

PEM Pickleball
General Membership Minutes
Thursday, January 9, 2014 – 4:00 PM

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Doug Gibbs welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Committee Chairs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social Committee – Jane McKesson, Chair

- The Fun Follies that was scheduled for February 19 is in conflict with the Grand Canyon Games and will be rescheduled. (Note: The new date is now Sunday, January 26.) This is a fun social event takes place at the old courts with cocktails and potluck at Sealing/Morgan's (now moved to Williams/Gibbs/Reynolds sites 698-700). The event starts with a happy hour, followed by fun silly games at the courts (no Pickleball experience or talent required) and concludes with the potluck. Details to be announced.
- The Mix Matched Madness round robin is scheduled for February 7 at the new courts. Players dress up as mismatched as possible. This is a fun non-competitive social event. Details to be announced.
- The annual potluck/meeting is scheduled for March 9 at the pool cabana. This date is reserved a year in advance. Details to be provided closer to the event.
- Coffee and donuts will be served at the new courts on the first Tuesday of every month at 9:00 AM. Our first event this week was very successful with all courts in use!
- All events will be identified on our Pickleball calendar located on the bulletin board at the courts and on our website.

Operations – Jay Fellows and Anne Reynolds, Co-Chairs

- Anne just purchased more Pickleballs. She is also looking into the cost for a water pressure broom for court cleaning.
- Jay will be working with the resort to see if we can move some of the benches from the old Pickleball court (and other places) to the location.
- Ann reported that they are cleaning the courts on a regular basis and just purchased four new brooms for our use. Anyone interested in helping with on-going court cleaning and maintenance should contact Anne.
- Doug and Judy are working with management on lighting for courts 1-4 in lieu of the resort renting them for the Grand Canyon games. They are researching to make sure they are done properly. The lighting will be available for our use as well. There is a 9:00 AM curfew on having the lights on as part of the original permit approval for the courts. A new electrical vault will be installed for the lighting and other electrical needs. The resort still needs to go through the City permit approval process.

Organized Play – Judy Graves, Committee Member

- There was a good turnout for the intermediate round robin on Friday (ran by Rich Baumann). The advanced round robin is now on Thursdays at 8:00 AM. Three courts were in use for this Thursday's round robin.
- The ladder started slowly and has now boomed with approximately 20 people in each (intermediate/novice and advanced). Positions on the ladder will work themselves out as people play more games. It takes about three to four rounds before you're in the right spot.
- Every court was filled for the Coffee and Donut event. This is just drop-in regular play. Judy is trying to schedule Onix Sports to come to one of the Tuesdays to demo their paddles. Players would have an opportunity to try out their paddles and purchase. Anne Reynolds also has paddles for sale if anyone is interested, and paddles are available through a variety of vendors at the tournaments.
- Ladies Day is currently scheduled for the third Wednesday of every month. The first event will be on Wednesday, January 15 from 10:30 to 12:30 PM, with lunch to follow at the El Mirage Bar & Grill (inside) for those who are interested. This is a fun way to get to know people. An email will be sent out in advance to get a head count for those going to lunch. Meet at the bulletin board if you're interested in playing. After this week we may move this event to another day because it conflicts with the Skills Training class.

Training – Larry Hyatt, Committee Member

- Larry complimented all the trainers for their hard work.
- More than 90 people have been trained so far.
- Starting in February all beginner and intermediate skills training will be combined into one class to be held every Wednesday at 10:00 AM, courts 5-8. Players will be broken into small groups based on skill level and everyone will be learning the same skills.
- Anne Reynolds will be conducting a class for new referees that will also be a refresher for those who were trained previously. The class will include important updates on rule changes. Date and time to be announced.

Finance Committee – Doug Gibbs, Stand-in

- Doug said the green star on the name badge means your Pickleball dues have been paid.
- About 299 people played Pickleball last year and this year; approximately 190 of them are in the park right now. About half of those players have paid dues. The money goes towards non-capital improvement items such as balls, equipment to clean courts, etc.
- Doug reviewed our current financial standing. The money is going down quickly due to the cost of balls, water brooms, maintenance equipment, etc.
- A couple of members have raised concerns about paying dues and felt it should be part of their lot rental. Doug likened it to playing golf, where the resort provides the golf course but players bring their clubs and balls and still pay to play golf. Many other activities in the park have been collecting dues for years. Roberts Resorts pays for a lot of capital improvements, especially for Pickleball, and collecting dues helps us to support our activity by providing the smaller items such as balls, paddles for new players and training, training equipment, website and office supplies, etc.

Tournament Committee – Rich Baumann, Co-Chair

- After Don Williams, Co-Chair for this committee, arrives they will meet to determine the date(s) for the annual Karl Kunz Memorial Tournament. There will be tournament fees to offset costs and provide for awards.
- The Committee may work on another reciprocal day with the other two Roberts Resorts, Gold Canyon and Sunrise. There was a lot of positive feedback on the event that was held in November.

Communications/Promotion – Doug Gibbs, Chair

- Doug asked if everyone was getting their Pickleball emails. Sometimes the emails end up in people's "Spam" folder.
- When printing the calendar on our website, make sure to use the printer setup to resize or shrink it onto one page.
- Becky Gibbs is working on a closed Facebook page for the purpose of informally scheduling games and sharing information. This will be a closed site and you must friend the page. To friend the page you must be a resident in our park and on the Pickleball roster. There will be a short test period to make sure it is secure. If you do not have a Facebook account and want to learn how to set one up, Becky will be teaching a class in the near future at the computer room. An announcement will be made once the site is up and running.
- Doug received approval from the Chair Committee to change our website domain name from pempickleball.weebly.com to pempickleball.com. He will make announcement when the change has been made.

OTHER/AUDIENCE COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

Grand Canyon Games – Doug and Judy will be meeting with the event coordinators next week. We need LOTS of volunteers. Volunteers can sign-up to help with food (cutting up bananas and assisting Activities with food distribution), parking, filling Igloo water containers, or anything else we may need help with. If available, please sign up on the sign-up sheet located at the bulletin board at the courts, or contact us through our website at <http://pempickleball.weebly.com/contact-us.html>. Please let us know what you are willing to help out with. We will contact you to firm up details closer to the event. If you are interested in playing at the Grand Canyon Games it's not too late to sign up. For more information go to the Grand Canyon Games website at <http://www.gcsgpickleball.org/>. To sign up for the tournament go to <http://pickleballtournaments.com/main.pl>. If this is your first time playing using this website you will need to create an account and profile first, and then sign-up for the tournament you want to play in. If you don't have a partner you can indicate that when you sign up and they can try to link you up with someone. Final deadline is February 9, 2014.

Name Tags – Please remember to wear your name tag at the Pickleball courts, whether playing in recreational drop-in play or organized events. This is becoming increasingly important as our group continues to grow.

Shirts – Judy reported that we are looking into special shirts for our group. We are in the process of working on the design and logo and will attempt to get them done before the Grand Canyon Games.

Afternoon Drop-in Play – Donna Baumann encouraged players to also come to the new courts at 2:00 PM for drop-in play (like last season). The Communications/Promotion Committee will revise court signage and update the web and information provided to players.

Water Container at New Courts – The Committee chairs considered a previous request to put an Igloo water container at the new courts to be maintained by the same people who do the ones around the golf course. Because of potential unsanitary conditions the Committee chose not to take on that liability. For the mean time, players need to bring enough water with them until a water fountain is installed. Our group will continue to provide water, under controlled conditions, for certain organized events.

Guests and Dues – a question was brought up about guests (staying with a resident) participating in organized events such as the round robin and whether they are required to pay dues. It was clarified that for now, guests of residents or people staying the park less than 30 days are not required to pay dues. A suggestion was made that a member could get a “guest” pass from PEM and simply pay the extra dues for their guest. This includes organized play such as the round robin and training. However, donations are encouraged and always welcome. This is similar to how the golf clubs handle it. Palm Creek’s policy is to pay a donation for organized play. Our policy could change in the future as our group grows.

Special Thank You - Jerry Grimes complimented everyone on all their hard work. Thanks Jerry!

Next monthly meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2014 – 4:00 PM Recreation Hall

If you have any comments, concerns, questions, or ideas please contact the appropriate Committee Chair or Pickleball Group co-chairs Judy Graves or Doug Gibbs by going to the [PEM Pickleball Group](#) website and use the “Contact Us” tab. We will make sure your message gets to the appropriate person.