



PalatinePicklers.com

MAY, 2017 NEWSLETTER

REMINDER OF FINAL INDOOR DAYS

Our last Falcon day is Friday, May 26th. Our final Birchwood 1:00-3:00 Wednesday is May 24. Our final Birchwood 11:00-3:00 Thursday is May 25th. Our Birchwood 6:00-8:00 Friday evenings will continue for quite a while.

U.S. OPEN REVIEW

Palatine Picklers competed in Naples, FL at all levels from 2.5 to 4.5. Chuck Feinstein & partner Seymour Rifkind placed 4th at 4.5. Chuck & Patty Eagleton took 4th in 55+ mixed AND 4th in 4.5 mixed. Rick Johnson & partner Kay Nealis won gold in 60+ 4.0 mixed. Greg Woodsum & partner Jon Sharpe won gold in 3.0. Dana Joseph & partner Mike Funk finished 5th at 3.0 mixed. Thea Froehling & Tina Labellarte took 5th in 2.5. Also competing were Sue Cameron, Holly & Larry Goldsmith, Jeff Kaufman, Sue & Sol Shatz, Don Froehling, Lynne Weisbart, Kathy McWhorter, Peggy Whitlow, Bill Myers, Liz Chaplinsky. There to cheer the Picklers were Susie & Terry Layton and Debbie Myers. That's 18 Palatine Pickler competitors and three supporters. Great representation.



Golden Picklers Rick on left & Greg on right



Holly & Larry



Patty & Chuck



Holly, Sue, Dana, & Thea



Holly-Larry-Don-Dana-Thea



Don & Thea



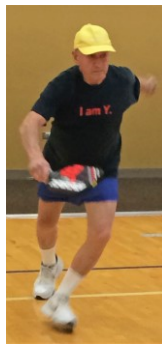
Cheryl



Dennis



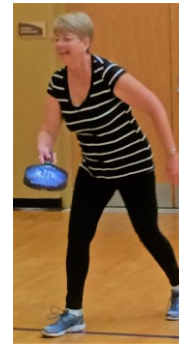
Dana



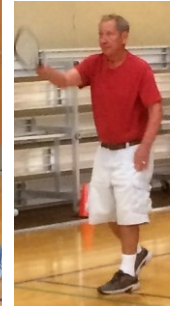
Joe



Cindy



Janice



Jim

CATCH U.S. OPEN ACTION ON TV

Mark your calendar or set your recording device. Highlights of April's U.S. Open will be aired on CBSN on Friday, May 20th at 8:00 CST ... and again on Monday the 23rd, also at 7:00 CST.



Fran



Jay



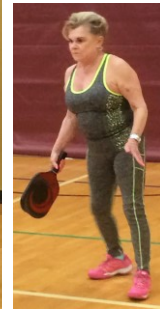
Marianne



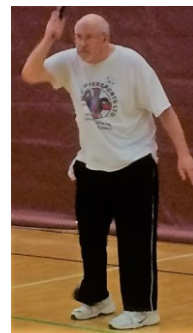
Julie



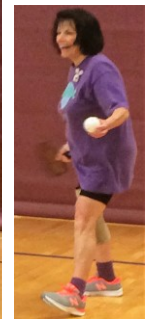
Karin



Hollis



Larry



Lynn

HOP ON A RUNG

Now is the time to grab one of the initial rungs on the "Skinny Singles Ladder." Maybe the paragraph format looked too boring for many of you to check it out. I'll try a new approach to explaining this truly fun game and how the ladder works:

What's a ladder tournament? It's a vertical listing of participants, the higher your name, the closer to winning you are.

How does it work? Players' names are randomly drawn to establish starting rungs. Then any player may challenge the person on the rung above him/her or two rungs above. That person has ten days to play the challenger or forfeits. The challenger moves to that rung, and the challenged drops down, as does the person beneath him/her, if there was a 2nd player above the challenger.

When & when are games contested? Whenever and wherever it's agreed between the two players.

How do I know who I can challenge? Go to PalatinePicklers.com and look at the current ladder. I'll update it at least daily, if necessary.

What's "Skinny Singles?" It's just like singles pickleball, except you choose either the west or east half of a pickleball court (10' wide) for your court. That means there's not very much left-right movement during play. For this ladder games are to 15, win by 2 and changing ends when the leading player reaches 8 points. The starting server is determined by any random means preferred.

How is the result reported? If, and only if, the challenger wins the game, he/she e-mails me either directly or through PalatinePicklers.com. Rungs don't change for a losing challenge so I don't need to know the game was played.

Is it a unisex ladder? Yes.

Why does almost everyone who tries it like it? It demands more precision than normal doubles. It lets you work on your drop shot, your lob, your serve, your accuracy, and your court positioning.

When does ladder play begin? Challenges can be made, starting May 27th, the day after Falcon finishes for the season.

When does the ladder end? The day before first day of the fall Falcon season.

Should I get on the ladder, if I'll be gone much of the summer? Absolutely. You'll lose any challenges, but you'll still be on the ladder ready to move back up on your return. If we know you won't be available for the 10 days following a challenge, I'll move the challenger onto your rung right away, to keep things moving.

OK, sounds like fun. How do I get on the ladder? Just e-mail me directly or through PalatinePicklers.com. I'll put all participants' names on cards and put them in a Crown Royal bag for Greg Woodsum, last summer's winner, to pull out one at a time, top rung being first.

Can I get on the ladder later, if I forget to e-mail you now? Yes. Once the initial rungs are assigned, each newcomer will be put on a new bottom rung.



Linda

Kevin

Kenny

Nadine

Melody

Neal

Sol



Neal

Sue

Stuart

Sarah

Vinny

Wendy

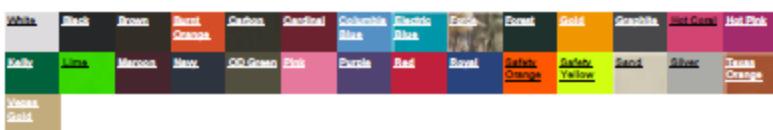
Terry

Mary

Carly

PICKLER SHIRT SALES SIGNIFICANT

Our order placed in late April was newsworthy on two counts. It was the first time we've added wicking shirts to options, and it put the total number of Palatine Pickler shirts ordered for our members to over 200. Here are the ladies' V-neck wicking colors. Warning: Darker colors won't show the dark blue logo well. Here are the traditional, shirt colors:



Below are ladies' V-neck colors:



Through XL ALL wicking shirts are only \$15. XXL \$17.

Thank you, Thea, for being our roving photojournalist in Naples. It seems everyone had a great, albeit hot, time there.

PICKLERS' TRAVEL SEASON ENDS

Both the two-club, lower intermediate and the four-club, upper intermediate travel leagues had their last matches the first week of May. I thought it would be appropriate to show just how happy traveling team players appear.



Interestingly, 5 of this Barrington team are also in the PPC. No 2 PPC teams have been the same. Everyone gets to play.



DuPage team (only 1 Palatine Pickler)



Hoffman team (only 1 Palatine Pickler this week)



LibertyRidge team (only 1 Palatine Pickler)



final Palatine Picklers team of the season

It's great to see so many players belong to multiple clubs. We've loaned players (15 since fall) to each of these teams when they were short of players. Travel has been fun for all. We were happy to finish atop both leagues in close races. I hope you'll answer the fall, "cattle call," even if for just one game. Again, being available does not mean you'll be on that roster. There are almost always at least twice the players who are available than spots on the roster for that match.

CALLING ALL MENTORS

Perhaps you noticed this in the April newsletter on the summer playing schedule. Tuesdays, from 9:00 to 11:00 is a session for novice and beginner players WITH MENTORING. Neal Harris, Mike O'Connor, Greg Woodsum, Larry Shoemake, and I will serve as Mentors. I'd like to add a few more who play at my level or above and have a good understanding of rules, strokes, and court positions. As I did with travel teams, I'll ask for the Tuesdays you expect to be available. Then I'll set up a schedule that works for all. If enough of you volunteer to help these players, and if enough newer or developing players attend the first couple sessions, I'll schedule two Mentors per week. Knowing I'd get e-mails asking this, I'll say up front that yes, we want to help you and no, you don't pay for this.

If interested in helping fellow Picklers increase their skills, please e-mail me directly or through the website. Thank you.



Brian

Brigitte

Darrell

Debbie

Don

Jim

Debbie

Joan

King of the Court

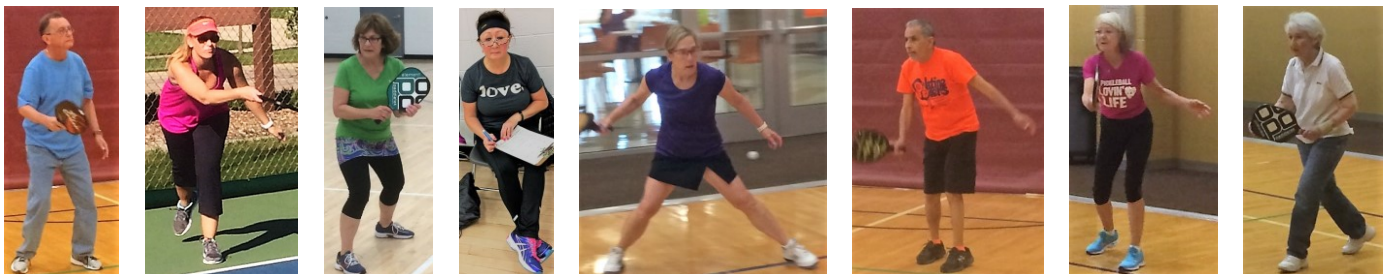
Let's have fun this summer. We don't have the facilities in Palatine, but I've worked it out with Tammy at Canlan to run some King of the Court tournaments there in Lake Barrington. The first will be for the 60-64 age group (no gender division). It's Friday, June 2nd starting at 9:00. It's limited to the first 8 to sign up. We'll have, based on the order of signing up, playing with each of the other 3 players on your court one game to 15 (win by 1). The top 2 in points won will compete in another, similar match with the top two from the other court. Bottom two players will compete for 5th place. Unless I get feedback that you'd like to pay a few extra bucks for medals, this is just for glory and mention in the next newsletter.

The second King of the Court tournament will be for the 65+ group. Again the first 8 to sign up will play. It will be at Canlan on Friday, June 16th at 9:30 a.m. Same format.

Cost of these will be either \$5 or \$7 paid at Canlan's front desk. There are no medals or prizes, just your name, and maybe photo, in the next newsletter.

OK, the race for the sign-up begins now. **E-mail me** directly or through the PalatinePicklers.com website that you want to compete in one of these ... and give me your first & last name, birthdate, including year. (I have most but not all.) I will keep a waiting list of players, in order of receipt of their e-mail. There's almost always one or two that have to drop out a day or two before any event.

These tournaments are more ways your club is trying to enhance your enjoyment you can reap of your PPC membership.



Mike

Natalie

Pat

Sandy

Sue

Suren

Susie

Micki

PALATINE PICKLERS PICNIC IN THE PARK

Melody Woodsum answered the call to help with PPC activities. She decided to run our first social event, a picnic at our outdoor pickleball courts. Here's her invitation ...

Who: You and your spouse or partner (yes, even if he/she doesn't play pickleball.)

Where: Sycamore Park (Carpenter & Clark in Palatine)

When: Sunday, June 4th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

What: Pot luck. (keep reading)

R.S.V.P.: Melody Woodsum at mawoodsum@aol.com.

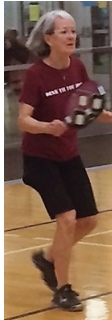
Bring: Paddle, chairs, beverage of choice, & dish to share. We'll have paper good & plates. If your last name begins with A-F bring an appetizer ... if J-R a salad ... if S-Z a dessert.

Wear: Your Palatine Picklers T-shirt, if you have one. We'll take photos.

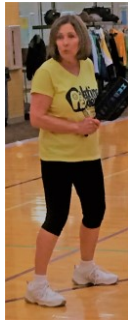
Open play will start at 4:00 as usual.



Terry



Susie



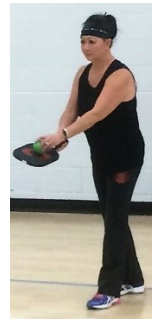
Sharon



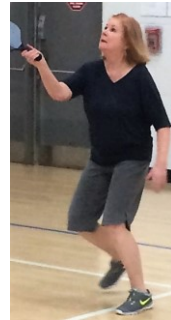
Terry



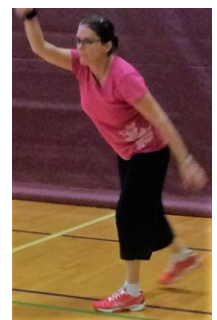
Rosie



Sandy



Martha



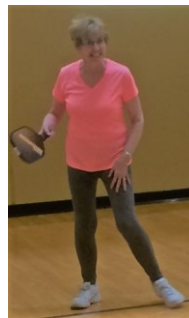
Nancy



Sandy



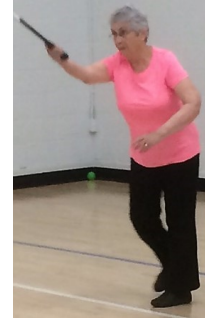
Lori



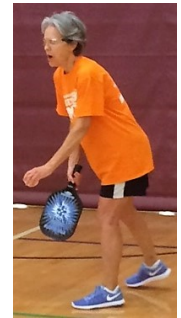
Ilene



Liz



Judy



Linda



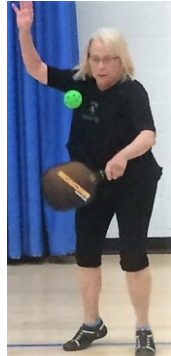
Anne



Anneliese



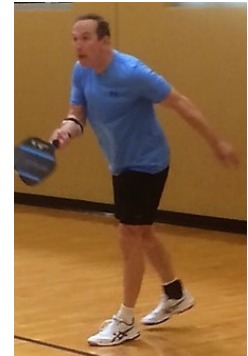
Dennis



Carol



Bob



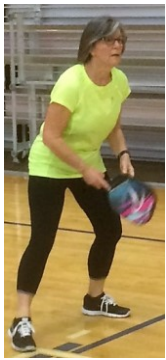
Bob

WE'VE TOPPED THE 500 & 200 MARKS

THIS would be the top story, but I'd already filled five pages, before I recruited the last ten members. As I write this, we stand at 508 Palatine Picklers. You've now purchased 220 PPC T-shirts. I picked up our first order of wicking shirts Thursday night and brought them to Falcon Friday. That morning I sold 18 more, once and half what we needed for the order I placed over the weekend. It's the printer's busy season, but they'll try to get them ready for us before Friday, May 26th, Falcon's last day. I'll have all shirt inventory at Falcon each day. A few are for snowbirds who didn't pick up their shirts before the holidays.

Wicking shirts are now \$15. Our printer gave me the price, before our first order which I passed onto you (\$13 through XL). However, that jumped a lot, when I picked up the shirts. They'd forgotten to add tax. With two recent donations, we had just about enough in the PPC currency envelope to cover the difference so I'm not subsidizing your shirts.

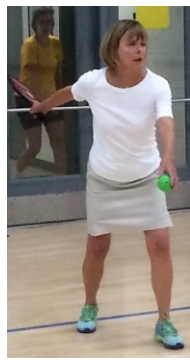
However, **it is time for me to put a Crown Royal bag atop my black, Cubs gym bag** at Falcon for donations. We'll need to buy a bunch of balls this month for the summer season.



Bev



Joan



Joyce



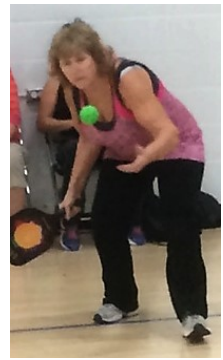
Betsy



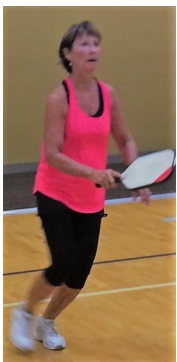
Ursula



Jim



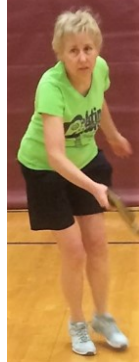
Kim



Linda



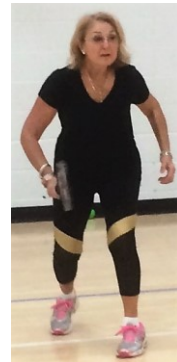
Tom



Judy



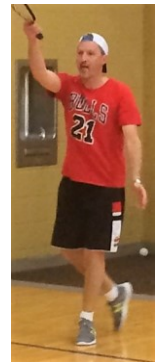
Uva



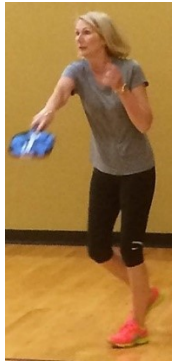
Tammy



Larry



Mark



Laurie



Jim



Marilyn



Becky



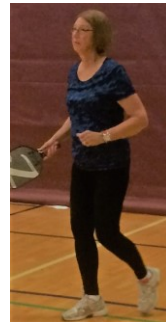
Jeff



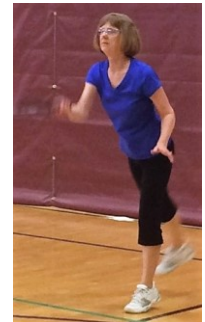
Arlene



Bob



Carole

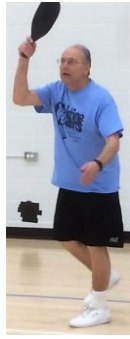


Cathy

All these pics are sort of a going away present. Many won't be playing in Palatine until Falcon starts in September



Dennis



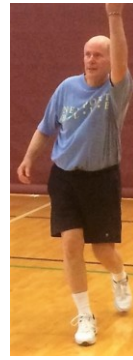
Gus



Dora



Marilyn



Marv



Denise

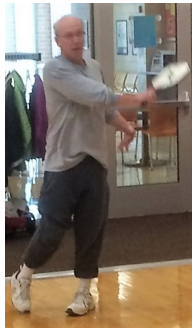


WHY BUILD ONE WHEN YOU CAN BUILD TWO FOR TWICE THE COST?

OK, editorial liberty. That's a quote from one of my favorite movies. The thing is Greg Woodsum wasn't satisfied with just one medal, even though it was from the US Open. He wanted his bride to share in the glory so they plotted their drive home from Naples, FL to include the Yonah Tourney in Cleveland, GA. The pickling pair grabbed a bronze at 3.5 in the 35-59 age bracket. I'm sure it helped that they're barely old enough to qualify. Congratulations, Greg & Melody.



Marti



Greg



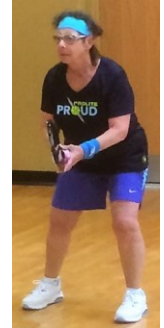
Chuck



Anita



Bob



Lynne

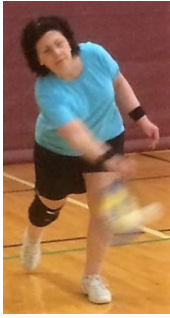
CLOSET CLEANOUT CONTEST

I know a number of you have multiple PPC shirts. I'm sure you, and those who don't even have a single PPC shirt, have a LOT of other shirts related to pickleball. If you have at least ten shirts having anything to do with our sport, I want you to have your photo taken with all of them. Spread them on the floor around you or arrange them on a table in front of you ... whatever it takes for us to see you and to be able to identify each shirt as being about pickleball ... tournament shirts, manufacturer shirts, club shirts, whatever. They don't have to be T-shirts either. I've seen some polo shirts and Spandex shirts at Falcon. Anyone who has at least ten shirts deserves recognition for their promotion of our sport. If you send me that photo with them, it WILL appear in the June newsletter. Don't wait. That's sooner than you think.

SENIOR GAMES DATES SET

Here's the pickleball schedule for the 2017 Senior Games to be held at Fabbrini Park in Hoffman Estates. Tuesday, July 11th at 8:00 a.m. ladies play. Thursday, July 13th at 8:00 a.m. men play. Saturday, July 15th at 8:00 a.m. mixed pairs play. And on Sunday, July 16th at 8:00 all singles will be played. For one day the fee is \$16. For two or more days (as many events as you like, not just pickleball) the fee is only \$22. You must give the name of your partner on the entry form. If you partner with someone not in your age division, you must play in the younger division. You can find the Sr Games prospectus at the following address:

http://www.ilipra.org/index.php?option=com_mc&view=mc&mcid=72&eventId=528514&orgId=ilipra



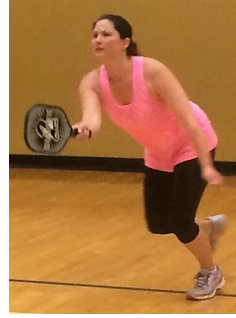
Laura



Lou



Scott



Dana



Bob

ONE MORE REASON TO SIGN UP FOR TRAVEL TEAMS



Here's another reason to answer the cattle call next fall for travel teams. After enjoying a morning of six competitive games, you can join your teammates a couple hundred yards away at the Onion Pub for some great conversation, entertaining stories, and, maybe, some fun gossip. The sandwiches, soups, salads, etc. are good, and they have a number of homemade craft beers to complement your lunch.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The various times and courts appear on the next page. We really need you to embrace this initial schedule which begins once Falcon play ends on Friday, May 26th. If, after a couple weeks, it needs tweaking, that's certainly possible. So, if you like a time, make sure you show up the first two weeks of June for that session. Bring your chair and beverage.

NOVICE refers to newer players still learning the game, court position, rules, and shots. **BEGINNER** refers to a skill level, not your months/years played. **LOWER INTERMEDIATE** are those around a 3.0 rating. **UPPER INTERMEDIATE** are the 3.4 to 3.9 level players. **INTERMEDIATE** includes both Lower and Upper. If you're playing exclusively in 4.0+ tournaments, you notify Elke to get on her schedule.

MON ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – Noon ... Beginners & all Intermediate

... Locust ... 8:30 – Noon ... Upper Intermediate & up

TUE ... Sycamore ... 9:00 – 11:00 ... Novice & Beginner (with mentoring)

... Sycamore ... 1:00 – 3:00 ... Low to Upper Intermediate Ladies only

WED ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – Noon ... Everyone through Upper Intermediate (crowded – may want the 3-6 session instead)

... Locust ... 9:00 – Noon ... 4.0+ (only by Elke’s invitation) for 4.0+ tournament preparation

... Sycamore ... 3:00 – 6:00 ... Low Intermediate through Upper Intermediate

THU ... Sycamore ... 9:00 – 11:00 ... Novice & Beginner

... Sycamore ... 1:00 – 3:00 ... Low Intermediate to Upper Intermediate Men only

... Sycamore ... 4:00 – dark ... Open play

FRI ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – Noon ... Everyone up through Mid-Intermediate (you make the call)

... Locust ... 8:30 – Noon ... Upper Intermediate and up

... Locust ... 3:00 – 6:00 ... 4.0+ (only by Elke’s invitation) for 4.0+ tournament preparation

... Birchwood Gym ... 6:00 – 8:00 ... Open play for \$3

SAT ... Sycamore ... 10:00 – Noon ... Beginner through Upper Intermediate

SUN ... Sycamore ... Noon – 2:00 ... Novice & Beginner

... Sycamore ... 3:00 – Dark ... Open play

... Locust ... 3:30 – Dark ... upper half of Sycamore overflow will divert to courts 1 mile away

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATE TIMES BY LEVEL:

Novice ... Tue 9:00 ... Wed 9:00 ... Thu 9:00 ... Thu 4:00 ... Fri 8:30 ... Fri 5:00 ... Sat 10:00 ... Sun Noon ... Sun 3:00

Beginner ... Mon 8:30 . Tue 9:00 . Wed 8:30 . Thu 9:00 . Thu 4:00 . Fri 8:30 . Fri 5:00 . Sat 10:00 . Sun Noon . Sun 3:00

LOW INT ... Mon 8:30 . Tue 1:00 (Ladies) . Wed 8:30 . Wed 3:00 . Thu 1:00 (Men) . Fri 8:30 . Fri 5:00 . Sat 10:00 . Sun 3:00

UPPER INT ... Mon 8:30 .. Tue 1:00 .. Wed 8:30 .. Wed 3:00 .. Thu 1:00 .. Thu 4:00 .. Fri 8:30 .. Fri 5:00 .. Sun 3:00

4.0+ ... Wed 9:00 ... Fri 3:00 ... and also welcome at all Upper Intermediate sessions

IF YOU AREN'T SURE WHERE YOU BELONG, GUESS AND GIVE IT A TRY. IF YOU'RE ABOVE OR BELOW YOUR "PAY GRADE," YOU'LL REALIZE IT QUICKLY. I'VE OVERLAPPED LEVELS TO GIVE EVERYONE A CHANCE TO PLAY SOME WITH BETTER PLAYERS. (PLEASE PRINT THIS PAGE AND KEEP IT WITH YOU AT COURTS TO HELP OTHERS SEE THE TIMES)

SYCAMORE TENNIS COURT

Please don't ask me, "When?" After conversations last fall with PPD, I'm surprised we don't have permanent pickleball lines on the tennis courts at both Sycamore and Locust. Meanwhile, Pickler Handyman Jim Blair has marked where chalk lines should be drawn on the Sycamore tennis court. At lease this prevents re-measuring after every rain erases them.

Pickle on,
Bear, PicklersPrez