

PEM Pickleball

Group Membership Meeting - Minutes

Thursday, February 7, 2013 - 4:00 PM

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Chairs

Doug Gibbs welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Pickleball Committees Chairs, who in turn introduced their individual Committee members.

Co-Chair Concept

Judy Graves reported that at the Committee Chair meeting she suggested there needed to be a way to better channel Pickleball information from the Pickleball Group to PEM management so they are not overwhelmed with requests coming from a lot of different people. The Committee decided there should be a chairperson to represent the group. Several nominations were made and declined. Judy volunteered to do it as long as it was a Co-Chair position. Doug Gibbs volunteered to help out, and the Committee voted unanimously that Judy and Doug be Co-chairs to represent the Pickleball Group. Judy explained that this was subject to change at the end of each season when Committee Chairs are selected. All common questions should go to the appropriate Committee. If the committee cannot get resolution they will forward the question or issue to Doug and Judy to take to PEM Management. This does not preclude anyone from going to management on their own if they choose.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications/Promotion – Doug Gibbs

- Email List - Doug reported there are currently 210 active Pickleball players. He explained the purpose of the email list was to maintain accurate player contact information for announcements on Pickleball activities and events, and that the information would only be used for that purpose.
- Website - He encouraged everyone to go to the website at <http://pempickleball.weebly.com/index.html> for a variety of information regarding our group and outside resources. The website is updated regularly and is designed to provide information for all skill levels and abilities. There is a "Contact Us" button on the website for anyone having questions or ideas.

Social Events – Jane McKesson

- February 16 Tournament - The Social Committee will be providing some refreshments such as donuts, bagels and coffee in the morning, and a variety of snacks throughout the day such as bananas, trail mix, etc. Participants need to bring their own lunch and drinks (other than water). Big coolers of water will be available.
- March 10 Potluck – The annual potluck will be at the cabana at the swimming pool. We will hold our regularly monthly meeting then (instead of March 7). More information is forthcoming.

- Fun Tournament – The social Committee is planning a fun event that will have very little to do with skill, and all about fun. Details are forthcoming. They are hoping to have a potluck at John and Kay Morgan’s along with the event (like last year). The old Pickleball courts will be the likely location.
- March 16 Second Annual Karl Kunz Memorial Tournament – Jane explained that for those who did not know Karl, he was the person responsible for getting Pickleball started here at the park. He passed away two years ago, suddenly. Last year was the first tournament in his honor. Karl’s wife, Marilyn, provided the lunch last year. We will be doing the lunch this year, so expect the cost to go up accordingly!
- Get Well Cards – if anyone knows of any Pickleball player who gets hurt, is ill, has surgery, etc., to please let the Social Committee know so they can provide a card for everyone to sign up at the Pickleball courts.
- Jane asked if anyone had any ideas for fun things they’ve attended in the past to please let them know.

Operations – Jay Fellows

- Wind Screens – The blue tarps have been taken down from the new courts and will be placed on the old courts. Jay will coordinate a work group to accomplish this. PEM Management is in the process of getting prices for wind screens for the new courts.
- Locker – The locker containing the Pickleball paddles at the new courts will now be locked with a combination lock, rather than the key lock. (The combination will be sent out to everyone via email.) If you forget the combination, you can obtain it from the Activities Office.
- Unified Committee – The Unified Committee is a group of representatives from each park activity group that meet once a month. It’s an opportunity for each group to share what’s going for their activity and bring issues forth to PEM Management. Jay will be attending this meeting on behalf of the Pickleball group on February 12.

Organized Play – Judy Graves

- Round Robins – 30 people participated in the beginner/intermediate round robins last week. You do not need to sign-up in advance, just show up. There were eight to ten players at the advanced round robin on Saturday.
- Shoot-out – The Shoot-out is held every Wednesday from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. This event is for all levels. Players are broken into their appropriate skill level. **YOU MUST SIGN UP BY TUESDAY the day prior in order to play.** (Sign-up sheets are located at the Pickleball courts every day during open play.) If you show up without signing up you may be able to play, but only if someone doesn’t show up. All the court assignments are prepared the night before. Almost 50 people played in the Shoot-Out this week. If you want to play as a sub in the shoot-out, let Judy know; you will only be asked to sub in your skill group.
- Mix-it-Up – This is a new event starting next Thursday, February 14 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. No advanced sign-up necessary, just show up. There will be two basic groups – A/ B (advanced and intermediate A), and B/ C (intermediate B and beginner). Names will be drawn to form teams.

There will be 11 minute games or play to 11 (whichever occurs first). Players rotate clockwise with winners moving up and splitting to play with new partners. This is a fun event and a way to get to know others from different skill levels. It's also an opportunity for advanced players to help others.

- Gold Again! - Doug announced that Judy Graves, being all too humble, failed to bring up the fact that she and Rita Weihe won gold this week at Venture Out in Mesa, playing at a 4.0 level.
- Outside Tournaments – Judy identified several PEM Pickleball players who have been playing in outside tournaments. If anyone is playing in a tournament, please let us know so we can come out and root them on. Anne Reynolds, Jane McKesson, Larry Hyatt, Jay Hennies, Rita Weihe and Judy Graves will be playing in the Grand Canyon State Games February 16-24 at Sun City, details forthcoming. For more information on outside tournament opportunities go to the USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) website at: <http://www.usapa.org/>. A question was asked about how to rank yourself for a tournament if you have not played in one before. Judy said for their first tournament the tournament director advised them on which skill level to enter.

Training – Wayne Moritz

- Beginner Lessons – In addition to the Training Committee members, Roy Markwardt and Jay Hennies are helping with beginner lessons on Tuesday mornings. Approximately 20 plus people were at Tuesday's lesson, 14 plus were returnees. Turnout varies.
- Beginner Skills Practice – Anne Reynolds, Becky Gibbs and Jane McKesson are working with beginners on skills every Thursday at 10:15 AM. (Note: Those who have taken lessons are encouraged to come and practice and play with others in the beginning skill level. You can also come during daily open play; most players show up around 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM.)

Finance – Meg Chrisman

- Financial Report – Meg reported that there was **\$841.85** in our Pickleball Group account as of today. Breakdown by year:

2012 (Jan 1 – Dec 31)

Revenues:

\$370.00 voluntary dues (53 people)

\$124.40 donations (donation cans)

Net Revenues: \$356.85

Expenses:

\$65.75 Social Events Food/Drink

\$71.80 Website expense (annual)

2013 (Jan 1 – Dec 31)

Revenues:

\$250.00 voluntary dues (40 people to date)

\$235.00 Feb 16 tournament fees collected

\$ 0.00 misc donations

Net Revenues: \$485.00

- Meg clarified that dues are a *voluntary* donation of \$5.00; some people give more. Her committee will not divulge who has paid and who hasn't, just the number of people who have donated. We did not pay for a lot of food last year, however there were a many personal donations made to

support events. There will be expenses for the February tournament that have not been submitted yet. Meg reminded everyone to use the Reimbursement form.

- Jay reported the operations budget is overspent by .40. The group discussed the possibility of purchasing small items like windsocks and an outdoor clock with club donation funds. Meg emphasized there needs to be good communication between our group and PEM Management to avoid duplication and get agreement on what we purchase for the courts. Doug and Judy will talk to Vickie Jepperson, PEM Management, about the windsocks and other issues at their meeting next week.
- Ed Chrisman urged everyone to not underestimate the need to be fiscally responsible (i.e. adequate donations to support our activities). He urged those attending the meeting to talk with those who were not in attendance and encourage support of the group through dues donations and volunteering. Doug has the volunteer list, so if anyone is interested they should contact him in person or through the website.

Tournaments – Don Williams and Rich Bauman

- February 16 Tournament – Rich reported that there are currently seven divisions that include 41 teams. Sign-up will close on Sunday. Anyone wishing to sign-up after should contact the committee directly. During the tournament please wear your name tag. Check in is at 8:30 AM, tournament will start at 9:00 AM. The Tournament Committee will be creating the brackets on Monday and will get them to Doug Gibbs to distribute via email prior to the tournament. Anne Reynolds has been training refs for this tournament. All matches will have refs, with the finals having refs and line judges. Bring your own chair. It was suggested there be a notification in the PEM News because last year a lot of residents came to watch. It is fine to bring your own cooler. Doug reported Sonny Clifton, PEM Sales Manager, will be providing a cart for restroom runs.
- March 16 Tournament – Don reported this will be the 2nd Annual Karl Kunz Memorial Tournament. It will be mixed doubles with three skill levels: Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner. Higher level players (advanced) are being encouraged to play with intermediate players to help level the playing field. This is strictly voluntary; however the Tournament Committee reserves the right to ask high-powered players to mix it up a little. Lunch will be provided as part of the entry fee. It's anticipated there will be at least 50 teams in this tournament, so more referees will be required.
- Future Outside Tournament – Don reported that PEM Management would like us to sponsor an outside tournament. This year we will focus on in-house tournaments and see how that goes. PEM has some things to do before we can sponsor such a tournament, but it is our goal. Some items include electricity (for computers), Wi-Fi, restrooms, water, wind screens, etc. This issue will be brought up at Doug and Judy's meeting with Vickie.
- Don said they invite input on what the tournament committee is doing.

OTHER

Refs in Training – Anne Reynolds

Anne is a certified referee for Pickleball. She reported that the Tournament Committee asked her to certify others in our group to be refs. She has trained 19 in the first round. She emphasized that it's a great opportunity to learn the rules and regulations of the game and lots of fun. She will be

conducting more training. Everyone needs to ref six games to become certified, so refs in training may ask you if they can ref your game during open play. Contact Anne if you're interested in becoming a ref. Anne also has rule books you can check out to review.

USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) – Anne Reynolds

Anne encouraged everyone to join the USAPA to support the game of Pickleball. Cost for one year is \$25 and you get a free tee-shirt, three years is \$68 (\$22 a year), and five years is \$100 (\$20 a year). If you join for three or five years you also get a rule book. Check out the USAPA website at <http://usapa.org/>. There's a lot of great information, including training drills, tournament information, tips on exercise, what to eat, etc. You will also receive a monthly email newsletter that is very worthwhile.

Lost and Found and Picking-up at Courts – Doug Gibbs

Doug reminded everyone that items left at the court will be placed in the locker where the paddles are stored. After a short period of time, they will be taken to the Activities Office Lost and Found. Remember to pick up your water bottles and trash, and take your chairs home rather than leaving them overnight. Our Pickleball courts are the first thing you see when entering that side of the park so please keep them looking nice!

Golf Cart and Car Parking – Doug Gibbs

Doug reminded players that PEM Management has asked us to please park golf carts on the south side of the Pickleball Courts and cars in the parking lot so as not to affect the main road coming into the complex. Don Williams reported that eventually there will be a path that leads to the courts from the other road (south of the courts) and the area will be graveled and have landscaping.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

Becky Moritz suggested our Pickleball group support the Women's golf Club **Rally for the Cure Golf Tournament**, either by sponsoring a hole or funding another need or activity. It was suggested we sponsor a hole. It was so moved by Becky Moritz and second by Ed Chrisman. Motion passed (overwhelmingly). Meg Chrisman will make sure the donation is made on our behalf.

Rita Weihe asked about the possibility of inviting outside Pickleball groups to come and play at our courts. Judy and Doug will discuss with Vickie during their meeting next week.

Gerry Gleiss was concerned about an event that occurred at the Pickleball courts. Apparently some kids and their dog came into the park and were playing tennis on the courts. When Gerry talked to them about it he was told to "kiss off." Doug suggested that everyone put Security's phone number on their cell phone (623-583-4010) so they can call when these situations occur. (Note: If you cannot get through, you can always go up to the guard shack at the entrance and they can radio someone.) Judy and Doug will put it on their list of things to talk about with Vickie.

Next monthly meeting: Sunday, March 10 (annual potluck)

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