



Newsletter - Winter 2021

by: Dona Cassidy

Pickle Power Press

Hello, fellow Pickleballers! Welcome to the first edition of our club's newsletter. The newly formed club's purpose is to promote the game of Pickleball by being inclusive of all people, ages and skill levels. It will sponsor various activities that will be entertaining, casual, and open to all members of the Pickleball community. There will be opportunities to encourage youth workshops and participation. The club hopes to disperse pertinent information related to Pickleball at the local, regional, and national level. Even though the club is newly formed, it already boasts 65 members and is growing rapidly. This newsletter welcomes user-generated content. Remember that the goal is inclusivity. Everyone is welcome at all functions in the future. The official bylaws are available on the club's website which is under construction: organmountainspickleballclub.com There is information on Facebook under Organ Mountains Pickleball Club.

The club's email address is:

organmountainspickleballclub@gmail.com

*****Club Officers are as follows:**

President: Becky Dominguez
Treasurer: Kathy Rittenbery
Executive Officer: John Mylius

Vice President: Lita Reser
Secretary: Gerry Rittenbery

*****Membership Information:**

Membership costs \$5.00 per year. Contact Kathy Rittenbery at organmountainpickleballclub@gmail.com to arrange money transfer. Members are encouraged but not required to purchase a club tee shirt with the official logo. Members may take a shirt of their choice to any shirt vendor. (be sure to let us know of any vendor you might suggest) For example, **Sports Accessories** in Las Cruces already has the logo and can either provide a shirt for purchase - or you can take your own shirt to have the logo applied. Here is an image of the logo for your use:



*****Input from Members or Interested Parties:**

Note: If anyone would like to post information in the newsletter, please submit it through our president, Becky Dominguez at:

organmountainpickleballclub@gmail.com

Per Laura Smart: Laura Smart and Virginia Barbier are now members of the club. As Pickleball Ambassadors, they are volunteer representatives and official spoke persons for USA Pickleball in the geographical area they represent and/or at large. Their primary responsibility is to promote and grow the sport of PB. Their contribution to the club will be in supporting the purpose and goals of the Organ Mountains Pickleball Club.

*****Local News and Activities:**

Due to Covid restrictions, organized local activities are not being planned at this time. We hope this soon changes so that the fun can begin!

*Becky Dominguez, President, has been communicating with Sonya Delgado at City of Las Cruces Parks and Rec Department. about our new organization. Sonya wishes to encourage members to check the website for pertinent information regarding program resumption, new Pickleball facilities, (see recent news release regarding Apodaca Courts) and restoration projects. The website is www.las-cruces.org . Sonya has reviewed our club's bylaws and will hopefully help facilitate our purpose and goals. She was open and positive about working with Becky and the club on issues. Of course, it is understood that due to the pandemic, there have been delays and a lack of PB venues.

Would you rather play Pickleball or watch TV.....?

*****Regional and National News:**

As many of you already know, there are 125 new rule changes in PB for 2021. Some are just wording changes to increase clarity. A couple of major changes are that let serves have been eliminated. Serves that hit the net and land properly in court are played. Also, the drop serve is added as a provisional rule. Players may continue to use the current serve and add a drop serve to their repertoire. Videos to explain the new serving techniques are readily available on You-Tube. A new rulebook is available for purchase from USA PB.

***** Ask the Ref:**

True or false? If you ask your opponent's opinion about whether a ball was "in" or "out", you do not have to accept that opinion.

The answer is **False**

According to Rule 6.D.5 of the official USAPA/IFP Tournament Handbook, it states that: No player should question an opponent's call unless asked (except that any player may appeal a call to the referee in an official match). A player should ask the opponent's opinion if the opponent was in a better position to see the call. **An opponent's opinion, if requested, shall be accepted.** The opinion of a player looking down the line is likely to be more accurate than one looking across the line.

That's it, folks! Remember this:

You can't buy happiness, but you can play Pickleball.....and that's pretty close!!!!!!