

PEM Pickleball

Group Membership Meeting Agenda

Thursday, December 4, 2014 4:00 PM

I. WELCOME (Judy Graves and Doug Gibbs, Co-Chairs)

Doug introduced Co-chair Judy Graves and Committee Chairs present at the meeting: Beth Nagle-Finance, Anne Reynolds-Operations, Judy Graves-Organized Play, Bruce Kimmell and Becky Gibbs-Training, Rich Bauman-Tournaments, and Barb Tieskoetter-Social.

A. **Committee Involvement** (if interested get involved)

A couple years ago we only had 40 people in the Pickleball group, now we have 400. We would like to get new blood into the committee, and eventually Chair positions. Committees are formed by volunteers willing to serve, who in turn select their own chair or co-chairs. If interested in volunteering, go to our website at www.pempickleball.com, select the "contact" button, and say what you would like to do. There is also a "volunteer at large" group for those who want to help out on a case-by-case basis.

B. **Southwestern Regional Tournament**

The tournament will be held at our park on December 12-14. The courts will be closed during that time, but players can use the old courts. On Wednesday afternoon, tournament participants will be practicing on our courts. There are plenty of courts so we can still do all our events already schedule. Everyone is encouraged to come to the tournament; it's a great opportunity to watch players 4.5 and above. Judy Graves, Julie and Bill Kanouse, Anne Reynolds, Rita Weihe and Rene Meiers, Karen Marshall and a few others will be playing.

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities to help with this tournament. Rich Bauman is the lead for the parking crew; Anne Reynolds is lead for operations (set-up, clean-up, tear-down, court cleaning, etc.); Donna Bauman and Kay Morgan are leads for the first aid group, and Barb Tieskoetter is lead for food distribution group. See those people after meeting to sign-up.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communications (Doug Gibbs, Chair)

Communications/Promotion/Website - if you not getting emails you may not be on the list or your information has changed. Those not present at the meeting to review their contact information should contact Doug through our website to let him know of any changes.

Current Player Numbers/Dues – Currently there are 400 pickleball players, with about 158 in our park at this time. Most of them have paid dues. If players have not had an opportunity to play their 2014-15 seasonal dues they can pay at the meeting or get a payment envelope at the pickleball courts and send to Beth Nagle –A-55 - via intra-park mail. Dues are only \$10.00 and cover the cost of lessons, organized play and everything we do all year. It also includes

balls (estimated at least \$1,000) per season, paddles for training, office equipment, website, blower, brooms and maintenance equipment for the courts.

Guest guideline for playing pickleball at PEM

A concern and/or question was raised regarding Guest(s) use of our PEM pickleball courts. In order to clarify the issue, all Committee Chairs were asked their opinion regarding the question of “who could or should be eligible to use our pickleball courts. The following suggested guidelines were reviewed. The general consensus of Committee Chairs is stated below:

- 1) If a person is staying in the park – or staying with someone in the park - they are eligible to play “drop in pickleball” any time there are available courts to play on. (We would encourage all persons using our equipment to donate and/or pay the annual \$10 dues to help support our pickleball groups required purchases).
- 2) If a person is staying in the park – or staying with someone in the park – AND – they pay the one time annual \$10 dues (either by the resident or guest) – they will be allowed to participate in lessons and organized play as well as “drop in pickleball” play.
- 3) If a person is NOT staying in the park but is an invited guest by a resident that is staying in the park – AND – the person or host pays the one time \$10 fee for a guest pass - that guest can play in “drop in play” only. No lessons or organized play.

Example:

If you have a house guest staying with you (in the park), and you purchased a (\$10) pickleball "guest" pass for them....they are eligible to play DROP IN - SOCIAL ROUND ROBINS – COMPETITIVE ROUND ROBINS, LADDERS – TRAINING – AND SKILL LESSONS.

Note: In house Tournament Play eligibility is left up to the Tournament Director(s).

All guests have to be hosted. They can come as often as they want but they must be with a resident.

*The purpose of this policy is to address *frequent guest usage* and to not over regulate the occasional guest that stays with you for a couple days, once in a while. So just use common sense. If you plan to have guests frequently, then get guest passes so our members don't have to incur the extra cost. If you have a guest who's here staying with you for a couple days once in a while and not participating in training or organized activity, then you probably don't need to get them a pass. We will review this policy as questions or concerns come up. If you have any questions feel free to contact Doug or Judy for clarification.

Facebook Page – We have a private (closed) Facebook page for our Pickleball group. It's a great way to share pickleball related information and set up informal games. You must be on our roster to join. If interested, email Becky Gibbs at pempickleball@outlook.com and she will send you an invite to join.

B. Social Events (Barb Tieskoetter, Co-Chair)

Committee Introductions - Co-chair, Adele Mather (en route to PEM), and committee members Polly Beam, Mary Craig, Jane McKesson, Marti Mendoza, Pat Hyatt and Mary Ragland.

Coffee and Donuts - First Monday of every month, starting January 5. Coffee and donuts will be served at the pickleball courts from 8:00 –9:00 AM or until they are gone. There is no charge. Another wonderful benefit of the \$10.00 fee!

Fabulous Fun Follies and Potluck – Thursday, January 22 starting at 3:00 PM. This is a fun gathering where we play fun games at the old courts, followed by a happy hour at the cabanas and a potluck. Will post a sign-up sheet in advance for participants.

Mixed Match Madness – Friday, February 6, 10:00 AM at the courts - Round robin is a mix of outlandish mixed unmatched attire that you can dream of. Also includes the annual Cheap Shot Challenge event.

March Potluck/Meeting – Thursday, March 5 at the cabana. Will be appetizers and ice cream with rap-up general membership meeting and video presentation. Details to be announced.

Southwest Regional Tournament – need volunteers to man food booth. Activities is supplying food and volunteers are needed to man station, cut up fruit and give out bars.

C. Operations (Anne Reynolds, Chair)

Committee Introductions – Rita Weihe, Jay Hennies, Joel and Gerd Carbone, Denny Craig, Roy Markwardt, Andy Fisher & Sally Hoegemeyer.

Recent Purchases – Industrial strength hoses and two water brooms. We just had a chance to use the new brooms to clean the courts – worked great. Thank you to volunteers who helped.

Southwestern Tournament Preparation – If it rains we will need helpers to broom off courts. We also need to bring tables and tents to courts the day before. Will be blowing off courts the day before early in the morning. Need helpers. Will also remove balls from sleeves the night before. All brand new balls get put out by the tournament people. Need to measure nets to make sure they are the right height. Other jobs include filling water containers. Let Anne know if you'd like to be on her committee. Set-up will be about 1:00 on Wednesday. Everything usually stays at the courts until the tournament is over.

D. Organized Play (Judy Graves, Chair)

Committee Introductions – Rita Weihe and Anne Reynolds.

Grand Canyon Award – We received a special award from the Grand Canyon Games/Arizona Sports Committee for our volunteer work last year at the Grand Canyon Games.

Southwestern Regional Tournament – Our group will get \$5.00 per entry, about \$800, for helping with this tournament. We will get about twice that amount for the Grand Canyon Games in February. Volunteerism is not for not. We will also get money from the food profits provided by Activities.

Organized Play – Postponing some of the activities until the first of the year when more members are here.

Round Robins – The 3.0 plus women's round robin is going well – there were 12 out on the courts yesterday. The 3.0 plus women's round robin is on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM. Must be a 3.0 or higher player. Becky Gibbs and Jane McKesson are organizing a 2.5-3.0 women's round

robin for Saturdays at 10:00 AM. Sign-up is required. Max number to participate is 19 people. The round robins are more of a mentoring program – higher rated players in each of the round robins are there to help with people who have a desire for more info on placement on court, when to use a certain shot, etc. This is a competitive competition. Hope it is being successful – having a lot of fun doing it in 3.0.

Ladder – Would like to get some sort of feedback on interest in doing ladder. Ladder is definitely competitive. Depending on skill level is where you are on ladder – if you're on top of ladder you play the top players. The objective is to go from the bottom of ladder to top. The idea is to play with and against people of your same ability. Last year we had two ladders – A and B. This year we're doing 2.5-3.0 and 3.5, plus co-ed. Judy asked for audience feedback on whether they want to do it. The consensus was that people were interested in continuing the ladder. The tentative schedule starts January 10. The commitment – players are expected to show up unless they notify Judy by the Thursday prior that they can't. The ladder is set up so everyone knows who they are playing against by Friday. If something comes up, generally there is a list of subs or you can ask people in your group to change to a different day or time. Players have a whole week to get game played. If leaving for a couple weeks, players can go on inactive list. Just because you are gone doesn't affect your standing. All information is on the bulletin board. Format is three 15-point games, win by 1. Usually takes about an hour.

Challenge Court – The challenge court is a way players can see if they are ready to move up in skill level. Say you are a 2.5 player but think you can beat some 3.0s, the challenge court is where you need to go play. Go to the court, put your paddle down and tell players you want to play winners. If you win, you get to stay on court and play again. If you lose you're out. You can challenge again. There is a challenge court on every quadrant for skill level. If you're not sure, go to challenge court and see if that's where you fall. We understand that sometimes there is not enough people in your skill level to play with; this should improve in January when more players come to the park.

E. Training (Bruce Kimmell and Becky Gibbs, Co-Chairs)

Committee members - Gerry Gleiss, Doug Moore, Doug Gibbs, Mary Ragland and Judy Graves.

Skill Level Ratings – We are encouraging every player to develop a skill level rating this year from 1.0 to 5.0. Players should rate themselves. You can watch other established rated players and compare your skills to theirs. The key to the rating is that you have to be consistent at all the skills in that rating. Example: A 1.0 can play like a 5.0 for maybe two points...but that doesn't mean they are a 5.0 player. Having trouble? You can enlist the help of the "Rating Committee" made up of instructors and others to come and rate your play. You must consistently be able to perform certain shots in order to advance your skill level. Bruce and Judy came up with an unforced errors checklist (i.e. missed serve, hitting the net, mistakes you make, baseline out, sideline out, setting up ball, foot faults, etc. Other instructors and more skilled players can help you figure out what you need to work on. 1.0 players may give up three out of four shots in unforced errors (mistakes) while 5.0 players will have very few errors. Note: The Skills Rating handout is available on our website and on the bulletin board.

Lessons and Training – Beginner lessons and skills practice (1.0-2.0) are on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM. We have 30 plus new players and about 12-16 returnees every week. Intermediate skills practice (2.5) is on Wednesdays at 10:15 AM with about 12-16 players each week. Judy Graves started at 3.0 plus skills class on Thursdays at 1:00 PM which is very successful. Trainings are designed to improve the skills in your current skill level and prepare you for the next level. Be

sure to only attend the training for your current skill level. If you're unsure, ask one of the instructors if you are ready to move up.

Ms Pickles (AKA "The Rocket Launcher") – Thank you to Rich and Donna Baumann who donated the ball thrower for use in pickleball training. All skill levels are welcome to practice with the ball thrower while it's up during beginner and intermediate lessons on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Doug has created the "Zero Error Club" with appropriate recognition at the annual pool potluck party on March 5!

Pickleball Clinics – Will be looking for opportunities to bring in outside instructors/speakers to do skills clinic(s).

F. Tournaments (Rich Baumann, Co-Chair)

Committee Members – Don Williams, Co-Chair, Larry Hyatt, John and Kay Morgan and Denny Craig.

First In-House Tournament – January 30-31 (Friday and Saturday). Information and registration forms will be out on January 5.

Southwest Regional Tournament – Rich is lead for parking during the tournament. Anyone wanting to help should let him know.

G. Finance (Beth Nagle, Chair)

Committee Members – Donna Baumann, John and Kay Morgan and Brenda Moore.

Financial Report - \$2,040.00 cash in club account. We've taken in \$1,500 which means 150 people have paid dues; eight or so need to get them in. Most of the money spent last month was through Operations which included hoses, brooms and power cords. We've spent more money than we've taken in this year but are still in good standing. The \$5.00 per player from both tournaments (Southwest Regional in December 2014 and Grand Canyon in February 2015) plus food will help. Encourage neighbors to go buy food during these events. The percentage going to our group has yet to be determined. Last year at Grand Canyon we made \$1,600.00 from food sales. We ended up spending \$1,000 in balls this year.

Water Fountain - Jerry Grimes asked about the drinking fountain. Doug Gibbs reported that we were still working on it. It's not determined yet, but hopeful Roberts will do it. The rough plumbing is being done.

Capital Improvements Status – The Southwest Regional tournament will not need lights because of less people. Most certain the restrooms will not be done and will use the same type of portable restrooms as Grand Canyon. Games will start at 8:00 AM and play until dark.

III. OTHER

- A. Next General Membership meeting January 8 (not Jan 1), 4:00 PM, Recreation Hall
- B. Anyone interested in serving on a committee should contact us via the website.
- C. Grand Canyon – February 17-22 (Tues-Sun) – will need lots of volunteers.
- D. Audience comments/questions/suggestions – none.