

# SSC Pickleball Club

0-0-2 Newsletter

January 2023 Issue



## President's Corner

Dennis Rosett

Happy New Year Pickleballers!

I addressed the court issues in a blast so I will not go into that here as I am excited for what is coming. The last PBC Board meeting was January 3rd. Trudy Donnelly and Gord Alder presented a proposal to develop a new website for the club. At the end of their presentation the board voted to go ahead with the project and approved their requested funds to get started. They have formed a committee that includes board member David Baker as the liaison to the board. The website will be a huge improvement; more to come.

The board also approved funds to move from email Dodo to MailChimp.

Tom Hopfensperger has formed a Communications Committee and you will see the first newsletter at the end of the month.

I am forming a Court Usage Committee and have room for a volunteer or two; please contact me if interested. Greg Eisman, a club member, is a credentialed instructor. He will be giving some free clinics and be allowed to give lessons. This will work much like the Tennis Club. Greg is on this committee as well.

David Smith has formed a Bylaws Committee; it is closed.

Claire Coulston has her Event Committee working on something special for the grand opening of our courts.

Len Lewinski has formed a Fundraising Committee and they have been busy as you will see.

Mary LeGrand has formed a Tournament Committee and they are working on several ideas.

I asked for volunteers to step forward to work on committees and get involved and you have. Of course, more are welcome and appreciated; after all, making your Club what you want it to be is up to you.

**Reminder: Open Board meeting 10.00 AM Feb. 4 th Room #3 South Community Hall.**

Input from you, the members, is always welcome. Have new ideas? Let's see them! I have created an email address that is monitored by David Smith and me. Please feel free to contact me using it.

Dennis Rosett: [sccbprez@gmail.com](mailto:sccbprez@gmail.com)

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**Engage has given the Club a code for their website - it is 20SCCP. The code will give you 20% off of everything on our website at engagepickleball.com. This code will not expire.**

The only thing that they request in regards to sharing this code is that you do not share it publicly on social media; a club newsletter is ok.

## **Greetings from the Entertainment Desk!**

Clair Coulston

Although we are in a holding pattern because of construction, we are still busy planning events for when the construction is done. Our first party planned is a "Grand Opening" party. We are planning a "Hawaiian Luau Cookout" to be held at our new facilities.

We are always looking for more people to help with the events, so if you are a fire dancer, a hula dancer or just someone who likes to help and have fun, please reach out to myself or Renee and we will find a spot for you!

We are also open to any ideas that you have for upcoming events. Like Dennis has said many times, "the more people who get involved, the better the club will be." Just reach out to us with your ideas and we will get them in motion.

## **From the Secretary**

Dave Baker

While we anxiously wait to have new home courts, the construction project has negatively impacted our membership numbers. The club currently has a low renewal rate of 68 percent. The unavailability of home courts and thus inability to provide free lessons has also reduced new memberships. We have 13 new members this year compared with 40 at this time last year. I am looking forward to everyone playing on our new courts in SCC.

## **From the desk of the Fundraiser \$ Committee**

Your money hungry board.....

John and Fiona Orton, Kerry Austin and Len Lewinski

2023 will be an exciting year for the Pickleball Club of Sun City Center. The Fundraising Committee has come up with good ideas to gain much needed funds for the Pickleball Club. These funds will go into general funding to be used at the discretion of the Board. We will be working with Element 3 Health to allow some members not to pay any of their dues. An easy ongoing fundraiser for the club....

How can you get your yearly pickleball dues paid by your health insurance? This is open to adults with participating Medicare Advantage Plans. The member signs up, and logs in whenever they play pickleball. Your health insurance plan rewards you for your healthy activity by directly paying our club. In turn, we would be able to waive your yearly dues. This is a win-win for all. There is no cost to the member to join. Just a simple log in and recording of each pickleball activity can benefit us all. There are numerous Medicare

Advantage Plans that participate in this through Element 3 Health. Register, play, record and get rewarded. How easy.

**Sign up and informational meeting will be held February 27th 6:00 p.m. in the lawn bowling room pavilion.**

In March FunFest will be happening and another opportunity for raising funds. We will be having a bucket raffle along with allowing members to purchase SCC pickleball shirts. Along with membership sign up, bring your check books. T-shirt purchases can be made only with checks. As dates and times get closer, more information will be given out. If any member wishes to donate to bucket raffles, please inform any member of the fundraiser committee. Accepted items would be: alcohol, wine, art or anything of mass appeal. We are also looking forward to the opening of the new courts with a possible fundraising event at that time.

## Member Stories

Dee Dee

Let's give an enthusiastic welcome to Vaughn and Terri Funk as first-time members of SCC Pickleball. Terri and Vaughn moved here via Ventura County, California. Terri is a native Californian and Vaughn is from Ohio (GO Buckeyes!). Terri's parents have lived in King's Point for 25 years and that's how Terry and Vaughn found their way to our lovely community.

The Funks moved here last October and were very curious about this thing called "pickleball". With the courts being shut down, it hasn't been easy to learn and play. Also, both of them work remotely, so their window of opportunity to play is low. But .... they are determined and are doing a really good job of working in learning and playing (and holding down those pesky jobs). Bob Storie and Kerry Austin have taken them under their wings by bringing them into the fold even though our home courts are in disarray. Terri and Vaughn have been joining some of the groups that have been gathering at Freedom Plaza and Apollo Beach. Also, they've been welcomed into some play at Kings Point. So watch out .... they will be seasoned by the time our new courts are ready for action.

Terri and Vaughn are not only new to our community, but they are newlyweds--married in October 2021. They met in the Moose Lodge and had their reception in the American Legion .... how much more American can you get (LOL)? They have five children and two grandchildren.

## Simple Tips to Improve Your Pickleball Game

Deb Tourangeau

1. Always be in ready position and focused to be ready:
  - Feet shoulder width apart, knees slightly bent
  - Keep weight on the balls of your feet (not heels)
  - Relax shoulders and upper body
  - Keep paddle and arms up and in front of body with paddle slightly up
2. **Learn to dink—Dink early and dink often!**

Dinking is a soft short drop, primarily done near the non-volley zone (NVZ or kitchen) hit over the net into the opposing NVZ (kitchen).

Learning the soft game requires the ability to dink effectively.

More tips: [www.thepickler.com](http://www.thepickler.com)

Rules Tip: **Judging Line “In or Out” Balls – Rule of Thumb:**

- If you can see a gap between ball and line, the ball is called “out”. No gap or arc is over the line, the ball would be considered “in”.
- If a ball appears questionable or any doubt, the call would go to the advantage of the opponent and is considered “in”. If your team member disagrees, the ball is considered “in”.
- Calls should be made promptly (before opponent returns ball) and loudly. All players should be watching the ball as it is played.

**Fairness and accuracy are important to keep the game fun and friendly!!**

## **Sunshine Coordinator**

Charlene Peterson

Hello everyone! Let me introduce myself--my name is Charlene Peterson. I will be taking care of the Sunshine Committee which is here to show support for all our club members and their loved ones who might be ill or have unfortunately passed. It can also be for someone who might just need a little cheering up. I will make sure they know we are all thinking of them in their time of need for whatever reason. You can contact me at my email address which is--- **iodine1982@gmail.com** or you can call my cell phone at **443-690-7907**, whichever is convenient for you.

## **Current Events**

Steve Tortorella

This is our 1st edition for the new year of 2023.

The club is looking forward to the completion of the new courts which was started on Dec 5, 2022. The present work completed is very professional. Yellow crime scene tape three inches wide, encircle the courts. There seems to be a hold on construction due to the fact that several people have been injured and a few have come back from the dead. OSHA will be taking interviews before construction can start again. Time line TBD.

The good news is our Governor will be at the Grand Opening cutting the ribbon once OHSA says it's safe. A scheduled tournament will take place. Special guest **Tom Brady and his football team**, will be there. Nothing else to do since they lost their playoff game.

Coaching the offensive play will be Byron Leftwich. He likes dinking, can't get past the short game. Todd Bowles will be coaching the defensive play. Middle middle solves the riddle.

In order to keep active with our arm stroke we will be having horseshoe and cornhole lessons. Shuffleboard is another option if you like a ground stroke.

May the Pickle be with you.

Signing Off

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**Club members may send your news, pictures, or questions to:**

[Pickleballnewsletter23@gmail.com](mailto:Pickleballnewsletter23@gmail.com)

Information can be submitted but may not be used because of space and deadline, which is the 15th for the end of month publication. All information is reviewed prior to publication by the Communications Committee.

