



Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide instruction and encourage interest in the fun, healthy, recreational sport of pickleball for people of all ages and abilities.

We are a 501(c)(7) Nonprofit Club



From the California Department of Public Health (updated April 6, 2021)

The current county general requirement states: The following people do not have to wear face coverings: People who are outdoors and maintaining at least 6 feet of distance from others not in their household (though wearing a face covering is still generally recommended under the circumstances). [Public Health Order Frequently Asked Questions - Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - County of Santa Clara](#)

A very warm welcome to all our new members who have joined the club since the last Newsletter!

Please don't hesitate to let the board know if you have any ideas of ways to improve our club, or join us at the occasional "Pickleball Chat" on Zoom. It's exciting to see so many players coming back to the courts now that many of us have been vaccinated. Pickleball has actually thrived during COVID and the sport has grown 20% this year. See [this special feature](#) on CNBC on Friday, April 16. Enjoy!

NEW UPDATES

NEW MESSAGE BOARD AT THE COURTS

Check out the new message board at the entrance to the courts. This was approved by the city and funded by the club.

RETURN THE NETS TO STORAGE

When you finish playing on a multi-purpose tennis court, please return the net to the storage area if no one is waiting to play, usually in the afternoon. We have 3 older nets that can stay out for visitors when the storage area is locked. Please leave these next to the fence near the side gate by court #15.

STEVE SUTTON & 2021 USA PICKLEBALL WEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

We are proud to announce Steve Sutton, honorary member of our club, the guy who was instrumental in helping with our campaign for courts and who went out of his way to attend many local meetings and speak with city officials, is now the USA Pickleball West Region Director for California and Hawaii. Steve has also notified us that the 2021 USA Pickleball West Regional Championship Tournament will once again be held in Fountain Valley, CA on September 13-19. Registration will open on Tuesday, May 11. Your USA Pickleball Membership must be valid through at least 9/20/2021. Even if you don't play in tournaments, please join USAPA to support pickleball. It's worth \$20 per year just to visit their website! <https://usapickleball.org/>

LIGHTS FOR NIGHT-TIME PLAY

The horn that alerts players that the lights are going out has been fixed. Please let Jimmy Young know if it stops working again at jhyoung@hotmail.com.

WATER FOUNTAIN

Yippee! The water fountain at the corner of the patio has been turned on. Don't forget to keep hydrated!

FIRST AID

Please be aware of the location of the first aid cabinet hanging on the left, inside the storage facility. Be prepared in case of injury and you need an icepack or a band aid. In an Emergency, dial 911 and direct the paramedics to the courts at the back of the parking lot at 3864 Middlefield Road. (Ability/Path)



TRASH & RECYCLING – KEEP THE COURTS CLEAN

Please be aware of the waste/recycling/compost receptacles on the front patio and please USE THEM! These receptacles are serviced each morning Monday-Friday. The City has a new municipal code that requires providing a 3-sort system for commercial spaces. Unfortunately, we only have one set at the courts and the City currently does not have any additional funding to add any new receptacles to the area. Please use the 'zero-waste method' to "pack it in, pack it out." Whatever you bring to the courts, take it home with you, i.e. used masks, empty bottles, broken balls, snack wrappers etc., or place them in the appropriate waste/recycling/compost receptacles, and don't hesitate to remind your pickleball buddies!

REQUESTS FOR IMPROVEMENT

We are still awaiting a response from the Community Services Department regarding our requests to:

1. Improve the multi-courts by painting the lines with a brighter color. We have offered to fund the cost of this project and have a professional line-painter ready to do the job.
2. Update the green City Policy Signs with more accurate information for time of play.
3. Allow priority use of the multi-purpose courts from 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm at least 4 times a week.
4. Provide extra benches or allow our club to purchase a few more.

CLUB COURT RULES

For those who haven't seen our new court rules sign posted on the message board at Mitchell Park, please take a few minutes to read it. We developed the rules to address the most frequent questions and playing scenarios. Of course, this sign doesn't cover every situation and many new players have not seen the rules. If you experience a scenario that isn't covered by these rules, please try to have a conversation that results in a fair outcome. Please reach out to Rich Pearson or Ed Anderson if you have any questions.

NEW DROP SERVE

There have been questions about the new drop serve. Check out these links with C.J. Johnson <https://www.cijohnsonglobal.com/pickleball-rules-2021-the-drop-serve/> and 5 things you didn't know with Jordan Briones: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=faRt8pfzpZc> As a courtesy for club members, a new 2021 Rule Book will soon be hanging in the storage area. Regards, Sam Friedman, Rules Chair

Pickleball Court Rules

- Courts are open for all ages and skill levels on a first come, first served basis.
- When courts are full and players are waiting, limit game play or drilling to 20 minutes (including warm-up).
- Games will be played to 11 points, win by 2.
- When courts are full, waiting players may place paddles next to the net of a game in play. When the game is over, players will relinquish the court to those waiting, as follows:
 - 4 paddles down: all players leave court to those waiting.
 - 3 paddles down: one player from winning team stays on.
 - 2 paddles down: the winning team stays on.
 - 1 paddle down: one player from losing team leaves.
- Serving side must announce score before every serve.
- Double stacking of paddles (playing a game while having a second paddle waiting on another court) is not allowed.
- An individual may not hold a court when players are waiting.
- Recreation department programs have priority use.
- No private lessons permitted.

Palo Alto Pickleball Club



ROUND ROBIN "FUN" CELEBRATION TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to all who participated in the first doubles round robin since COVID! And congrats to the grand champions of each team.

Team Dashers: **Michelle Mathews**

Team Crashers: **Jack Borak**

Team Smashers: **Annie Feller**

Team Bashers: **Steve Feller**

Team Blasters: **Anne Kopf-Sill**

Tournament Directors: Susan McConnell and Monica Williams



Team Winners

L to R: Anne Kopf-Sill, Jack Borak, Michelle Mathews, Annie and Steve Feller



NATIONAL CHAMPION AT MITCHELL PARK

Irina Tereschenko, USA Pickleball National Champion in Pro Singles and Doubles and a US Open Pickleball Champion, dropped in to play a few games at Mitchell park recently. It was a treat for those who were lucky enough to play with her. Thanks Irina!



MORE PLAY TIME!

NEXT "FUN" ROUND ROBIN – FOR VACCINATED PLAYERS ONLY!

Thursday, May 6 at 12:00 pm. 4 teams of 8 players. You will play 7 games to 7 points with 7 different partners. Top 4 in each team play-off. All levels invited. Tournament Directors: Susan McConnell and Monica Williams. **To register, email Susan with your rating at susan-carl@outlook.com.**

CHALLENGE LADDERS

By popular demand, and thanks to Billy Chow, ladders will be active again soon! Sign up now to be ready to start challenging on Saturday, May 1. We are starting from scratch and anyone may join by adding your information to the respective ladders on the club [website](#). We have 9 ladders: 4 doubles including both advanced, recreational and a popular team-ratings-capped doubles, 4 singles (including skinny), and a youth ladder. Please continue to update the ladders on the Google sheets after your respective matches. Be sure to plan your challenge match at a time when the courts are not crowded.

NON-CHALLENGE GROUPS – Multi Skill Levels

If you can't find someone to play with, this is for you! The club has formed six different groups: beginners, novices, 2.0-2.5, 3.0, 3.5, and one for youth ages 11-17. These groups will help players find other players at their same skill level, and are simply a way to meet other players for some fun pickleball play or practice, not for challenges. Visit the [website](#) to join a group!

YOUTH OUTREACH

Jen Schultz, Zander and Quincy's mother, has offered to chair the Youth Outreach for our club. We hope to encourage more younger players to join the youth ladder and to play lots more pickleball..

CLUB REMINDERS

CLUB OPT-IN DIRECTORY

We have 171 members of all levels in our online club directory which you are welcome to join.

To submit your contact information go to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1WwCL5tHeyHA_WIFNR6wBMMp51kzIDBQU8EPhkhwQA0Q/viewform?xids=7628&edit_requested=true

ELECTRICAL OUTLET

The newly installed electrical outlet will allow us to re-charge our ball machine and leaf blowers.

FACEBOOK

For posting fun photos and spreading pickleball joy, share with our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/paloaltopickleballclub/>



BALL MACHINE

JD said she used the ball machine last week and LOVED it so much that she lobbied to be on the ball machine team. On Thursday, April 29, at 10:45 am, she will set up the ball machine for those who haven't yet tried it and teach you how to use it safely. So stop on by and give it a try! JD will be on the far court for anyone who wants to give it a shot and learn some fun drills or just to practice your shots. Text JD at 415-305-3379 if you want to secure a spot since the battery life of the machine is limited. Best to also invite a second person to share your time to help with the ball pick-up.

CLUB T-SHIRTS

Extra t-shirts are available for purchase in the storage area.

- Crew neck sizes: XL & XXL and V-neck sizes: Small, XL & XXL.
- Self-service – choose your shirt and just leave a \$15 check made out to the Palo Alto Pickleball Club or contact Jamie Pearson to pay with Venmo: jpearson@gmail.com.
- Jamie said, "We'll be ordering more shirts (possibly in different colors and styles) later this year."



NAME TAGS

Amy wrote: Wearing your name tag is a nice way to help forgetful people avoid the embarrassment of admitting they can't remember your name. Please grab yours from the board in the storage locker if you haven't retrieved your name tag yet for 2021. Check the back of the tag for your surname. If your tag has been hanging on the white-board for 4 months, I will retrieve it and reuse it. If you can't pick it up, send me a note and I'll hold it for you until you are able to pick it up. Additionally, if your name is misspelled, if you prefer a nickname, or if you lost your tag, just email me at papc.membership@gmail.com and I'll make you a new tag.

BALLS

Some players have requested a way to purchase a bunch of balls for their own use. Cost for a Franklin X-40 3 pack online costs \$9.99 plus \$5 shipping. As a courtesy for club members, the club will purchase in bulk and offer balls for \$2 each. Jimmy Young has offered to manage distribution so please contact him if you want to purchase any pickleballs at jhyoung@hotmail.com.

USED PADDLES

If you have any used paddles you want to sell for a reasonable price, Jimmy Young is also coordinating and managing this service. If you're interested, mark your paddle with your name, phone number, the price that you will sell it for, and the price when it was new. Link to paddles available:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19-p89L7bfTgkeu5Wg_OEPvLMibA0mh7o0nM8NW68-E/edit#gid=0

CLOCKS

Thank you, Charlene, for your suggestion to provide clocks and for your contribution to the purchase.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items are hanging on the gate in the storage facility which is open every morning. This is self-managed. If you find something left on the courts, please hang it in there. And if you lose something you may find it hanging in the same place. Hurry and check this area to claim your stuff: shirts, jackets, pants, hats, glasses, keys, Rolex watches! Everything will be donated if not claimed in 3 months.



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

How to get a game if you come to the courts alone?

For safety and convenience, many players since COVID have been pre-arranging games and meeting their partners and opponents at the courts. Please read the club court rules on the front message board for suggestions on how to get a game if you are alone. Also, If you hang out at the entrance another player may call you if they need a fourth.

Seasoned pickleball players are aware that pickleball is an inclusive sport, so we encourage all of you to keep an eye out for visitors who are alone and appear hesitant or confused as to how to get into a game. Reach out to welcome them and suggest they put their paddle down on your court and rotate into a game – or direct them to a game that is more at their level.

We all enjoy the game so much that we tend to be focused on playing and not be aware of those who may need a little help. Please remember our Motto: "Arrive as a stranger, and leave as a friend."

PAPC Board of Directors

Ed Anderson, LD, Amy Lauterbach, Louise Loh, Susan McConnell, Rich Pearson, Monica Williams, Dave Winters, and Jimmy Young.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at: papc-2020-board@googlegroups.com

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