



Kitchen Talk

Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter

FROM THE PRESIDENT

November



Barb Patterson

A few reminders for our members this month (and no, we don't make these things up, these are in response to inquiries and comments from members):

We've had a few incidents in the past month with non-residents using the courts at Northpoint. If you happen to be there and see what you think may be non-residents using the courts, it's perfectly fine to ask if they are residents or not. If they are not residents, you can explain that these are private courts for Sun City residents and their accompanied guests, and ask the non-residents to leave.

Further instructions concerning non-residents using the courts, are posted on several locations around the Northpoint courts.

If an accident occurs at any of our courts and someone is injured (and we don't mean that they just need a band-aid), please remember to fill out an accident report. Last month an ambulance was called to Texas Drive for an injury, and we never received an accident report or any notice about what actually happened. Accident report forms are in the first aid kits at each location.

Reminder - the ice machine at Northpoint is NOT a cooler for people to use to keep their food or drinks cold. Please do not put anything, except the ice scoop, in the ice machine.

Remember that our rules permit local guests (living within 100 miles) to come play at our courts once per week (a week is defined as Sunday through Saturday). This was actually a question on our member survey this year (some members had asked for an increase to two times per week for guests), and the once per week rule was overwhelmingly reinforced by members.



FROM THE PRESIDENT (cont)

We are looking to possibly add a "Photography Committee" to our Communications group. If you'd like to become part of a committee that would help us take good photos at club events or around the courts, please let us know.

We hope to see you at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, November 21, at 1:30 pm in the Lonestar Room (at Retreat). The agenda will be published soon, but we will be focusing on a summary of the year, goals for next year and election results.

See you on the courts, Barb Patterson

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

TREASURER'S REPORT SUBMITTED BY D'LES LONGINO

SCTPC: (October - 2023) Financial Synopsis



The Club began the month of October with a cash balance of \$16,905.87. Income totaled \$240.00 from 32 new memberships (membership dues \$7.50 beginning July 1) and \$2,250.00 from Fall Pumpkin Bash. September expenses total \$971.10: court reserve \$231.00, Arlo \$10.64, maintenance \$324.75, \$226.00 VBO ticket expense, \$43.20.00 printing and reproduction, \$135.31 Paddle Demo night & Wednesday social. We had a monthly net income of \$1,518.90 with a cash balance of \$16,905.87.

Paid members through the end of Sept totaled 1,646

Just wanted to let everyone know I'm going through a lot right now.





CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT.)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Patti	Alls
Beth	Breidenbach
Rodd	Briggs
Judy	Campbell
Anna	Capolino
Mario	Cardano
Carol	Chaney
Ron	Courtney
Sue	Courtney

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Kelly	Davenport
Evangeline	Domel
Mark	Fish
Ronald	Franklin
Bruce	Gilbert
Yolany	Gilbert
Shelia	Hackey
Dan	Hoskins

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Diane	Moore
Willetta	Norman
Leah Marie	Raymond
Kurt	Reid
Ruth	Reid
Ramona	Thompson
Janet	Weber
Paul	Will
Kimberley	Wright

At press time, total number of club members is 1641.





VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

nominated by Barb Patterson

Our Dual Volunteers of the Month are: Ed Cahill and Ken Friedman for their work behind the scenes supporting our ARLO camera systems.

Ed Cahill



Ed Cahill has been selected as one of the “Volunteers of the Month” for November 2023. Actually he should probably be voted as some sort of “Volunteer of the Decade” for all of the time and effort that he’s put into our Pickleball Club. But he’s being recognized right now for his work with all of the club’s court cameras. Ed has installed and maintained the court cameras at all three court locations for over five years. He is stepping aside now but we know that he will always be there if the new person who has assumed this role ever needs

help (right Ed?)

Thank you Ed, for all of your hard work with the camera installation and maintenance. Every time we pull up the Arlo app to see the courts, we are grateful for the terrific job you’ve done!

Ken Friedman

Ken Friedman has been selected as one of the “Volunteers of the Month” for November 2023 for his hard work in handling the software side of our Pickleball Club’s court cameras. Ken has spent several years getting new folks set up to view the cameras at all three court locations. When members have trouble getting connected, or getting their Arlo apps to work, Ken gets the calls and emails. And he makes it look easy, when in reality, it can be pretty complicated at times.



Thank you Ken, for all of your time, effort and attention to detail in handling the administrative side of our club’s court cameras. We appreciate you!

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

Pickleball Club Supports Pulte Team Building

Over 100 Central Texas Pulte employees spent an afternoon watching a pickleball demo put on by Pickleball Club members, along with a brief explanation of the rules of the game. Then the employees ate lunch and participated in a team pickleball tournament. Club members helped explain how to play pickleball and served as referees for the event. The Pickleball Club also provided equipment for employees to use for the day. As they were leaving the courts, a number of new players said they had so much fun that they were heading out to buy their own paddles so they could play again!





CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

Pumpkin Bash 2023

On Saturday, October 28th, the second annual "Pumpkin Bash" Tournament was held at the Northpoint Courts. 224 players filled the 28 teams, all ready for competition after several weeks of practicing together and honing their skills. Volunteers scurried around the courts, many arriving at 6:30 am to set up for the day. Breakfast items were served, announcements were made, players warmed up and play started early since the weather forecast was "iffy" at best. After about two hours of play, Mother Nature took control, the courts got very wet and everyone waited patiently in line to be served lunch, compliments of Judy Reasoner of the Stacy Group. Eventually the decision had to be made to call it a day, since the rain was continuing. Members headed home to rest and get dry (except for the Tournament Committee and a few volunteers, who gathered up the sopping wet scoresheets and rosters and then drowned their sorrows with some adult beverages provided by Jerry Fronczak.) Thanks go out to all of the tournament volunteers, team captains and players for all of the time and effort they put into this event.



The day wrapped up with a wonderful pizza dinner and fun trivia contest at the ballroom. Kudos to Sheila Quinn and the social committee volunteers for a great job! All in all, it was still a fun time. And we raised money for Georgetown Blue Santa, through the Silent Auction and tournament proceeds. Tournament and party photos will soon be available online.





FROM OUR PICKLEBALL FRIEND



Chuck Flanagan

Whenever my opponents hit a ball that my partner and I cannot call, I always ask my opponents what they saw and they invariably they respond with, "It's your call." I believe that most of us know that the rules say that it's our responsibility to call the lines on our side of the court during the game. But do you know that's not always the case? Yes, Rule 6.D.1. says that players make the line calls on their side of the court. Further down in Section 6, however, is Rule 6.D.5. *"A player/team may ask the opponent's opinion to make the line call on the player's end of the court. If requested and the opponent makes a clear "in" or "out" call,*

it must be accepted."

So, here's the bottom line. If you cannot make a call, the ball is considered to be, "In." By asking your opponent, you have the chance that they clearly saw it, "Out." Even if they saw it, "In", or did not see it, you are no worse off than you were by not making any call.

Rules Questions:

Q:What is the rule about momentum?

A:The so-called 'momentum' rule applies to the non-volley zone (NVZ). This rule (9.C.) states: *"During the act of volleying, it is a fault if the volleying player's momentum causes the player to contact anything that is touching the non-volley zone, including the player's partner."*

There are some other nuances to the rule contained rules 9.A. & 9.B. that are important, however the rule in this section most often overlooked and misunderstood is Rule 9.C. *"It is a fault even if the ball becomes dead before the player contacts the non-volley zone."* In essence, this means that if your momentum carries you into the NVZ, even after hitting a winning volley, you are charged with a fault and lose the rally. This is the only fault that can be committed when the ball is dead and there is no time limit on how long it takes between hitting the volley and your momentum carrying you into the NVZ.



PICKLEBALL FRIEND (cont.)

Q:My opponents hit a ball over to my side of the net with enough backspin and wind that it bounced back and landed on their court. They said that it was a fault and they win the rally. Is that right?

A:Yes, they were right. This is specifically addressed in Section 11 - Other Rules. *"11.L.4. If a player hits the ball over the net into the opponent's court, and then the ball bounces back over the net and bounces a second time without being touched by the opponent, the striking player wins the rally."*

Q:I was watching a pro match recently and the referee announced a "let" on a player's serve and let them serve again. Can you tell me what the rules are about serves that hit the net?

A:I know that this is somewhat confusing to a lot of players. The pro match you were most likely watching was a PPA tour match. The PPA has elected to declare replays for 'let' serves. For the rest of us and all USA Pickleball sanctioned events, the current rule applies: *"4.A.2. Placement. The server must serve to the correct service court (the court diagonally opposite the server). The serve may clear or touch the net and must clear the NVZ and the NVZ lines. The serve may land on any other service court line."* This means that there are no 'let' serves in games played by USA Pickleball rules.

Have a rule question? Feel free to drop me a note and ask me anything.

Is pickleball the reason Unicorns no longer exist? 🐾





TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

By Ric Hutchinson, Director of Player Development

I want to open this month's article with some comments about two things that are on my mind.

First - I think it's time for a REALITY CHECK!!

As the Player Development Director, I spend a lot of my time doing two things; watching club players on the courts and trying to find ways to help our players develop their game. Over the past year we've added three different types of classes; Skills and Drills, Advanced Pickleball Strategy and Club Pro Clinics. Each of these classes are geared to help players at various skill levels improve their game. The classes appear to be very popular as they fill up as fast as they are offered. However, for the classes to be truly **successful**, players must realistically assess their playing skills and skill level prior to registering for a class.

Each class is specifically designed to help a **specific** skill level group who have a **specific** skill improve that **specific** skill. In most cases the class description indicates the skill level and specific skill a person should have prior to registering for the class. We do this because a class on (for example) the "third shot drop" for 2.5 skill level players is not going to include the same drills and information as a class on the "third shot drop" for 3.5 skill level players. Problems develop when the purpose of the class is to improve your third shot drop and some members of the class are there to learn how to hit a third shot drop.

The second part of this problem relates to how we self-assess ourselves. Most people know which skill level group they're comfortable playing in. If a person regularly plays in 3.0 round robins and 3.0 skill level play then that person should not be registering for classes that specify, they are designed for 3.5 or higher players.

So please, help us make these training classes successful and beneficial to all the registrants by realistically assessing whether or not you actually have the required skills and qualifications to register for a specific class.



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

Second - You already KNOW the Answer.

As I said above, I spend a fair amount of time watching people play in open play, round robins and skill level play. And I'm often asked some variation of "What can I do to improve my game." Based on what I see daily, there are 3 basic things that many people can do to **dramatically** improve their game.

- Move (all the way) to the No Volley Zone as soon as it is feasible and play a soft game once you get there. (This requires that you be able to use a Drop Shot and Dink).
- Play the entire game (except when serving) in a good ready position.
- Take a lesson from our Pro's to improve your weak areas.

Like I said, you already knew the answer.

Ongoing Program Updates

Introduction to Pickleball. Peg O'Toole and Judy Blackman taught 1 Intro to Pickleball class in October and still managed to find the hottest day of the month. Many thanks to both of them for continuing to provide this training every month. Please note that beginning in November, Introduction to Pickleball classes will begin at 1:00 pm instead of 11:15 am.

Beginner Training.(BT). This month we completed Beginner Training Classes 119, 120 and 121. In an effort to address the needs of our members who want to learn pickleball but are still working BT 120 was held on 3 consecutive Saturdays from 11:30 - 2:30. Due to the upcoming holidays, we have only scheduled one BT class (BT 122) for November and one BT class (BT 123) for December. The new schedule for 2024 will be provided in next month's Kitchen Talk. Please note that as of October, all Beginner Training classes start at 11:30 am instead of 7:00 am. Here are the photos of the graduates of BT Classes 119, 120 and 121.

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (cont.)



BT 119 Front Row, Left to Right: D'Les Longino (Instructor), Kathy Carr (Instructor), Ginny Palmer, Denise Jeffcoat, Kate Kelley, Linda Mohon.

Second Row, Left to Right: Dan Demelli, Dave Babyak, Ann Foth, Jan Palmer, Randy Andregg, Ron Longino (Instructor).



BT 120 Front Row Left to Right: Charise Meeks, Jim Meeks, Jan Baldwin (Instructor), Gary Benavides, Mike Lott, Richard Burcham.

Back Row Left to Right: Patti Lott, Nicole Benavides, Ric Hutchinson (Instructor). Not Pictured, Lisa Callahan (Instructor).



BT 121 Front Row Left to Right: Kim Wright, Susi Bright, Dorothy Follese, Mark Fish, Neal Sharp, Liz Sharp, Dawn Mckensie.

Back Row Left to Right: Gary Schrempp (Instructor), Mark Gilbert, Michael Follese, Allison Wolfe (Instructor), Martha Speakman (Instructor).



Fun, Friends
and Fitness



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

Supervised Novice Play (SNP)

Since the first of the year, we have graduated 185 students from SNP, bringing our total to 727 graduates since the program's inception in August 2020. Please note that until further notice all SNP day classes will start at 11:30 am instead of 7:00 am.

As we get more and more players who are still working, we are working on ways to meet their needs. For the month of November we will change the Thursday class from a day class to an evening class from 7:00 – 8:30pm.

Skills and Drills (S&D)

The Fall Skills and Drills classes have again proven very popular with all classes full and with waitlists. Led by Mary Payne and Jan Baldwin along with other volunteer instructors the classes provide our 2.5 and 3.0 skill level members with a variety of drill that they can use to improve their game. If you have not been able to register for one of the classes, find someone who has and become their drill partner.

Advanced Pickleball Strategy (APS)

APS classes continue to be held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The classes continue to be very popular and fill up quickly. The November classes are scheduled for 7 and 21 November. Please note that until further notice all APS classes will start at 11:30 am instead of 7:00 am.

There will be no APS classes in December. The next APS classes are scheduled for 2 and 16 January 2024.

If you have any questions regarding these classes, please contact Will Saunders by email at (willflowerpower@protonmail.com)



Train the Trainer Classes. Thanks to all the members who have contacted me to express an interest in joining our Instructor Team. The next training sessions will be scheduled as soon as we get some cooler weather.

If you are interested in becoming a club instructor, this is the class for you. It serves to standardize the content and quality of instruction presented to our members. It is a precursor to hands-on experience gained through shadow training and serving as assistants to experienced coaches for Beginner Training, Novice Supervised Play and Skills and Drills sessions.



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

Train the Trainer is a 3-day, 2 hours per day, program of instruction. Day 1 covers the Beginner Training course curriculum and an overview of Supervised Novice Play and Skills and Drills programs; prescribed sequence for teaching skills, how to properly feed balls for drills; how to “detect and correct” player shortcomings and pitfalls to avoid in teaching/coaching pickleball. On Days 2 and 3, the students become the instructors. They teach designated skills and drills to other participants and practice detecting and correcting improper form on stroke execution.

This program is a prerequisite for the progressive development of our volunteers who will apprentice as assistant instructors and potentially work their way to joining the Supervised Novice Play, Beginner Training and Skills and Drills programs. For more information or to register for this class, contact Ric Hutchinson, Player Development Director, at novicehutch@gmail.com.

Club Pro Clinics.

Our Club Pro Clinics have been very popular. We hope to be able to continue to schedule two to four Club Pro Clinics per month going forward. The following clinics have been scheduled for November.

Rain Adjustments. In the event of rain outs our Pro Clinics will not be cancelled, but will be rescheduled and all registered players will be registered for the event at that time. This has occurred recently when the clinic scheduled for Thursday 26 October was cancelled due to rain and moved to Thursday 2 November.

Please note- As we begin to expand these clinics to include all skill levels **IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** that everyone respects the minimum skill level

I can tolerate algebra, maybe even a little Calculus.

But Geometry is where I draw the line



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

November 2023 Club Pro Clinics						
Pro Clinic #	Instructor	Pro Clinic Name	Date	Registration Opens		Skill Level
3	Esteban Espada	Playing at the NVZ -What shots to hit and how to hit them when playing at the NVZ.	6-Nov-23	23-Oct-23	5:00 PM	3.0
4	Matthew Boyett	The First 3 - Learn how to properly execute the first 3 shots of every point, serve, return and third shot.	9-Nov-23	1-Nov-23	5:00 PM	2.5
5	Esteban Espada	Hitting and Defending Against Overheads - When and how to hit overheads and how to defend against them.	20-Nov-23	6-Nov-23	5:00 PM	3.5+
6	Matthew Boyett	No-Volley Zone Movement - Learn how to anticipate better and cover the no-volley zone effectively in advanced play. Strategies discussed will <u>be</u> : Attack angles, Defensive position, and types of dinks.	30-Nov-23	16-Nov-23	5:00 PM	4.0+

Club Teaching Professionals.

Available Hours. Our Teaching Professionals, Matthew Boyett and Esteban Espada share Court #23 at Northpoint, Monday through Saturday from 7 am – 10 pm. If you prefer evening lessons, please contact them. They also schedule make up sessions for inclement weather days on Sunday. For more information on our pros, their contact information and their rates, click on [Sun City Texas Community Association Private Lessons \(sctexas.org\)](http://Sun City Texas Community Association Private Lessons (sctexas.org)) or head on out to Court #23, peak through the fence and see these guys in action.

Take Advantage of Our Pros. Many of you have asked me how you can continue to improve your pickleball skills after you have completed our Club training programs. The answer is to contact Esteban or Matthew and take a lesson.

COURT ACTIVITIES

By Terry Kennedy, Director of Court Activities

Qualifying for our first **Round Robin Tournament** ended 10/23/23

Between 9/1 & 10/23 we had 274 participants

162 qualified for the tournament

81 Men and 81 Women

3.5/4SL – 49 men & 16 women 2.5/3SL – 32 men & 65 women

The tournament will be played Friday 11/10 thru Sunday 11/12 – 7:00 to 11:30

Using courts 11 thru 16 on Friday (11/10) and courts 11 thru 20 on Saturday & Sunday

Invitations to play have been sent to all qualifiers

Final playlist will be posted at our round robin play 11/3 – 11/5

GOOD LUCK IN THE TOURNAMENT

See you on the courts – Terry Kennedy





COACH'S CORNER



Matt Boyett

Hello everyone, Matthew Boyett here back again for another coach's corner. I hope the new cooler weather means you are getting to spend more time on court. This month I wanted to talk about some drills to do for 4 people. These drills are a great way to improve your game or just have a good active warm up prior to a game.

1. 10 & Go

In this drill, you have to start every point with 10 dinks and then the point is live. This drill will put an emphasis on control at the kitchen with a quick transition to a live point. Try to find a rhythm on the dinks. If 10 is too easy, progress to 15, then 20, and so forth.

2. Dingles

This is the most complex of the drills here. There will be two balls going at once cross court. You and a partner will be dinking cross court trying to outlast the other two players. Once a ball is hit in the net or out, one player says dingles, and the point now becomes a 2 on 2 live point. This is great to practice cross court dinks, quick live point transition, and focus throughout a point.

3. Dink or Die

In this drill, put markers at the mid court to shrink the court in half. The markers represent the new baseline, this is where we will start each point. Play points out like normal keeping score. This drill makes you work on control with a smaller court. You can hit the ball hard, just keep in mind the court is now much smaller. This is also a great time to practice letting out balls go out on your new "small" court.



TOURNAMENT NEWS

APP Atlanta Open

Mixed Doubles

Brenda Niemeyer & Scott Moore Masters Pro Silver

Kissing Tree

Mixed Doubles

Jan Dahlin Geiger & Michael Yea 4.0 Silver 70 - 74

Women's Singles

Dianna Weiss 3.5 Silver 65 - 69

Huntsman World Senior Games

Men's Singles

Kobus Pieters 3.5 Silver 70 - 74

**Remember: Please send tournament results to the club e-mail:
SCTXPICKLEBALL@GMAIL.COM.**



NEW PICKLEBALL FRIENDS



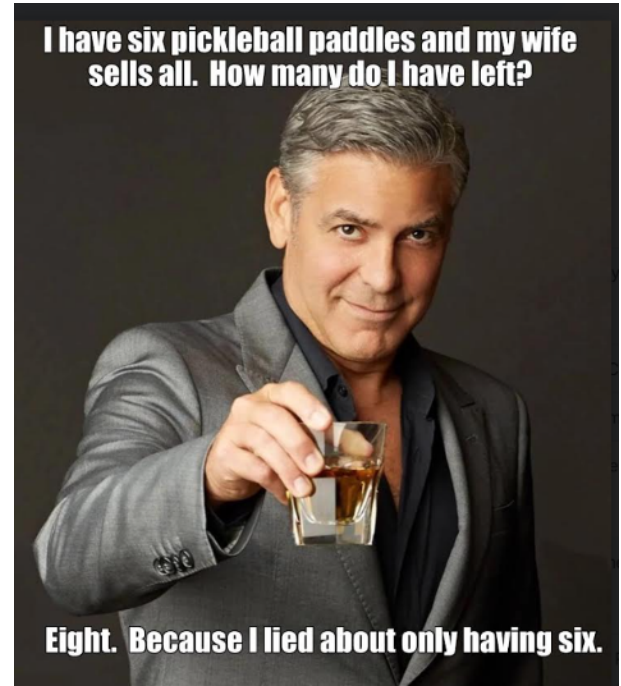
Dink Hit One too Many

Prince Charming is looking for a game. Any Takers??

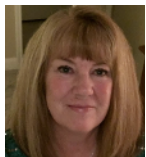


Scottie is just chillin





2023 SCTPC BOARD MEMBERS



Barb Patterson
President



D'Les Longino
Treasurer



Davey Stateler
Maintenance Director



Ron Franke
Vice-President



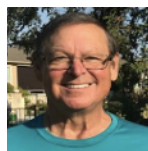
Ric Hutchinson
Director of Player Development



Terry Kennedy
Director of Court Activities (acting)



Peg O'Toole
Secretary



Pete Nadolski
Communications Director



PARTING SHOT

Day is Done over the Texas Drive Courts



Texas Drive Courts at Sun Set