

# PEM Pickleball

## General Membership Minutes

Thursday, November 7, 2013 – 4:00 PM

### WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Judy Graves welcomed those new to Pueblo El Mirage and new to our Pickleball group.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **Social Events – Barb Tieskoetter, Committee Member**

*Social Events Committee members include: Jane McKesson, Chair, Adele Mather, Mary Ragland and Mary Craig.*

- The meet-and-great round robin held on November 5 was a success and provided an opportunity for players to meet and play Pickleball with new people. There was an excess of leftover cookies that will be used for future events. Safeway cookies...not so popular (for future cookie-buying reference)!
- Last year we had some fun play days that we plan to do again this season. They include:
  - Fun Follies – social hour/potluck followed by fun silly games at the old courts. Tentative date is Sunday, January 19.
  - Mix Match Play – players wear crazy miss-matched outfits (optional, but encouraged) and play in a non-competitive round robin format. Player with the largest number of “cheap shots” wins a special rotating trophy. Tentative date Friday, February 7.
- Annual Potluck/Meeting – Sunday, March 9 (date is firm).
- May be planning more events in addition to those noted.

#### **Operations – Jay Fellows, Chair**

*Operations Committee members include: Jay Fellows, Chair, Rita Weihe, Guy Smith, Jay Hennies, Denny Craig and Roy Markwardt.*

- The lights are on in the old courts with the exception of one that has a transformer problem which they are in the process of fixing.
- The activities budget is not out yet. Will know after the Unified Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 12, what the status is.
- The Operations Committee needs help with court maintenance. Anyone wanting to volunteer their time to help clean courts should contact Jay (or send an email through the PEM Pickleball website to be forwarded to the Operations Committee). They also need help in setting up for tournaments, taking care of things that need to be fixed, etc. Jay will find out if PEM will do any court maintenance.
- Don Williams reported that he, with the help of some others, is constructing a bulletin board that will be placed at the Pickleball courts. It will be located on the west end of the courts close to where the future sports area will be constructed. The bulletin board will contain Pickleball informational items, sign-up sheets, etc. Posts will be installed on Friday and the bulletin board will be erected on the following Wednesday. Beside the web, the bulletin board will be the key to get information to players.

## **Tournaments – Don Williams, Chair**

*Tournaments Committee members include: Don Williams and Rich Baumann, Co-chairs, Larry Hyatt, John Morgan, Kay Morgan and Denny Craig.*

- On Monday, November 18, we will be hosting a “fun day” event with the two other Roberts Resorts in our area – Gold Canyon and Sunrise. Players from both resorts expressed an interest in playing with new people. Most players are entry level/intermediate level. Play will be a round robin format that will focus more on enjoyment and less on competition. Gold Canyon will be bringing 15-20 players and Sunrise around 12. Space is limited to 30-40 of our players and sign-up is on a first-come first serve basis. Sign-up sheets will be available at the new bulletin board. May do more events if this is successful.
- Inside park competition – the committee is tentatively planning an in-house tournament around the third or fourth week of January. Information forthcoming.
- Grand Canyon Games February 19-23 – Judy Graves reported that PEM has agreed to host the Grand Canyon Games here at our park. This is the third largest Pickleball tournament in the world with approximately 400 participants and is a USAPA Tier 2 tournament. This is a HUGE undertaking. The resort will be providing toilet facilities (trailers with real bathrooms) and temporary lighting. The coordinators of the Grand Canyon Games provide everything else, including equipment and people to run the tournament. We will need the assistance of PEM volunteers for traffic control, parking, filling water coolers and cutting bananas, etc. For more info go to: <http://www.gcspickleball.org/>.
- The Tournament committee would like one more person to serve on their committee. If interested, please contact Don Williams or Rich Baumann.

## **Organized Play – Judy Graves, Chair**

*Committee members include: Judy Graves, Chair, Rita Weihe and Anne Reynolds.*

- There will be two types of organized competition this year – round robin (for fun) and the ladder (competition/placement) as follows:
  - Round Robin - Beginners/Intermediate Round Robin is scheduled for Fridays at 9:00 AM. No sign-up required. Rich Bauman will be running this event. Advanced Round Robin is on Saturdays at 8:00 AM. No sign-up required. No recording of scores. Play will last approximately two hours. Games will run to 11 points and you only have to win by 1.
  - Ladder – The Ladder will be on Tuesdays at 2:30 PM and replaces the “Shoot-Out” we did last year. The Ladder will be run using the USAPA website and scores will be recorded. This will provide an opportunity for players to see where they rank and play with others in their own skill level. There are two ladders, one for beginner and intermediate and the other for advanced. Participating in the ladder takes a bit of commitment. Once you sign-up it is assumed you will be playing every Tuesday. Links to ladder schedules and results are on our website at: <http://pempickleball.weebly.com/ladder-play.html>. Players have the ability to place themselves in “inactive” status and return later in their same ranking. Players who cannot play on a certain day need to contact the Ladder Captains Judy Graves or Anne Reynolds in advance, or call a sub (if one is available in their skill group), or call the other players in their group to reschedule or take an absence for the week. Players who do not show without making any prior arrangements will be dropped from the ladder for three weeks. Scheduled play to begin Tuesday November 19 unless players make other arrangements to play at a later date. This is just a general summary; please see the details outlined on our [PEM Pickleball website](#). Informational handouts are also available at the courts.

## **Training – Larry Hyatt, Chair**

*Committee members include: Larry Hyatt, Chair, Anne Reynolds, Gerry Gleiss, Becky Gibbs, Doug Gibbs, Doug Moore, Bill Wheeler, and Bruce Kimmell.*

- Beginners Class is on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM – Twenty-six people attended this week.
- Advanced Skills Training is on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. Six people attended this week.
- Beginner’s Skill Practice is on Thursdays at 10:15 AM. Twelve people attended this week.

## **Finance – Beth Nagle, Co-Chair**

*Committee members include: Jane Hyatt and Beth Nagle, Co-Chairs, John Morgan, Kay Morgan and Brenda Moore.*

- Beth reported on our current financial status and where money was spent last year - gas blower, wind socks, clocks, clipboards, water containers, etc. Money used for these expenditures were collected through voluntary donations.
- Everyone will be asked to contribute a \$10.00 donation this year that will allow us to continue to support the needs of the group.

## **Communications/Promotion – Doug Gibbs**

*Committee members include: Doug Gibbs and Becky Gibbs*

- 120 people are currently playing Pickleball in the park. We have 278 members total.
- Updating our PEM Pickleball website routinely with information on organized play, fun events, tournaments, etc. Website: <http://pempickleball.weebly.com/>.
- Becky is working on creating a “closed” Facebook page that members can use to schedule informal games, post photos, etc. Participation is totally optional.

## **OTHER/AUDIENCE COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS**

- Bobby Butterfield was contacted by a Pickleball group from another park who were interested in playing from our park and suggested that maybe we could do a reciprocal visit. Bobby will follow-up to get more information.
- We have a group of “volunteers at large” and that includes *Gerry Gleiss, Karen Gleiss, Jay Hennies, Raja Hadawi, Roy Markwardt and Marte Mendoza*. *Volunteers from this group help out on a case-by-case basis helping to move equipment set up for tournaments and events, etc. We need more volunteers. If anyone is interested, please contact Doug Gibbs through the PEM Pickleball website.*
- *Anne Reynolds asked who was taking care of the courts. Currently, the same Pickleball members are doing this. Jay will ask at the Unified Committee Meeting if the park can do it. Larry Hyatt recommended we get a power washer for cleaning the courts.*

Next monthly meeting: December 5, 2013

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.