

PEM Pickleball

Group Membership Meeting - Minutes

Sunday, March 10, 2013 – evening after potluck

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Chairs

Doug Gibbs noted that our group runs as the result of many hands, and we will need more help as the organization grows. Committees are always open for those who want to volunteer and participate. He then introduced the current Pickleball Committees Chairs, who in turn introduced their individual Committee members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications/Promotion – Doug Gibbs

- Emails will stop, for the most part, as the season winds down around April. Doug will keep everyone's name on the email list unless they specify otherwise. If you take your name off the list, you'll need to make sure it's added back on upon your return. Otherwise, just leave it on the list and you will be set up to get emails again when you return in the Fall.

Social Events – Jane McKesson

- Potluck - Jane thanked everyone for the great turnout at the Potluck.
- Fun Follies – if you didn't attend you missed a great party. The event was not about skills, but all about fun and was held at the old courts, with a potluck following across the street at John and Kay Morgan's and Bert Sealing's.
- Karl Kunz Memorial Tournament – Will be serving a light lunch for players and volunteers. Will sell tickets for \$5.00 at the tournament for non-participants who would like to have lunch.
- March 28 "Mix-and-Match" Fun Tournament – This will be a fun event where players are mixed with partners from different skill levels and are encouraged to wear mismatched clothes. The "cheap shots" contest is being brought back with a special prize for whoever gets the most. Information forthcoming.

Operations – Jay Fellows

- Budget is expended for this year.
- Doug is working on getting information to management to purchase wind screens for the new courts.
- Doug is working with other Pickleball members to design and build a kiosk (similar to Palm Creek) that will be put up at the new courts to display organized play and other information.

- Jay is a committee of one. Anyone wishing to help out in Operations is welcome and encouraged to volunteer on his committee.

Organized Play – Judy Graves

- Rally for the Cure – Judy reported that the Pickleball Group sponsored the 11th hole at this recent golf fundraiser at our park. About \$6,500 was raised in total. Our support in this event was greatly appreciated and we would like support it again next year.
- We've been experimenting with organized activities this year – Round Robins, Shoot-out and Mix-it-Up. An average of 70 people participate in the Round Robins. Players with scores 70 percent or higher are listed on the web. The Shoot-out is a little better method to determine where people should be placed based on their skill level. Over 60 people have been participating in this event every week. Results are posted on the web. We may consider another day and/or time next year for the Shoot-Out. We will play it by ear on when to stop organized play for the season; it will depend on the number of people in the park.
- Players are encouraged to come out in the morning and play advanced players to improve their game in a fun competitive way.
- USAPA Rating System - Instead of rating players A, B, C, etc., we'd like to go to the USAPA skill rating that is more consistent with national standards and provides a better breakdown based on player skills. The Committee will work to get this started in the fall. Players can rate themselves for the purpose of playing in our park, or enlist the help of the Committee to advise them on where to place themselves. USAPA rating is important if you are going to play in outside tournaments, but it also provides a good guide to players on what skills they can work on to improve their play.
- Challenge Court – A challenge court provides an opportunity for players to challenge players at a higher level. For instance, 3.0 players could challenge 3.5 players to see if they are ready to move up.

Training – Wayne Moritz

- There are approximately 12 people per beginner lesson (all new players). Lessons provide the basics and then players can move onto basic skills practice. The number of attendees for lessons will start to wean as the season closes.
- Next year should be exciting as a lot of outside people are inquiring about our courts.
- Judy reported that she, Becky, Jane and Anne had an opportunity to attend Mark Friedenbergs skills clinic in Palm Creek. Consequently, Becky is working with Mark to offer the same clinic here at our park on March 19 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Mark is a 5.0 player and National Doubles Champion. He is known as the Pickleball guru and is incredible to listen too. Everyone is encouraged to attend; you'll go away wondering why you didn't already know that!

Finance – Meg Chrisman

- Meg reviewed the current financial report. Approximately \$329.00 was expended on tournament expenses between this and last year. Approximately \$588.00 was spent on reusable assets such as clipboards, rule books wind socks, dry erase boards, etc. About \$432.00 in voluntary dues has been collected since the first of the year. Our group relies on voluntary donations. Nothing is published on who gives and who doesn't. Those participating in organized activities and events are encouraged to donate.
- The most recent asset acquisition from Pickleball Group funds was leaf blower that Larry Hyatt will keep in a secure location at his house during the season.

Tournaments – Don Williams and Rich Bauman

- Rich reported that there are 24 teams signed up for the March 16 Karl Kunz Memorial Tournament. Intermediates start play at 8:30 AM, registration to begin at 8:00 PM. The Committee will email the brackets out to participants and will advise the Advanced players when to come to sign-in. A lot of the advanced players will be refereeing the earlier games. We will be picking up tables and chairs on Friday at 3:00 PM and setting up at 7:30 AM on Saturday. We will need help after the tournament to take down and clean up. See Rich if you can help.
- Anne has been training refs. Refs need to check-in before 8:30 AM. Don is the ref assignment official and will use a new dry erase board system to assist in tracking ref availability.
- The Tournament Committee would like your input after this tournament is over.
- Don is working with PEM management on an invitational involving other parks.
- Don is working on a PA system for the tournament. Not sure when the park will get one, but it would be nice to have one ourselves.
- Don reported the courts have been in horrible condition with dust, making the surface dangerous. It takes about 45 minutes for four people to sweep the courts. The addition of the new blower will help to speed this process up and will work better to clean the surface.
- Final sign-up for the Karl Kunz Memorial Tournament is noon on Monday, March 11.
- Doug explained to those who are new to the group that Karl Kunz started Pickleball here at Pueblo El Mirage. He passed away a little over a year ago.

OTHER

- None

AUDIENCE COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

- None

Next monthly meeting: Thursday, April 4 (Recreation Hall)

If you have any comments, concerns, questions, or ideas please contact the appropriate Committee or Judy and Doug.

Our Website: [Pueblo El Mirage Pickeball Group](#)