

## Sun City Texas Pickleball Club (SCTPC)

### Paddle Rack System - Texas Drive

(revised November 2021)

To accommodate the continued growth of pickleball within the Sun City community, while preserving the social aspects that the game represents, a paddle system will be used. This system is designed to ensure first come, first serve usage of all 6 SCTPC managed courts at Texas Drive.

A consolidated paddle rack for Courts 1 – 6 is centrally located between Courts 4 and 5.

The rack has a **NEXT BALL** which slides to the next group of paddles.

#### Traffic Flow.

- After placing their paddle in the consolidated rack, players should wait on the bleachers, or in the shaded area between Courts 4 and 5 until there is an open court.
- When a court becomes available, players should **enter** the appropriate court area nearest the paddle rack.
  - Courts 1 – 4 use entry gate at Court 4.
  - Courts 5 – 6 use entry gate at Court 5.
- Players completing a game should **exit** the court opposite the Billiard Hall side of the complex as follows:
  - Court 1 exits the gate on court 1
  - Court 2 exits either the gate at Court 1 or 3
  - Court 3 exits the gate at Court 3
  - Court 4 exits the gate at Court 4 nearest the centralized rack, allowing new players on the court first.
- As a court empties, remaining players on the other courts will shift courts in a direction away from the centralized rack (See the green arrow lines).



- ← Shift this direction when a court is vacated.
- Exit this direction when your game is completed.
- ★ New location of paddle rack, serving all courts.

*Graphic of Traffic Flow.*

**Paddle System.** The Paddle System determines the players for the next open court during Club Members Open Time and Open Time for all Sun City Residents.

- The Paddle Rack System holds up to 40 paddles (4 paddles per each group). Each set of 4 is colored. Paddles placed in one color coded area constitute a group that is waiting to play.
- A player arrives at the centralized rack and places her/his paddle on the next available slot with 3 or fewer paddles in it.
- When more than one group has 4 paddles, the **NEXT BALL** is used to show which paddles have been on the rack the longest and thereby designates those players who are next to play.
- When a court becomes available, one player from the next to play group approaches the rack; removes the 4 paddles from the holder, distributes them to the other players, and **moves** the **NEXT BALL** to the next group.

**If a court becomes available, and 1, 2 or 3 paddles are next in the rack, those players get the court. They get to play/practice until their foursome is completed. In most cases, someone coming off the courts will fill in the open slot(s).**

**The STACKING of paddles is allowed but the next court is not yours until the group in front of you has 4 people or they have already taken a court and an additional court has opened. SCTPC expects that all members will fill out the group whenever possible and, above all, will be courteous to other players.**

**Singles may only be played when there are open courts. If all courts are in use, the singles players may finish their game and then relinquish the court for doubles play.**

Note: If there is an empty court, players do not have to relinquish their court when games reach their end, even if players are waiting.

- For increased safety, there should be no one on the courts except the players.
- Please do not take bags or clothes onto the courts unless you are playing a match or if there is a medical reason to do so.
- If you have any questions related to the paddle system, please contact one of the SCTPC Board members.