event Key: S = Singles, D = Doubles,
M = Mixed Doubles

Name	Sex	Age	Skill	Event See Key	Phone	Email	Comment	Expires	Edit
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CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT'D.

BLINDED BY THE LIGHT! *BY RON FRANKE*

We have heard from some people that play after dark that they are having trouble seeing because of car headlights in the parking lot.

Here is what appears to be happening: people are sitting in their car waiting on their court reservation time to start (we do appreciate them for following that Club guideline). While they are waiting, they leave their car running with the headlights on - sometimes even their high beams. The car headlights can make it difficult for some players to see whenever they look in the direction of the parking lot.

You can help by turning off your headlights while waiting in the parking lot. (Don't forget to turn them back on when you leave to go home!)

Your assistance is much appreciated.

WEBSITES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Check out some of the links below to visit local, state and national Pickleball websites and social media.

[Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Facebook Page](#)

[Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Website](#)

[Greater Austin Pickleball Facebook Page](#)

[Texas Pickleball Facebook Page](#)

[Pickleball Forum Facebook Page](#)

[USA Pickleball Association Website](#)

[USA Pickleball Mid-South Region Website](#)

[Pickleball Tournaments - Upcoming Texas Tournaments](#)





WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Carol	Baker
Dick	Baker
Charles	Fick
Roberta	Fick
Wayne	Fisher
Petra	Garren
Barnie	Gilmore
Katherine	Hinds
Glynis	LaBarre
Ken	LaBarre
Douglas	Lane
Melissa	Lane

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Al	Lingor
Ronald	Martucci
Judy	McClenaghan
Gary	McConnell
John	Meyer
Barb	Redmond
Brian	Richard
Norma	Richard
Margaret	Schmidt
Diane	Sopko
Josh	Speakman
Martha	Speakman

At press time, total number of club members is 927.





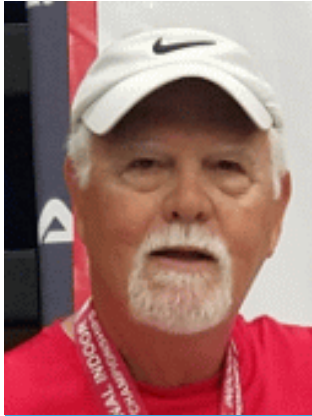
THANKSGIVING AT THE COURTS



It was a gorgeous Thanksgiving Day - perfect for some pickleball before the big meal! Lots of our members took advantage of the sunny skies and 73° weather and got out on the courts.



FROM OUR DISTRICT AMBASSADOR



Chuck Flanagan

Did you read Mat Laz's article in last month's "Kitchen Talk"? He wrote about being a good partner and the subtle ways that you can actually discourage your partner. I think he did an excellent job pointing out that our attitudes towards our partners directly affects how well, or poorly, they

play. That can often be the difference between winning and losing. Either way, we do it as a team so let's not raise the black flag.



We all know (or have heard) that pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the USA. New courts are springing up everywhere and Austin is no exception. A new pickleball complex known as Austin Pickle Ranch is expected to open sometime next spring. The ranch, with 32 courts (8 covered) will be the premier pickleball destination in Texas. In addition to a great pickleball venue, the ranch will have four beach volleyball courts, a dog play area, food trucks, a

full service bar, and numerous other amenities. You can check out their web site here - <https://www.austinpickleranch.com/>

While at the courts early last month, someone asked me whether the server's partner should rush the NVL when the return is coming back to the server or should they stay together? This is a great question and one that I personally need to work on. The answer is that players should stay together or they risk creating a large hole on their side of the court that the opponents can exploit. By working in tandem, moving forward and back or side to side, allows you and your partner to protect more of your territory and limit your opponents' options.

Tournament updates:

- Mid-South. We are currently conducting site surveys prior to selecting a venue for the 2021 regional tournament. I expect that a decision will be made in the next couple of weeks. The current planning dates (depending on venue availability) are a 5-day (Wed-Sun) window in April. All of this is subject to change due to what happens with COVID.

- **Texas Senior Games.** The latest news is that it is now scheduled for March 16-18 and registration may re-open on January 1st for 4-6 weeks.

- **National Senior Games,** Ft. Lauderdale, FL, November 5-18, 2021. 2020 is (was) the qualifying year for the games. However, since COVID caused the cancellation of many state qualifiers, NSG has established a one-time adjusted qualification.



FROM OUR DISTRICT AMBASSADOR

- National Senior Games, cont'd.

"A one-time adjustment to the qualification process for the 2021 National Senior Games has been made in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

- If a state qualifying senior games is ABLE to conduct Games or specific sports/events in 2020, the qualification standards for the sports/events as specified in the 2021 NSGA Rulebook will determine qualifiers. In addition athletes from that state's senior games who qualified for the 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, NM will also qualify in the respective sports/events for the National Senior Games in 2021 (i.e., qualifiers from 2018 respective sports/events from that state's senior games).

- If a state qualifying senior games is UNABLE to conduct Games or specific sports/events in 2020, athletes from that state's senior games who qualified for the 2017 National Senior Games in Birmingham, AL and/or 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, NM will qualify in the respective sports/events for the 2021 National

Senior Games (i.e., qualifiers from 2016 and/or 2018 respective sports/events from that state's senior games)."

Last month's quiz:

Q: Who calls service and non-volley zone foot faults in games without referees?

A: This is a two part answer. Players call all lines on their own side of the net (including the non-volley zone and service line) and those calls stand (13.D.1.a.). Players may make the same calls on the opponent's side of the net but if there is disagreement the point will be replayed (13.D.1.b.).

This month's rules quiz: Does the server's partner also have to stand behind the baseline?

December Pickleball Magazine:

<https://tinyurl.com/PBMag-Dec2020>

***"Friendships born on the field of athletic strife
are the real gold of competition.***

Awards become corroded.

Friends gather no dust."

Jesse Owens



MATT LAZ - COACH'S CORNER

Targeting

When a player hit a ball out the other day, I asked, "Where were you aiming that ball?" They said they weren't aiming, they were just hitting. I responded "Maybe that's why you missed the shot."

I had several really good tennis coaches as a kid. One of my coaches would always yell at me that he didn't care if I missed my target, but I needed to have one! For a long time, I now aim my shots at targets and it has become a habit for me. Hitting at targets is important in this game. If you're not aiming at targets, you're not going to be really good at this game. Here are a few targeting tips to help you improve your game:



1. Make your targets reasonable.

- Use reasonable targets for practice, like hula hoops. Hula hoop size targets are much more realistic targets to aim at, as opposed to a cone.

2. Three primary targets that have helped me get pretty far in this game are:

- Feet
- The middle of the court
- Players in motion

3. Sidelines are not your friends

- Don't aim at the sidelines, there is too much room for error. No one is paying you to hit the lines. Therefore, until Mercedes, Rolex, Nike, or Gatorade starts sending you free stuff, stick to more reasonable targets.



TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Aggieland Turkey Tournament - 11/12/20 - 11/14/20



Shaz Douglas - Gold, Women's Singles, 3.5, 60+



Cheryl Janssen & Sheila Quinn - Bronze, Women's Doubles, 3.0, 60+



Steve Timmons & Conley Giles - Silver, Men's Doubles, 4.0, 65+



Shaz Douglas & Christie Borne - Bronze, Women's Doubles, 4.0/4.5, 60+



TOURNAMENT RESULTS, CONT'D.

Aggieland Turkey Tournament - 11/12/20 - 11/14/20



Roger Bentke & Dave Weatherford - Gold,
Men's Doubles, 3.0, 60+



Jannine Grant & Conley Giles - Bronze, Mixed
Doubles, 3.5, 60+



Shaz Douglas & Steve Timmons - Silver, Mixed
Doubles, 4.0/4.5, 60+

Congratulations to all of our medalists! Way to represent!

Tournament players - if you'd like your medal stand photos included in a newsletter and on our [Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Facebook Page](#), remember to send the photo, along with event details (age group, level, medal earned, etc.) to SCTXpickleball@gmail.com.

Please do NOT text or email them to a personal account, since Communications Directors can change, and your photo may not find its way to publication unless you send it to our club inbox.



JOKES AND FUN STUFF

Happy 70th! submitted by VA Miller



Lucille decided to give herself a big treat for her 70th birthday by staying overnight in a really nice hotel.. When she checked out the next morning, the desk clerk handed her a bill for \$250.00.

She demanded to know why the charge was so high "I agree it's a nice hotel, but the rooms aren't worth \$250..00 for just an overnight stay - I didn't even have breakfast!"

The clerk told her that \$250.00 is the 'standard rate,' and breakfast had been included had she wanted it.

She insisted on speaking to the Manager. The Manager appeared and, forewarned by the desk clerk, announced: "This hotel has

an Olympic-sized pool and a huge conference center which are available for use."

"But I didn't use them."

"Well, they are here, and you could have." He went on to explain that she could also have seen one of the in-hotel shows for which they were so famous."We have the best entertainers from the world over performing here."

"But I didn't go to any of those shows.."

"Well, we have them, and you could have."

No matter what amenity the Manager mentioned, she replied, "But I didn't use it!" and the Manager countered with his standard response.

After several minutes discussion, and with the Manager still unmoved, she decided to pay, wrote a check and gave it to him. The Manager was surprised when he looked at the check.

"But Madam, this check is for only \$50.00"

"That's correct I charged you \$200.00 for sleeping with me."

"But I didn't!"

"Well, too bad, I was here, and you could have.



MORE JOKES AND FUN STUFF

You Better Be Good!

Sarah and her thirteen-year-old sister had been fighting a lot this year. This happens when you combine a headstrong three-year-old, who is sure she is always right, with a young adolescent.

Sarah's parents, trying to take advantage of her newfound interest in Santa Claus, reminded the three-year-old that Santa was watching and doesn't like it when children fight. This had little impact.

"I'll just have to tell Santa about your misbehavior," the mother said as she picked up the phone and dialed. Sarah's eyes grew big as her mother asked "Mrs. Claus" (really Sarah's aunt; Santa's real line was busy) if she could put Santa on the line. Sarah's mouth dropped open as Mom described to Santa (Sarah's uncle) how the three-year-old was acting. But, when Mom said that Santa wanted to talk to her, she reluctantly took the phone.

Santa, in a deepened voice, explained to her how there would be no presents Christmas morning to children who fought with their sisters. He would be watching,

and he expected things to be better from now on.

Sarah, now even more wide eyed, solemnly nodded to each of Santa's remarks and silently hung the phone up when he was done. After a long moment, Mom (holding in her chuckles at being so clever) asked, "What did Santa say to you, dear?"

In almost a whisper, Sarah sadly but matter-of-factly stated, "Santa said he won't be bringing toys to my sister this year."





STILL MORE JOKES....



2020 SCTPC BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGERS



Ed Cahill
President



Allie Bower
Treasurer



Barb Patterson
Communications Director



Ron Franke
Vice-President



Kathy Carr
Director of Player Development



Wayne Schaefer
Ball Machine Coordinator



Judy Blackman
Secretary



Davey Stateler
Maintenance Director