



Kitchen Talk

Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter

January

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Barb Patterson

Happy 2023!

I hope your holidays were filled with love, laughter with some pickleball thrown in.

In preparing to write my first "From the Prez" blurb, I realized that what is really needed is a huge

dose of wit and charm so that members might actually read this first page of the newsletter each month.

Unfortunately, despite intense cajoling, pleas and downright bribes offered, Mike Rhoda was unwilling to ghost-write my monthly columns for the next two years. So you are stuck with my thoughts. Negotiations with Mike will continue though.

First off, let me thank the departing board members which include Mike Rhoda (Communications Director), Allie Bower (Treasurer), Kathy Carr (Director of Player Development) and Ed Cahill (President). They (along with the other remaining

board members - Peg O'Toole, Davey Stateler and Ron Franke) led our club through some tough times during the Covid pandemic.

And of course, their diligence paid off with the terrific opening of our 16 Court Complex at Northpoint. Huge thanks to all of them; they have left some mighty big shoes to fill.

Our new additions to the board - Pete Nadolski (Communications Director), D'Les Longino (Treasurer), Ric Hutchinson (Director of Player Development) and I, will do our best, while keeping the prior board members' phone numbers and email addresses handy. (And we know where they live!)

If you weren't able to attend our SCTPC Annual Meeting in November, I highly recommend checking out the meeting minutes and slide show which are available online. You can read the minutes by logging into your SCTexas.org account and clicking [here](#).

We have already held our first BOD transition workshop and are ready to roll.



Here are some of the things we will be working on in 2023:

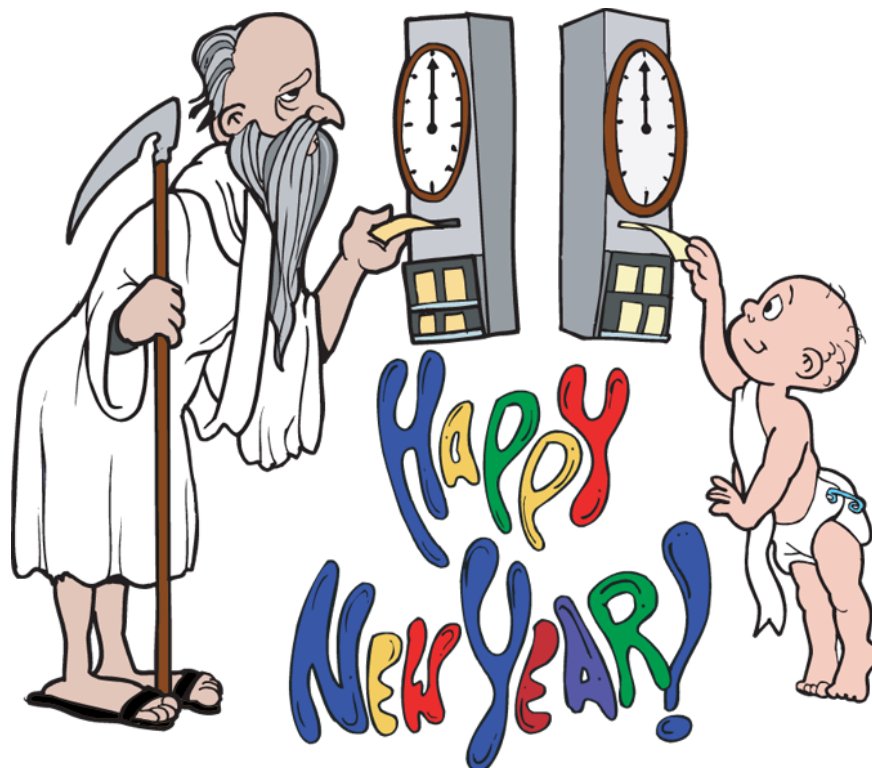
- Club Member Survey (1st quarter of 2023)
- Capital Expense Fund Research (to possibly help fund court improvements or expansion)
- Golf Cart Parking Lot (behind Courts 11-16)
- Outside Tournaments
- Outside Clinics
- Club Grill Program
- Inter-Club Matches with Other 55+ Communities
- Skills & Drills programs
- CMARS opportunities
- Re-evaluating Q4 Club Events (to spread them out more throughout the year)

- Need for Future Court Expansion/Shade structures
- Attracting new Board members

Our club of approximately 1500 members is predicted to grow to 2000 members by the time of Pulte build-out. Clearly this means our programs, events and club offerings will also need to expand. And that's where YOU come in - we will need extra help to implement a lot of these programs. When the member survey comes out; please fill it out. Your input, feedback and help are always welcome!

Barb Patterson

"I don't call them New Year's Resolutions, I prefer the term, "Casual promises to myself that I'm under no legal obligation to fulfill."





CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

TREASURER'S REPORT SUBMITTED BY ALLIE BOWER



SCTPC: (November - 2022) Financial Synopsis

Income totaled \$7,003; \$83 from new memberships, Holiday Dinner/Dance ticket sales- \$2465, Dinks & Dogs/Blue Santa-\$3650, and \$805 from sell of used club pickleball machines.

Expenses of \$14,964: included the culmination of several special events, as well as normal operations: Fall Tournament and BBQ-\$769, Dinks & Dogs-\$310, donation to Blue Santa-\$5000, Holiday event caterer, DJ, & door prizes-\$7632; Maintenance-\$270, Equipment-\$195, Court Reserve-\$180, Player Development-\$231, CA VBO ticket sales fee-\$94, Vol Recognition-\$100, and Administration-\$183. Our overall cash balance was \$7,889. We have 1485 paid members as of 30 Nov 22.

2023 Annual Memberships continue on sale via online and at CA Member Services; annual dues remain \$15.00 per person. All 2022 memberships, regardless of purchase date, expired on 31 Dec 22. There is a grace period to renew by 31 Jan 23 at which time non-renewals will be removed from club membership rolls.

At press time, total number of club members is 1,517.

North Point Restrooms Closed Until Further Notice!

Greetings Members,

Due to the multi-day freeze, significant repairs are needed at the North Point restrooms. They will remain closed until further notice.

Two Porta-Johns were delivered on December 30th. Also, the fountains and ice machine water will not be restored until early January.

We appreciate your patience.



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT.)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Alan	Adler
Jim	Allen
Mike	Altrudo
Scott	Baldwin
Lucy	Barron
Bruce	Batten
Maggie	Batten
Barbara	Bennett
Michael	Brick
Teri	Brick
Sharon	Buford
Krysia	Burton
Donna	Burt
Deborah	Carr
Marita	Carroll
Les	Carter
Susan	Carter
Ronald	Ciarla
George	Clauer
Michelle	Clemens
Marilyn	Clifton
Susan	Comer
Becky	Couch

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Jim	Dreher
Deanna	Edstrom
Mark	Elley
Terry	Farmer
Lynn	Fleharty
Marlys	Fleharty
Pat	Garland
Carrie	Groh
David	Groh
Randal	Hamm
Linda	Harrell
Jon	Irvine
Paul	Jackson
Christine	Kavadas
Jonathan	Kern
Cindy	Kuglin
Marilyn	Lane
Sid	Lane
Bonnie	Lankford
Lilly	Naley
Rolf	Naley
Carl	Nesting
Regina	Nesting

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Paul	Neuman
Gregory	O'Brien
John	O'Rourke
Maureen	O'Rourke
Eric	Ostrowidzki
Angela	Parsons
Nancy	Rogers
Dan	Samuel
Patti	Schade
Dennis	Simpson
Maria	Small
Cindy	Stovall
Jimmy	Stovall
Lynne	Switzky
Doug	Tempel
Simon	Toth
Jim	Turner
Debra	Valice
Ricardo	Valice
L.L.	Van Osdol
Claudia	Verde
Letitia	Williams
Zoe	Zieman



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

Special Offer for Club members!

Periodically we have the opportunity to work with vendors willing to provide offers that we believe will benefit our members.

We are pleased to announce an offer for Club members of a 10% Discount at Pinnacle Essentials!

Pinnacle Essentials is a locally owned one-stop herbal wellness store with locations in Georgetown and Cedar Park. They carry CBD and THC options to address your overall health including pain, sleep and stress support with topicals, tincture, edible and more. They look forward to helping you find solutions that suit your specific needs using the most up to date information available.

Pinnacle Essentials is excited to offer a 10% discount* to the Sun City Pickleball Club! Just mention your membership or use code PICKLEBALL in-store or online.

Ask about our everyday veterans discount of 25%!

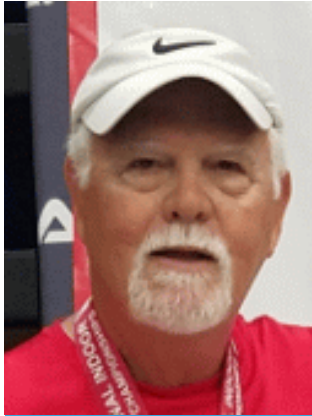
*Discounts cannot be combined or used with other offers.

Note that communication of this offer is provided as a service to our members and does not constitute an endorsement by the Club, its board, or its members of this business or its products.





FROM OUR DISTRICT AMBASSADOR



Chuck Flanagan

USA Pickleball Mid-South Region News

2023 was an extraordinary year for pickleball. Our sport saw tremendous growth and national and international recognition.

Two years ago it would have been unthinkable that the Tennis Channel would be broadcasting live pickleball tournaments. Then came the growth of professional pickleball leagues (PPA, APP, MLP) and the involvement of star athletes from other sports who are now playing and/or bought into MLP teams.

By now most of us have heard that LeBron James and Tom Brady have joined the rush to get involved. However, some of the other notables that show just how popular our sport has become are: Super Bowl Champion Patrick Mahomes, 4-time tennis Grand Slam Champion Naomi Osaka, supermodel and cultural icon Heidi Klum, award-winning actress Eva Longoria, World Cup Champion Mesut Ozil, NBA's Jeremy Lin, and tennis great Chris Evert...although I've heard that John McEnroe is not a fan.

I mentioned that the Tennis Channel has been broadcasting some live matches. I have my TIVO set to record anything labeled, "pickleball", so I get those whenever they come on. For many other tournaments, I just hook up my laptop to the living room TV and watch tournaments live (or slightly delayed) on YouTube.

In the latest Mid-South newsletter Eddie McDonald, our Sector Leader, mentioned that in 2023, *"... we will see some changes, some significant, some simply necessary in sustaining our continued growth. Among them will be restructuring; Restructuring of the Regional Network and restructuring of the Ambassador Program."*

I have no idea what this will entail, however, one change that I can announce is that, as of December 31st, I have resigned my position as the Central Texas District Ambassador for USA pickleball. I've had the job for seven years and felt that it was time to step down. I'm not sure whether or not I will be kept on as an ambassador, but I will continue to play and promote the sport that we all enjoy.

I'd like to remind everyone that the Cedar Park Paddle Battle tournament will be held (indoors) on May 10-14, 2023. Registration will open at 10:00 AM, on March 7th. Here's the link to the official



DISTRICT AMBASSADOR (cont.)

[announcement/registration page.](#)

Keep in mind that many of the brackets will fill up fast, due in part to last year's volunteer referees having the opportunity to register a few days prior to March 7th. So, if you want to get in on the early registration for 2024, think about attending a referee clinic and refereeing at least 10 matches at the 2023 tournament.

Speaking of referee clinics, we will be conducting (at least) two referee clinics a few weeks prior to the Paddle Battle. One will be held during the day and the other one in the evening. Both will be held at the Cedar Park Recreation Center and I'll post the details in a future column.

Rules Questions

The new rulebook will go into effect on January 1, 2023 and can be found [here](#).

Here's a link to the [rule change process](#) and all of the changes that were proposed, comments made about the proposals, and the board of director's decisions and reasoning.

Q: I've seen several pro matches where a player gets called for a 'push-off'. What is

that?

A: A push-off is a non-volley zone violation. The term is used to describe the particular way that the player violated the rule. It's most commonly seen when a player reacts to a lob by stepping forward with one foot (into the NVZ) and using that foot to 'push-off', leaping up and back. The player then lands on the other foot and returns the lob without the 'push-off' foot contacting the playing surface first.

Here's a [link to a video](#) of pickleball pro Jennifer Lucore demonstrating how that happens.

Notice that she's standing about six feet behind the NVZ when she actually violates the rule. Players who are called for this often look down and then challenge the referee because they are so far from the line.

And that's why the term, 'push-off', has come into usage. It immediately defines the violation and how it occurred.



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

By Kathy Carr and Ric Hutchinson, Directors of Player Development

Last month Kathy Carr started this article with the words “Time to say goodbye”. So, I guess I should start my first article by saying “Time to say hello”. It seems like only yesterday that I was talking to Kathy on the courts and said “just let me know if you need any help”. Since then, I’ve been able to be involved in the Beginning and Supervised Novice Training programs, first as a coach and later as the director of supervised novice play. During that time, I’ve gotten to meet and know a lot of very dedicated volunteers and a lot of very enthusiastic new players. So, I’d like to say thank you to the more than 100 members who have been supporting our training, leagues, round robins, and tournaments, we literally cannot do it without YOU.

As this new year starts, I look forward to working with all of you to continue the programs we currently have and to look at what else we may want to add in the future. To do that I’m going to need your help. If you have a passion for the game and a willingness to give back, please let me know. There is a place for you and an experience that you will find to be extremely rewarding and just plain fun. If you would like to be part of the best pickleball program in the country please contact me at Learnpbsctx@gmail.com or 916-873-6990.

I’d like to finish by saying thanks to Kathy for all her hard work and devotion. If you see her, or any of our officers and volunteers on the courts take a minute to say hello.

Here are some details of what we have been doing over the past year.

Program Updates.

1. Ball Machine Operations. It’s always something. Last month, we reminded members about the nearly \$4,000 investment the club has made in our Lobster 2 Pickleball Machines. On top of that, we put 75 brand new Franklin X-40 balls in the storage container with each machine. The MSRP for these balls is nearly \$3.00 each, so please return them with the machine when you are done with your drilling session. Check your pockets and your bag before leaving the courts.

As a reminder, please abide by the published guidelines that are posted to the Club’s microsite. Before reserving a machine, you must complete a brief orientation on the care and operation of the machines. Register in CMARS for the “Club Ball Machine



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

Operations Class". It is offered on Saturdays from 11:30 – 12:30 with class size limited to 20 participants. To date, 109 members have completed the class. Questions regarding ball machine reservations, training, operation, and maintenance should be directed to our Club Ball Machine Coordinator, Brian Loynachan, Email: bloynachan22@gmail.com or phone: 630-862-7152.

2. Leagues.

a. **Kings and Queens League.** Do you have what it takes to take control of the top court and earn the title of King or Queen of this weekly league? Get a partner and one of you sign up for your skill level in CMARS. It's that easy and it's fun. This league will continue through the middle of the month. Days and times are listed in CMARS.

While those who choose to play in the league report their experience as fun and challenging, we are not seeing the level of participation we had hoped for, especially with the Men's Novice and Low Intermediate groups. So, come on guys, sign up and get out there.

b. **League Director Change.** Over the last couple of years, we have offered a wide variety of leagues for players of all skill levels. These have included drop-in leagues, Skinny Singles, Team Pickleball and now Kings and Queens. Execution has required leadership, organization, patience and diplomacy - all attributes of our current League Director, Donna Duffy. When the Kings and Queens League finishes up, Donna will step down from her position and pass the League baton onto Cammie Wait, who is currently managing our 2.5/3.0 Saturday Round Robin. So, thank you Donna for your tremendous contributions to the Club and thank you, Cammie, for your future achievements that lie ahead.



Suzanne Musick and Cheryl Janssen dink battle it out with Gail Kirby and Karen Parker in Kings and Queens League on December 14, 2023. Way to get in the ready position with paddles up, ladies.



c. **League Survey.** As mentioned, this year we presented a smorgasbord of formats for our leagues. Before launching into the next slate of leagues in 2023, we plan to send out a survey to solicit member input on the types of leagues and formats you'd like to see this coming year. Be on the lookout for this in coming weeks and please take the time to complete it. Your opinion matters.

3. **Round Robins.** Our round robin events are a very popular venue within the club. What makes it great is players only need to sign up (in CMARS) and show up. The Club reserves the courts, schedules the other players, and provides a Round Robin Coordinator to direct traffic and answer any questions. Besides the weather, which we can't control, the one thing that can mess up this fun, competitive experience is the player who fails to cancel a reservation or notify the Coordinator that he/she won't be able to make it. This causes 3 other players to sit out every game. Please be considerate and, if within 24 hours of play time, you know you won't be able to attend your Round Robin session, contact your Coordinator and let them know your situation.

4. **Training.**

a. **Introduction to Pickleball.** On 3 December 22, Peg O'Toole and Judy Blackman taught their 28th Introduction to Pickleball class for the year. In total, 334 new members have taken the class in 2022, reflecting a 25% increase in participants over the previous year. Say what?

b. **Beginner Training.** In 2022, we conducted 29 Beginner Training classes and graduated 294 students from this 5-day class. Check out the photos of our most recent graduates.



Beginner Training Class #98 graduated on 3 December 2022. Left to Right: Ron Pena, Jani Boak, Bonnie Morris, Diane Pena, Garland Bullock, Cliff Boak, Toni Teepell, Patrice Jampol, Steve Jampol, Linda Gavin. Not Pictured: Sandy Piland (Instructor), Rick Piland (Instructor), Tori Basque (Asst. Instructor), Simone deVerteuil (Assistant Instructor).



Beginner Training Class #99 graduated on 9 December 2022. Left to Right: Mark Moen (Asst. Instructor) Rick Rickman (Instructor), Mike Saettel, Charlie Teepel, Beverly Schlegel, Bruce Toig, Diane Dancer, Janie Webster, Bob Webster, Kathy Carr (Instructor), Dianna Franzen, Cindy Barrett, Pete Nadolski (Asst. Instructor).

c. Novice Supervised Play. Since the first of the year, we've graduated 233 students from the Novice Play Program, bringing our total to 544 graduates since the program's inception in 2020. We currently have 65 active students: 18 in Group A, 17 in Group B and 31 in Group C. Continued thanks to our staff of volunteer coaches who are out on the courts each day mentoring our newest players.



Simone deVerteuil (on right) coaches Supervised Novice Play on December 14, 2022.





d. Train the Trainer Classes. On 15 December 2022, eight volunteer members completed our Train the Trainer Class. The 6-hour program provides participants with an overview of current course curriculums; introduces technique and practice for feeding balls to ensure student success; practice teaching skills and “detect and correct” skills for improper technique. After completing the class, graduates shadow experienced coaches in Supervised Novice Play and start as assistants to primary Beginner Training instructors. If you think you have what it takes to teach new members how to play pickleball, contact Ric Hutchinson about this class.



Train the Trainer Class #4 graduated on 15 December 2022. From Left: Brian Loynachan, Donna Loynachan, Billy Myers, Cheryl Janssen, Bob Aegerter, Gisele Puckett, Wendell Williams and Dewey Franke. Not shown: Instructors Sandy Piland and Kathy Carr and Camera Man, Rick Piland.

5. Club Teaching Professionals.

a. Available Hours. Our Teaching Professionals, Matthew Boyett and Esteban Espada share Court #23 at North Point, Monday through Saturday from 7 am – 10 pm. 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)) and log into your Sun City account or head on out to Court #23, peak through the fence and see these guys in action.

b. Discount on Equipment. Matthew Boyett is sponsored by Pickleball Giant, a pickleball-only retail store in San Antonio that stocks more than 100 different paddles. Matthew can offer free (advice on paddle selection, and he has several demo models that you can try out. Additionally, he can provide a 5 – 10% discount from Pickleball Giant on any paddle plus free shipping (usually within 24 hours). Just text him with your request at (615) 427-1214.



c. **Thank You, Brenda.** We'd once again like to recognize the contributions of Brenda Neimeyer, who completed her tenure as our Senior Teaching Professional on 31 December. Matthew Boyett has volunteered to take on the task of writing Coaches' Corner for Kitchen Talk starting next month.

TOURNAMENT NEWS

USA PICKLEBALL DIAMOND AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

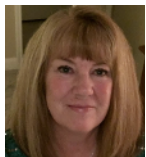
Men's Singles

Steve Frank:	3.5	Bronze	65 - 69
Kobus Pieters:	3.5	Bronze	70 - 74

Women's Singles

Annette Franke:	4.0	Bronze	60 - 64
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2023 SCTPC BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGERS



Barb Patterson
President



D'Les Longino
Treasurer



Davey Stateler
*Maintenance
Director*



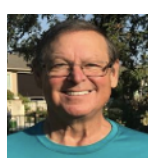
Ron Franke
Vice-President



Ric Hutchinson
*Director of Player
Development*



Peg O'Toole
Secretary



Pete Nadolski
*Communications
Director*

