



JUNE, 2025 NEWSLETTER

POPULATION RELATED TO OUTDOOR COURTS

We didn't get Schaumburg which would rank high, but here's how nearby towns rank:

1) Kildeer 1094 per court, 2) Hoffman Estates 1498, 3) Barrington 1721, 4) Lake Zurich 1968, 5) Libertyville 2278, 6) Buffao Grove 3057, 7) Mundelein 3179, 8) Wheeling 3617, 9) Arlington Heights 4763, 10) Palatine 5406.

Interestingly, our club's membership includes 1,350 Palatine residents. More who reside in Inverness, Rolling Meadows, and Hoffman Estates may be in the Palatine Park District too. I've kind of worn out my welcome asking for Palatine to keep up. Maybe you could try.

FAMILY FUN TOURNAMENT

This was our second Family Fun tournament, for any Palatine Pickler to partner with any relative to whom he/she is not married. A few couples may have stretched the truth of their relationships. This didn't happen last time, and it won't happen next time, but I wasn't up to turning away those questionable relatives. We all had fun anyway. Here we are.



Front: Howard, Randy, Linda, Nichole, Kenzie, Judy, Natalie Standing: Troy, Dina, Angie, Allie, Joe, Tony, Randy, John, Cindy, Finn, Bear, Deborah, Karyn, Tom, Maureen, Gerd, Karen, Marti, & Nacho



Angie & daughter Allie



Deborah &
son-in-law *Finn*



Gerd & Cindy, mom of
future daughter-in-law



Judy & cousin Natalie



Karyn, sub for Bear's
hurt Bonus Daughter



Kenzie, granddaughter
of Howard



Maureen, Karen's sister



Nacho & cousin Marti



. Nichole & cousin John



Randy & sis Linda



Randy & bro-in-law



Tony & brother Joe



. Troy & Mom Dina



Tournament: Randy & Tom 2nd, Marti & Nacho 1st, Angie & Allie 3rd

YOUR JUNE PALATINE PICKLER \$SAVINGS\$

5% OFF anything sold on PickleballCentral.com, when you use the code CRPALATINEPB.

10-20% OFF Paddletek paddles from Chuck at 847-877-7770 or grtfuldad@aol.com.

[Pickleball Paddles](#) | [Engage Pickleball – EngagePickleball](#) See what they offer this month

25% OFF anything from Gammaspports.com, with the code ba_soderborg25

\$10 OFF Vatic Pro paddles ... https://vaticpro.com?sca_ref=3606076.ir5retg8qU Use code CHICAGO

5% OFF anything in Badminton Warehouse in Schaumburg, by mentioning Palatine Picklers

10% OFF anything purchased at Strings Attached IN Arlington Heights, when you mention Palatine Picklers.

MENTOREE TOURNAMENT FOR INDOOR MENTOREES

Between purging thousands of photos from my cell phone and painstakingly trying to move from my injured laptop



Tony and Tom tied for 1st. Kent was 3rd

into my new one, I've lost pics of the whole group and the Mentor/Refs. Here's our illustrious and talented Scorekeeper Clay Farnsworth and the top three finishers in this end-of-season Mentoree tournament. We also had more than 20 at lunch after the play had ended. [Get protection](#)

MAY NEWBIES



BILL



BRYAN



DAVE



EMILY



ERIN



GARY



HERAN



JONI



KAREN



KIRBY



MARK



NATALIE



RAK



RAYMUND



ROSE

2 RECORD-SETTING MENTOREES



Years ago I created the Kyle Yates Challenge. I offered a Tshirt to whomever submitted a video with evidence of a Pickler's bouncing a pickleball on the EDGE of a paddle the most times. I'd watched Kyle do this with a flair at the 2019 US Pickleball Open. Our own Action Pic Editor Jonny Storm won with 192. Last month Nichole Greening broke Patti Pinski's Mentoree record of 46 by bouncing it 59 times. Congrats, Nichole. That's the 2nd best ever in club history.

During the recent Mentoree Tournament. Karen Bollman launched the first ever (for a Mentoree) ATP (Around the Post) shot. Congrats to you too, Karen.



IT'S WALKER RECOGNITION TIME

SUPER STEPPERS (20K+ in a day)

25,916



Sue Freiburger

23,761



Scot Shatwell

21,011



Mary Whitehead

WORTHY WALKERS (15K+ in a day)

18,969



Jon Stepal

18,069



Annette Grabowski

17,259



Bear Shatwell

17,710



D Art Carlson

CAN JOIN US HERE ? MAY BE EASIER THAN YOU REALIZE

If you carry your phone with you, it's likely recording your steps. Just check the little, red heart. Then email your screen shot to me at aokbarry@yahoo.com.

MENTOREE SCHEDULERS - THANKS, KATHY & WELCOME, RUNE



Kathy Ford replaced Robin Dubin in April of 2023, after Robin served as Mentoree Scheduler for exactly two years. Exactly two years later Kathy retired, and, after a couple weeks of my filling in, Rune took over. Thank you Robin and Kathy for your wonderful service. Now good luck to Rune who is off to an excellent start.

BEAR NEEDS TO SCALE DOWN HIS INVOLVEMENT

Though I truly appreciate the assistance I've had, particularly in the last couple years, I'm still on this laptop 25-35 hours a week. Coupled with attending four mentoring sessions each week, running intramurals every other week, creating and running tournaments including sometimes making new scoreboards, responding to at least 30 (up to 100 emails a day), taking more than 100 photos a month and then selecting and editing them, playing Pickleball Police for a variety of concerns at Hamilton, Falcon, or Birchwood, entering Newbies' info into three places, and welcoming them, I'm getting burnt out. And Kathy would like to see more of me. That's kind of important.

I will not leave the club high and dry by simply retiring, but I do need some of you to take over some of the things I've been doing for more than ten years. Here's a list of things for which I hope someone will volunteer:

WEDNESDAY MENTORING ... I'll give you the spreadsheet of all the summer dates and who's asked to be on each week's ETBA list and if they require 1st or 2nd session or have a preference but can do either. You'll maintain the ETBA spreadsheet, and send the current version to Rune each Saturday. Then you'll assure there are three Mentors for each Wednesday. Then the harder part ... assign courts Tuesday afternoon/evening so each of the six courts (2 sessions of 3) have similar abilities on them the next morning. If nobody steps up, court assignments will be made by Mentors before each session. This would start in August.

INTRAMURALS ... This 3-year event is year-round every other Tuesday in Canlan Sportsplex. It's for 3.0-3.5 intermediate Picklers. I'll give you the list of those who have participated, when They played, and when they'd like to. That spreadsheet also has their birthdates. On Sundays before a match, you need to invite 16 Picklers, 8 men and 8 women. You'll arrange them by their dates of birth. That lets you assign them to either the Whippersnappers or Wise Ones team for the upcoming match. I'll give you my aging scoreboard and a dry erase pen or two and the pen holder, and some duct tape to attach the these to the wall. I make a list of each man and lady who's asked to be on the ETBA (Expect To Be Available) list for each week. Then I put Xs or Os by them for each of the last three matches to see who's most due to play. Invite 16 Picklers and hope they all accept so you don't have to give them a strike and go looking for a replacement.

PHOTOS ... I'll probably not be sending Jonny Storm **100** edited photos to put in a newsletter layout with creative naming any more. I'll take pics of those I haven't had in a newsletter in months, but mostly I'll take pics of only those in Palatine Picklers shirts.

THAT'S IT FOR NOW ... I'll still maintain the membership roster, welcome Newbies, write the newsletters, create/run fun tournaments, and run Thursday and Saturday mentoring, but Wednesday mentoring and intramurals, two of our most popular events need new Managers. I really hope to hear from you.

WHY? ... Though I think of myself as a 50-year old, my chronology is a bit higher. Before starting the Palatine Pickleball Club, I got about halfway through the book I'd been encouraged to write by a LOT of widows online. It's "A Guide for the Newly Widowed – and anyone who knows one." I think my PPC efforts have had a positive impact on a lot of Palatine Picklers, but I think my alleged wisdom on widowhood could help a whole lot more. It's time to finish that book.

BUENOS DIAS, PICKLERS

January is coming 'up faster than we realize. That's when I estimated we'd have 30-40 Palatine Picklers in what seems to be a pickleball paradise. We'll be at the Palmas Pickleball Resort from January 14th to January 20th, 2026. So far 12 Picklers have said they'll be among us. As soon as you make your reservation, please email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com so we can keep track of the size of our group. Check the presentation our Mexico Coordinator John Schehl has prepared. It does a great job of summarizing all you want to know.

<https://2026palatinepicklerpbvacation.blogspot.com>

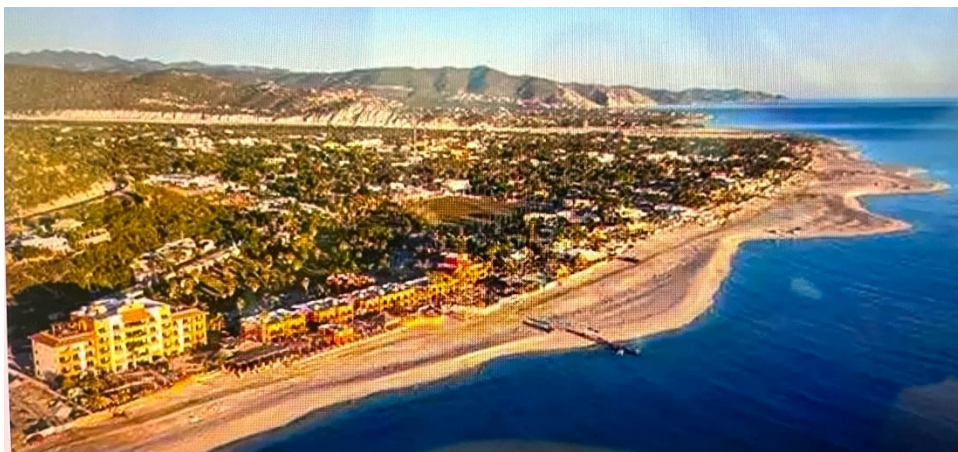
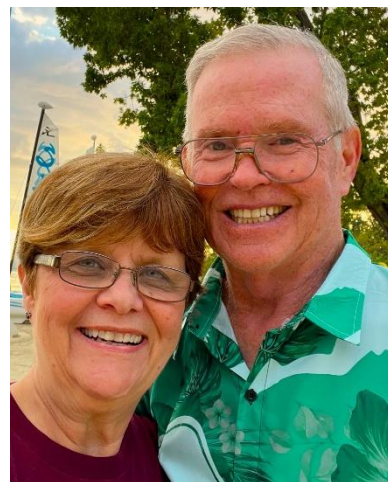
We did NOT ask for an all-inclusive option as we had a year and a half ago in Jamaica. Why? Because there are a bunch of restaurants within an easy walk of the hotel. Why not enjoy all the attractions of this quaint and cute town? In Jamaica it wouldn't have been safe to leave the property, but this is far from the case here.

To reiterate 20 Palatine Picklers signed up for our December, 2023 Jamaican pickleball week and had an absolute ball, pickle or otherwise. Just see how happy Kathy and I were there. (Pic on next page.) I'm pretty sure our Mexican adventure will be even more rewarding.

I truly hope you'll make your decision to be part of the biggest Palatine Picklers event off 2026. The sooner you book your room, the better your options will be.

To review we'll have eight courts reserved for us exclusively, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Then you'll have access to play all day and evening on the 24 lit courts in open play. Plus you'll have two clinics from their coaching staff.

Let me remind you this won't be like being in Cabo San Lucas. It will be more like being in Door County. We'll be in a fun, small town without three t-shirt shops and tourist junk on every block. It will be a real vacation, just with as much pickleball as you could want. **Please make your reservations now and email me when you're booked.**



MENTORING ... I KNOW WE HAVE A TON OF NEWBIES. JUST DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE

Throughout springs, summers, and early falls, we have mentored 24 student for 10 years, and for free. Normally, 12 will participate from 9:00 to 10:30 having half an hour with each of three Mentors. Then another 12 take to the courts from 10:30 to Noon. There have been a few times this spring, when we didn't even have 24 Mentorees ask to get on an Expect To Be Available (ETBA) list for a Wednesday. Things do start slowly each year, but by now I'd expect to have at least 36 to 40 on each ETBA list.

Perhaps, some of our newer Picklers do not fully understand how it works. First, these sessions are held at Sycamore Park at Carpenter and Clark. Second, they are by invitation only so you have to email ME at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the dates you should be available to participate – and, if you have to have either early or late session, let me know that too. Then check your email Sunday or Monday, to see if Mentoree Scheduler sends you an invitation for one of the two, upcoming Wednesday sessions. Of course, accept it right away. Then just show up with your water and paddle. (If you do not have a paddle, no worries, as I have several loaners.)

Are you a bit embarrassed, because you really don't know anything about the game or don't think you'd be very good. Don't be. I spend Tuesday afternoons and/or evenings researching what info I have on everyone and assign you to a court where you'll spend all 90 minutes with three others who are as close to your level of knowledge, experience and skill as I can make it.

Over the years many hundreds of Palatine Picklers have benefited from kick starting their pickleball addiction or honing their skills with our mentoring programs. Did I mention these are totally free? They were, are, and always will be, free.

Come on, Newbies, make it worth our while. We want to work with 24 of you EVERY week. So, again, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with your anticipated availability. Oh, yeah, if a conflict comes up, after I have you on an ETBA list, email me right away to take you off that list.

MENTORING WITHOUT NEEDING AN INVITATION

Yes, you can enjoy a mentoring session on the spur of the moment. Every Thursday and every Saturday we have walk-on sessions at Hamilton (on Smith N of 14 & S of 68), from 3:00 to 5:00. These sessions are not as seamless as Wednesdays, as we don't know how many we'll have or have preassigned courts. We don't even know how many courts will be available to us, but we always manage to make do. Please get there a little before 3:00, especially if you're a Newbie whose photo I have yet to take and get into the Newbie section of a monthly newsletter. We may have a Mentor work multiple courts, or we may have multiple Mentors on

a court. But we WILL be able to give you some helpful tips over the next two hours. Yes, I'll still have loaner paddles, and I supply all the balls. Because there were a couple problems last year with some participants just wanting to play games, I've given all Mentors the option of kicking out anyone who will not follow their instruction. We're there to help those who want to learn or improve, not to assure you of a lot of guaranteed playing time.

MENTORING RAIN OUT POLICY

Wednesday Mentorees should consider sessions cancelled, if it rains by, or after, 8:00 a.m. Rest assured, if it has been misting, we may start a session, if it seems pretty safe (we can conduct drills that don't require running on an even slightly wet court), but you will NOT earn a strike by not showing up for an assigned session.

In the event it stops raining, I may go to Sycamore about 10:15 to see if we have even one court. If so I'll stay to work with anyone who happens to show up.

HAMILTON MENTOREES WILL RELATE TO THIS

At the start of Thursday and Saturday mentoring sessions, I have everyone bounce the ball ten times on the forehand side of their paddle – then ten times on the back side of their paddle – and then ten times alternating between forehand and backhand sides, all without moving a foot. If they move a foot, they start counting again.

The following link makes forehand bouncing a little more interesting. Enjoy. You may have to copy and paste. <https://www.facebook.com/reel/606048541825147>

CALLING ALL WIDOWS

WHAT'S A WIDOW? If you had a spouse who died, you ARE a widow. It really doesn't matter if you've been married three times since then. You cannot outlive widow status. We've had two widow events in the past. The tournaments were fun, but the shared experiences afterward were wonderful. It doesn't matter if you're 21 years out as I am or if you're only two months out, we DO share something that the DGIs (Don't Get It) friends cannot share with you. Please sign up for this tournament and dinner. We have more to share than you may realize. It's from 4-7 at Canlan, and then dinner. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to register.

BIRCHWOOD IS STILL GOING

Yeah, Falcon is toast for the season, but Birchwood goes through June 12th. Raining? Windy? Cold? Too sunny? Come to Birchwood 11:30-3:30 Monday-Thursday through the 12th.

MAY MEDALISTS



Christine Towers & Mandy Alavi – Pasadena Sr Games – Intermediate 65+ - Gold



Kate & Kent Kleiva – Bloomington Lifetime - 3.0 Mixed – 2nd Place

NEW JULY TOURNAMENT

On July 10th, we'll have the 12 Picklers whose birthdays are closest to July 4th compete. Not everyone responds so March 3rd or October 11th just may qualify. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with your MMDD date of birth. I'll let you know if you're in.

WE HAVE OUR 1ST NEW MANAGER

Mary Werling has been editing step screenshots and doing the layouts for Walkers pages for quite some time. Now she's "stepped" up to the position of Walkers Manager. From now on, if you have proof of 15,000 steps and/or 20,000 steps in a day, send your screen shot directly to Mary at mary.palatinepickleres@gmail.com.



RANDOM FUN AT INTRAMURALS

I don't often post photos of intramurals, because a gym full of Picklers playing would look like any gym full of Picklers playing. I should remember to have our waitress take a pic of us enjoying lunch afterward, but we're all too engrossed in conversation for me to think about that. However, I'll share this selfie Nichole took between games. And, since it was Natalie's birthday, I had everyone sign a big card for her which I gave her at lunch. I was totally surprised to learn this day was also Stephanie's birthday. At our lunch table, we did sing to BOTH Stephanie and Natalie.



. Mary Jo, Karen, Tom, & Nichole Tiny Person holding the envelope with her card & me

For our 5/27 match there were not enough men to fill the eight roster spots (that's nuts) so I had three of the more skilled ladies play as men. All three did very well. These matches are so much fun, it's hard for any of us to believe I don't have 40+ men and 40+ ladies on the Expect To Be Available (ETBA) list for every match. Matches are every other Tuesday from 9:00 until almost noon in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. If you consider yourself an intermediate level Pickler, email me the dates. The next one would have been June 8th, but that is one of the rare times I had to reschedule. Now it will be Wednesday, **June 9th FROM 10:30 TO 1:30**. We'll still go to lunch afterward. If your schedule allows you to participate at this time, please email me, as I suspect this one will struggle to be viable. The following match also had to be rescheduled to Wednesday **July 23rd FROM 2:00 to 5:00**. After that date we'll be back on our normal every other Tuesday morning schedule, starting with August 5th.

If you think you're in the 50% of Picklers who are intermediate, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the dates you could join this fun. Hopefully the July newsletter will introduce our new Intramurals Manager you'll email for matches beyond those you send me now. Thanks.

JONNY STORM'S NAMING OF PICKLERS IN ACTION



Adam



Allan



Angie



Annette



Barb



Barb



Barb



Bob



Brian



Brian



Bruce



Carole



Charmaine



Chris



Chris



Chris



Clay



Colleen



Dan



Dave



Dave



Debbie



Deborah



Dina



Don



Don



Gary



Gerd



Howard



Janet



Janet



Jeff



Jeff



Jenna



Jerry



Jesse



Jim



Jim



Joanie



Joe



Judy



Karen



Karin



Kent



Kevin



Kevin



Kim



Kirby



Lesia



Linda



Linda



Linda



Lisa



Maggie



Marcia



Marianne



Mark



Marti



Mary Jo



Mary



Masumi



Mike



Monica



Nancy



Natalie



Pam



Rak



Rick



Rose



Rune



HAMILTON PARKING WILL BE CHALLENGING AT BEST

JUNE 7TH AND 8TH will see a huge soccer tournament at Hamilton, from 10:00 to 2:00. In addition to all the cars, there will also be food trucks. Police will be on hand to help control traffic. These may be good days to consider playing elsewhere. You may have a L O N G walk to the courts, if you choose to play at Hamilton.

LONG LAST NAME TOURNAMENT



Clay, Leslie, Masumi, Howard, Bear, Jeff, Natalie, Carol, Deborah, Bill, Dave, Joanie, Bruce,
Steve Pam

Bill 1stBruce, Carol, & Leslie tied for 2nd

LOOKING FORWARD TO MORE RUSTY-PETTING TIME



I've had more than ten years of handling 90% of everything the Palatine Pickleball club is. Though I have enjoyed it all, sometimes juggling so many balls gets pretty stressful ... for both me and Kathy. And it's prompted me to become error-prone. Once a new Mentoring Manager and a new Intramural Manager are in place, to join our new Walkers Manager, I hope to create a new Board of Directors for the club.

In June Kathy and I will spend some time in the San Diego area visiting sons and grandkids. Then in July or early August we'll be in Santa Barbara enjoying our brand new granddaughter. Consequently, I'm not scheduling as many tournaments as usual for the next couple months. Meanwhile, email me your birthday.

The dozen whose dates are closest to July 4th will compete against each other on Thursday, July 10th.

Seems a LOT of you need to be reminded that those who have joined the club in the last 2.5 years will NOT get a link to newsletters every month. You must go to PalatinePicklers.com and find the newsletters in the library. They are usually up by the 2nd of each month.

I want to thank ALL who have played with me in recent months. Pre-COVID I was a 3.4. A variety of injuries have reduced me to about a 2.0. I **truly** appreciate the tolerance you have shown me. I almost always rack up with the Losers, as I don't want to lessen the enjoyment for better Picklers. Injuries have taken volleyball, tennis, golf, table tennis, squash, and even bags off my options list. Pickleball is pretty much it now. Thanks for being willing to share a court with me.

Happy pickling.

Bear Shatwell

PicklersPrez

aokbarry@yahoo.com