

**Pueblo El Mirage Pickleball Club**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 4, 2019**

- I. Call to Order
  - A. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.
  - B. Members present: Randy Bode, Gary Pike, Lynn Retzak, Janett Hampton, Rich Baumann, Don Williams, Shannon McClean, Doug Gibbs, Peter McClean, Mike Golden.
  - C. The Nominating Committee Report was moved to the first item on the agenda.
  
- II. Nominating Committee Report: Kelli Mollison (Chair)
  - A. Kelli introduced the committee members: Karen Isaacs, John Owen, Michael Mollison, Wayne Shindledecker, and Sherry Hulbert.
    - 1. The committee's goal was to find qualified candidates, so the members looked at candidates' background and skills, seeking candidates from various rating levels who have good organizational skills.
    - 2. There are two candidates for Vice President, one for Secretary, and six for the three Member at Large positions.
      - a) One Member at Large candidate is only interested in the one-year position. If that candidate receives one of the top three votes, he/she will take the one-year position
      - b) If the aforementioned candidate does not receive one of the top three votes, the top two vote getters will take the two-year terms.
      - c) The committee recommends that if any of the members can not complete their term, the fourth-place candidate should be taken into consideration for filling the vacancy.
    - 3. Bios and ballot information need to be sent out on Wednesday to all members. Doug will send it out on Wed morning; Karen will send the information to Doug.
    - 4. Voting will take place between 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm on March 13, 2019, at the Banquet Hall.
    - 5. Kelli stated that the committee would like to revise the bylaws so that next year absentee and proxy voting will be allowed. Gary will check the current bylaws and will follow up with Kelli.
    - 6. Randy will announce the winners during the banquet.
    - 7. Doug will send a list of active members to the committee so they can cross off names as people take a ballot.
    - 8. Kelli will leave bios for the Board to review; they will also be posted on the website.
  - 9. Gary stated that the banquet committee plans to set up the voting in the outside bar area at the Banquet Hall. Banquet attendees will vote and then enter the banquet hall through the nearby door. Immediately inside will be the door prize chart, where attendees can check to see if they won a door prize.

- III. The February 5, 2019, Board Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved after the correction of one typographical error.
  
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Janett Hampton
  - A. Janett Hampton provided a printed report.
  - B. The starting balance from October 1, 2018 was \$21,087.47
  - C. Income to date is \$47,373.73.
  - D. Total expenses to date are 30,441.75
  - E. Balance in the account is \$38,019.45.
  - F. The Treasurer's report was unanimously approved.
  - G. Janett added expense forms to all the receipts submitted before the form was created; she will be gathering signatures for forms.
  
- V. President's Report
  - A. Ratings/Training/Planning for 2020
    - 1. Recent Rating Process
      - a) The club tried a new rating system, which didn't work out. The club then worked with Jeff Tomlinson to create another rating system.
      - b) Because Jeff and others went through the IPTPA process, that process was used to put together a program for rating at PEM.
      - c) A trial rating was run on Saturday, February 23.
      - d) The official rating event was held on Wednesday, February 27. Due to the number of players being rated (12), the event ran overtime and needed to be halted; only three players completed the entire rating. None of those players passed.
      - e) Many players were upset over the lack of consistency in skills rating and the lack of time to complete the entire assessment.
      - f) While it is clear that there must be something different for the 2019/2020 season, the Board needs to look at options for the players currently in the process.
    - 2. Randy presented a future rating plan for discussion:
      - a) Rating levels 1.0 – 3.0
        - (1) Training will continue to take players from beginners to 3.0.
        - (2) Trainers will continue to make decisions on players moving up; players do not request a rating change.
        - (3) Beginning 2019/2020, Training will incorporate IPTPA and current USAPA skills.
      - b) Rating levels 3.5 and above
        - (1) Players determine when they are ready to attempt a rate increase.
        - (2) Players will use IPTPA or USAPA. This would eliminate the internal stress that has been created by using PEM raters.
        - (3) Jeff would provide skills training for 3.0 and 3.5 to prep for the skills test.

- c) A final decision would be made by a joint meeting with the current board and the new board.
  - d) There are several training personnel openings for 2019/2020: Training lead, 2.5 Training lead, Beginners Training lead.
3. For players who have finished part of the current 3.5 rating process, there are two options:
- a) Set up a playing test for the five players who passed the skills test.
  - b) Stop the process here and implement a new process next year.
  - c) Discussion ensued about what to do for the remaining players this year.
    - (1) Randy expressed frustration that the club has not yet found a way to address the concerns of the current group.
    - (2) For the five who passed the skills test, some did not have the opportunity to take the playing test so raters would be needed for that. The club has historically used the next highest rating level to rate down; 4.0 would be needed for 3.5 rating.
    - (3) Peter suggested that the twelve players involved in this year's rating session would get priority for rating next year.
    - (4) Randy suggested that the club pay \$100 for an IPTPA club membership. He also suggested that the club could add \$10 or \$15 to help buy down an external IPTPA rating session fee for those 12 players.
    - (5) Gary stated that he felt that the club owes the players something this year.
    - (6) Doug pointed out that future players might complain that they didn't get their rating fee reduced. Peter suggested that the club pay for the entire amount for those players to see if the system works for the club. All twelve would start over, and all twelve would be paid for. After that, players would pay for their own rating. Randy pointed out that two players who requested rating were unable to attend the internal rating session and should be added to the twelve on the list.
  - d) A motion was made by Peter to (1) have PEMPC join IPTPA, (2) cancel the 3.5 rating process for this year, and (3) in 2019/2020 pay the IPTPA rating fee for the fourteen players who applied for 3.5 rating this year; this enables the players to rate next season with an external IPTPA rater. The payment for the identified players allows the club to investigate whether this is a viable rating system for 3.5 and above. Don seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. A vote was taken on the motion. There were seven yes votes, one no vote, and one abstaining vote.

4. For the lower levels, there needs to be a limit for how many times a player can attend training without moving up.
5. 2.0 and 2.5 ladder groups were most populated. Even so, numbers for all organized play groups is moderate.
6. Training is filled to the maximum most weeks.

B. Executive Session

1. An executive session was called to discuss a personnel issue.
2. The executive session ended, and the Board returned to the agenda.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Communications: Doug Gibbs

1. Players are still arriving.
2. There are 431 paid members this season, which exceeds last season's 418.
3. Doug will send out the Karl Kunz tournament brackets by end of day.

B. Operations: Rich Baumann

1. Everything is set up for the Karl Kunz tournament.
2. Gates Policy: Can players ask for permission to cross a court?
  - a) Discussion ensued
  - b) It was decided to table the decision.

C. Organized Play: Peter McClean

1. There was a meeting on Saturday with Training and Organized Play
  - a) For fall and winter, it was proposed that training have the 1-3 pm time slot on Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri.
  - b) For fall, it was proposed open play is 7 am to 1 pm.
  - c) The plan includes two ladder times in fall, plus couples play on Saturday
  - d) Final decisions need to be made by Organized Play and the Board. It is simply under discussion at this time.
2. 404 players are currently on Trackithub, which is over 100 more than we had registered last year.
  - a) 5 players registered as 1.0
  - b) 28 players registered as 1.5
  - c) 63 players registered as 2.0
  - d) 99 players registered as 2.5
  - e) 91 players registered as 3.0
  - f) 92 players registered as 3.5
  - g) 26 players registered as 4.0+

D. Training: Shannon McClean

1. Shannon wrote a report and will send it electronically to be included in the minutes.
2. There has been an unusually large number of players who want training.
3. Shannon suggested that training for beginners and then ongoing skills training is needed. Tracking the players has been a logistical nightmare.
4. Shannon stated that while the club has a great training program, it should be changed next year to focus on skills.
5. Gary suggested incorporating skills training and drills throughout the levels. Mike outlined how the sixteen courts could be used efficiently to run drills. Additional equipment would be needed.

E. Tournaments: Don/Mike

1. Karl Kunz
  - a) 87 players are registered for Karl Kunz.
  - b) 11 referees have been lined up.
  - c) Frenchie will handle the 1.5 and 2.0 play.
2. The committee is recommending combining the January tournament with the Karl Kunz into a two-day event the first week of March beginning 2020. The fee for that tournament will be increased since it is two days and players can enter for both days. Peter suggested it be held on a weekend. The Board agreed with the recommendation.
3. Kokopelli
  - a) 499 players participated.
  - b) Many complimentary emails have been received.
  - c) The club will net around \$17,200.
  - d) Mike will line up vendors and sponsors for next year. Several have already signed up. Mike has approached Sports Medicine about sponsoring for 2020 and they have indicated that they will.
  - e) Next year's shirt design will be made available so that players can see the shirt when they sign up.
  - f) Next year has a one day overlap with Grand Canyon, so Becky will contact GCG and ask if they can delay one day.
  - g) Next year's dates are February 15,16,17.
  - h) Only four balls broke this year.
  - i) Don will read a letter at the banquet that was from a player.

VII. Banquet: Gary Pike

- A. Tent cards are being created for the table decorations.
- B. During social hour and dinner there will be light background music. There will be additional music afterwards for people who want to stay and dance.
- C. Kitty is making new Kokopelli decorations, and the Kokopelli banner will be put up.
- D. Gary will work with Kelli to place the voting table where the board requested.
- E. There are several gift certificates as prizes.

- F. Special awards will be discussed with Randy.
  - G. The USAPA District Ambassador will not be able to come after all.
  - H. A video will be played with pictures from this season, A Year in Review.
- VIII. Good of the Order
- A. Nothing to add.
- IX. Upcoming Meetings/Events
- A. Annual Banquet, March 13, 2019, at the Banquet Hall
  - B. Board Meeting April 2, 2019, at the South Card Room
- X. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.