



PalatinePicklers.com

JUNE, 2017 NEWSLETTER

1st KING/QUEEN of the COURT A HIT

On Friday, June 2nd, eight Picklers aged 60 to 64 participated in our club's first King of the Court tournament. These will always take place at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. Each Pickler played one game to 11 with each of the other seven contestants. Two and a half hours after play began, Sue Cameron emerged the winner, having scored a total of 73 points of a possible 77. Finishing 2nd with 69 was Sol Shatz. Sue Shatz scored 65 to take 3rd. Congratulations to them...and to all who participated and made our first such event so well-received.



Sue C. may have beaten Sol and Sue on the court, but they extracted revenge, once they thought the camera was off.

RUNGS STILL AWAIT

Almost all who try "skinny singles" like it. The word "singles" seems to frighten many from giving it a try. The thing is players have to cover more ground in doubles than in this game played on a 10' wide court. That's just the east or west half of a normal pickleball court. The names were drawn at the picnic for the original rungs of this summer-long event, but you can still hop on the bottom rung and begin challenging those above you. Even being gone for a month or more should not keep you from having fun on this ladder. Check out the May newsletter for complete details on this tournament. The ladder will be kept current on our website so check there to see who you may challenge.

LET'S SEE SOME GOOD-LOOKING PICKLERS



Greg



Jim



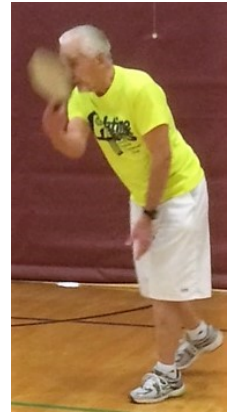
2nd Jim



3rd Jim



Judy



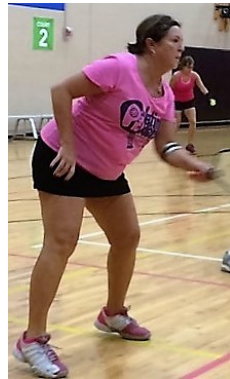
John



John



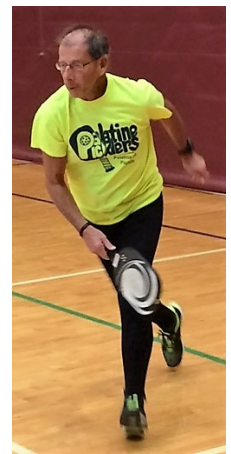
Lynne



Marti



Sue & Lee



Neal

BIRCHWOOD SCHEDULE CHANGED

Bad news – Good news. We've lost our popular Friday evenings. However, we've been given TWO evenings in exchange and with better hours. Starting before you receive this we now can play from 6:30 to 8:30 on both Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Let's embrace these evenings. The more we show we want all we can get of our sport, the more the Park District will notice and listen. Palatine is well behind neighboring suburbs in accommodating the growing pickleball needs. Supporting what they give us is the best way to show them we really want them to be a front runner in the race to pickleball supremacy.



Suren



Tom



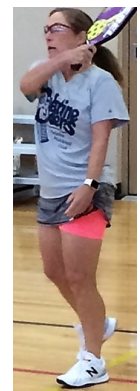
Tim



Sol



Steve & April



Sue

SKINNY SINGLES LADDER TOURNAMENT ON WEBSITE

Last summer's champion drew the names for the rungs on this summer's half-court singles ladder. The up-to-date ladder can be found on our website (check the top of the newsletter, if you really have to). This tournament lasts all summer. The website will be kept up to date. Each successful challenge should be sent to me via the website. All challenges must be resolved, before another challenge can take place. If you want to join, no problem. Let me know, and you'll be put on a new, bottom rung. If you're still saying, "What is 'skinny singles,'" check the May newsletter. Absolutely every question you may have is answered there. (Yes, newsletters can be found on the website also.)

WANT A PPC SHIRT?

I've just placed our order for another 15 shirts. It may be a couple months before the next one, but I'll be glad to get your desires and money any time. Traditional Ts are \$11 through XL. V-necks are \$12. (Add \$2 for XXL) Wicking shirts, whether crew or v-neck are only \$15. (\$17 for XXL). I can send you color charts. There are a lot more colors now that we offer the wicking shirts. Just don't select a dark color, because our dark blue logo won't contrast enough to be easily visible. Purple and maroon have proven that.



Satish



Lee



Kevin



Laurie



Linda



Mike



Jeff



Bob



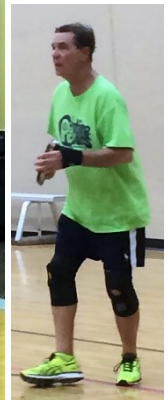
Sharon



Chris & Elke



Bob



Bob

KING/QUEEN of the COURT for Picklers aged 50-59

The 65+ group plays June 16th. That leaves only the "youngsters" of our club. The first 8 in their 50s to respond will compete on Friday morning, July 7th. It's all for fun and requires only Canlan's \$7 fee. **E-mail me** directly or through **PalatinePicklers.com** that you want to compete in this one. ... and give me your first & last name, birthdate, including year. I will keep a waiting list of players, in the event one of the first eight has to withdraw.



Becky



Ann



Don & Tom



Fran



Debbie



Debbie



Clark & Kevin



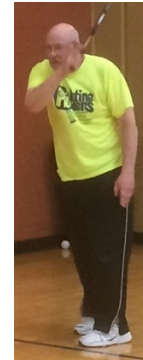
Denise



Linda



Jeff



Larry



Miles

REMINDER: SEND YOUR SR GAMES REGISTRATION

The Senior Games' pickleball will 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



Marti



Gail



Joan



Carole & Judy



Linda



Wendy

MANY MISSING MENTORING

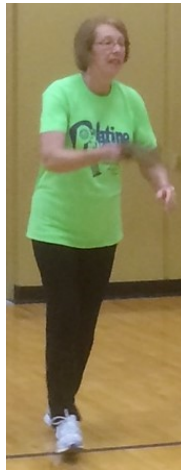
Through the first three weeks of our summer-long Mentoring Program, only a handful of Picklers of Novice and Beginner status have shown up for the 9:00 to 11:00 Tuesday program. I don't want to write this off so I'm piggybacking on a more popular session. (See Revised Schedule later in this newsletter.) Each week two Mentors (from the group of Dennis Bourgoïn, Neal Harris, Mike O'Connor, Larry Shoemake, Greg Woodsum, and I) will help Picklers on both courts at Sycamore. I expected this free coaching to be embraced. If more Picklers don't show up, I'll have to question if it's worth our Mentors' time. I believe 100+ Picklers could benefit from these sessions. Those who have attended have liked them. Whether it takes off or gets cancelled, I want to extend big thanks to the Mentors who have volunteered their time to help their Pickler peers. Check the new day and time and give it a try.



Jack



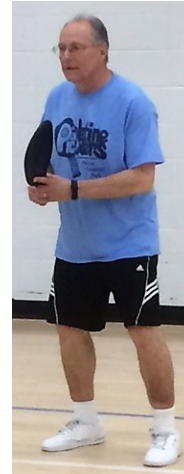
Steve



Carole



Bear



Gus



Marv



Kenny



Jeff & Bear



Lynn



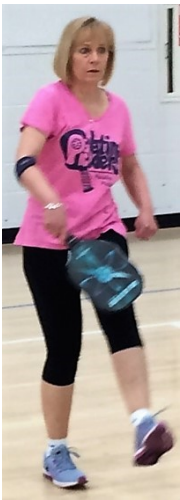
Lynne



Pat

PALATINE PARK DISTRICT WISH LIST

In order here's what we'd like PPD to consider: (1) Line the tennis courts at Sycamore and Locust, (2) Put up windscreens at Sycamore, (3) Repair Sycamore's between-court screen, (4) Fix the crack on Sycamore's north court, (5) Put screens on lobby court at Falcon, (6) Put screens in north room at Falcon, (7) Build 8 pickleball courts at Community, (8) Put a Porta Potty at Locust, (9) Light the 8-court Community venue for evening play, (9) Replace the Sycamore tennis court with 4 pickleball courts.



Brigitte



Marcia



Pat & Marti



Tom



Jay

SO MANY TOURNAMENTS SO LITTLE NEWS

For those of you who play tournaments, your Pickler peers would love to know of any successes you may have. If you medal, please e-mail me the details (name of tournament, where, when, age &/or skill level, partner, color of medal), along with a photo of you with your medal. That is good news, and we'd love to read/see it here in the next newsletter.

PLENTY OF PICKLERS PARTOOK OF PICNIC PLEASURES



Our first ever social event was a smashing, dinking, and dining delight. Melody Woodsum orchestrated this event, and more than 30 Picklers and partners loved her **Palatine Picklers' Picnic in the Park**. I accidentally left my phone at home so Melody came to my aid and snapped these pics. Double thanks, Melody.

NEXT SOCIAL GATHERING

No dates have been set, but later this summer, Melody wants to stage a Palatine Picklers Party at Portillo's. Oh, yeah.



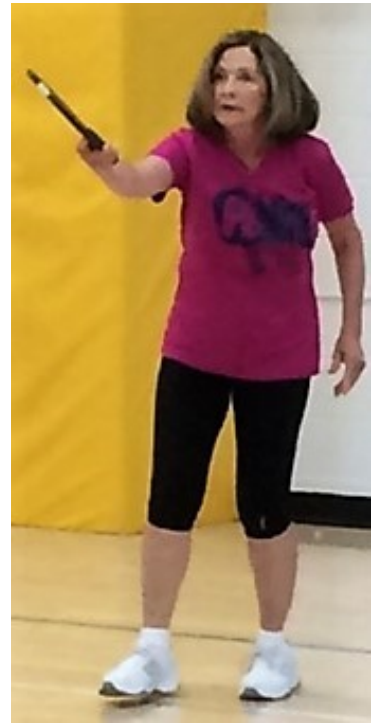
Dana



Neal



Suren



Sharon



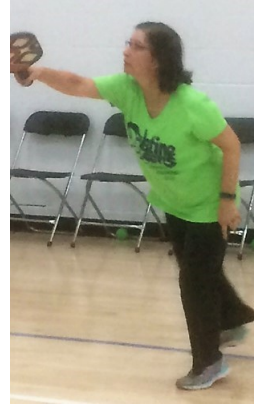
Tom



Don



Bob



Dori



Dennis

T-SHIRTS GALORE

A few answered the call to display their pickleball T-shirt collections. Here are the "honorable mentions."



Sol & Sue Shatz's collection



Bear Shatwell's 16



Greg Woodsum's IL & FL stash (23 in all)



Trevor Reisz's collection (24)



Melody Woodsum's IL & FL (28 in all)



IN A LEAGUE OF HER OWN



Lynne Weisbart displays 64 of her 69 pickleball shirts. Way to go, Lynn. You are our Princess of Pickleball Shirts.

OPTIONAL PICKLEBALL RATINGS AVAILABLE

Greg Woodsum has been investigating what is called the “Green Machine” that can generate players’ ratings, by virtue of keeping track of the scores of all their games. Here’s the way Greg shared it with me...

The Palatine Picklers have an opportunity to create a “club rating” system for our members, on an optional basis. Benefits of this would include:

- A) It creates the opportunity for Picklers to track their progress, based strictly on performance and achievement vs. subjective human evaluation.
- B) A Pickler’s “club rating” could be used as his/her “initial rating, when registering for a tournament outside our club events for the first time.

The ratings will be processed using Deep Green™, which is Pickleballratings.com, a proprietary ratings engine software derived primarily from the widely acknowledged benchmark Elo algorithm. “Club ratings” are based on the commonly used rating scale but use four digits, instead of two. For example a player may earn a rating of 3.163, rather than just being assigned 3.0.

We are going to make the data-collecting as easy as possible. We will have 5x7 note cards on which you will write the names of your partner and you, as well as the names of your opponents. After the game write the score and circle the winning pair. It is best to play with/against players who want to participate in this rating program. It doesn’t matter how often you play, but the more games you play the more accurate your rating will be. Try to play with, and against, as many Picklers as possible.

Examples and directions for scoring will be left in the storage bin by the Sycamore courts, along with score cards. Greg (or his delegate) will collect the completed score cards. Though this has not yet been discussed with John Pihl, our webmaster, but we’re hopeful that ratings can be updated monthly on PalatinePicklers.com.

WHAT ABOUT 3 O’CLOCK ?

Before the summer schedule kicked in, it was just show up at 3:00 on any nice day. Sometimes we had a bunch. Sometimes ours was the only car on the block. I’ve been asked if this is still a viable time to play. Let’s say that it’s worth a try. Here’s the thing, though. If you’re interested, get to Sycamore **BY 3:00**, not 3:05 or 3:10. You may still find too few to have a good time ... though we do have games for 2, 3, 4, or 5. (Ask me, if you don’t know them all), but you have a chance of afternoon fun. I keep hearing, “I went at 3:15 and no one was there.” I want to slap slap slap them. That late arrival thing may work on sessions that have a dozen or three show up, but the afternoon sessions aren’t those.

DO-IT-YOURSELF TIMES

Maybe a compass is pickleball equipment, since North serves first in Palatine, and not everyone is geographically savvy. Even more important is a smart phone or a pen and paper. When you play with Picklers with whom you enjoy playing, write down their names and phone numbers. Set up your own time to play. Our organized play uses a fraction of the available court time. We’re all about increasing your enjoyment of the sport. If four of you can grab a court on your own, fantastic. The more you play, the better you get. The better you get, the more you enjoy the game. In the immortal words of Jean Luc Picard, “Make it so.” (That’s a Star Trek Next Generation quote)

WHO SERVES 1st

The 3-year old policy is...Whether indoors or out, in Palatine the North side serves first. Only exception is ladder play.

REVISED SUMMER SCHEDULE

Starting tomorrow we have new times. Most sessions have had an ideal turnout, though some are in jeopardy. If you like a time, be sure to show up for it the next couple weeks, and bring your chair and beverage. The change of the Birchwood schedule, and other considerations, have prompted the changes below. It's a good idea to [print page 10](#).

NOVICE refers to players learning the game, position, rules, & shots. **BEGINNER** is a skill level, not time 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, notify Elke to get on her schedule.

MON ... Sycamore ... 8:00 – Noon ... Beginners & all Intermediate

... Locust ... 8:00 – Noon ... Upper Intermediate & up

TUE ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – 11:00 ... Beginner to Upper Intermediate (**only Ladies**)

... Sycamore ... 3:00 – 5:00 ... Beginner to Upper Intermediate (**only Men**)

... Birchwood Gym ... 6:30 – 8:30 ... Open, indoor play for \$3

WED ... Sycamore ... 8:00 – 10:30 ... Everyone through Upper Intermediate

... Sycamore ... 10:30 – 12:30 ... Novice & Beginner (**with Mentoring**)

... Locust ... 9:00 – Noon ... 4.0+* players' tournament prep (scheduled play, not walk-on) Contact Elke for details

... Sycamore ... 6:30 – dark ... Open play

THU ... Sycamore ... 8:30 – 11:00 ... Novice & Beginner

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

... Birchwood Gym ... 6:30 – 8:30 ... Open play for \$3

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+* players' tournament preparation

SAT ... Sycamore ... 9:00 – 11:00 ... Open play

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

... Sycamore ... 6:30 – Dark ... Open play

... Locust ... 7:00 – Dark ... if necessary, upper half of Sycamore Picklers will move to courts 1 mile away

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATE TIMES BY LEVEL:

Novice Tue 8:30 . Tue 6:30 . Wed 8:00 . Wed 10:30 . Wed 6:30 . Thu 8:30 . Thu 6:30 . Fri 8:30 . Sat 9:00 . Sun 9:00 . Sun 6:30

Beginner Mon 8:00 . Tue 8:30/3:00 . Tu 6:30 . Wed 8:00 . Wed 10:30 . Wed 6:30 . Th 8:00 . Th 6:30 . Fri 8:30 . Sat 9:00 . Sun 6:30

LOW INTERMEDIATE . Mon 8:00 . Tu 8:30/3:00 . Tu 6:30 . Wed 8:00 . Wed 6:30 . Th 1:00 . Th 6:30 . Fri 8:30 . Sat 9:00 . Sun 6:30

UPPER INTERMEDIATE . Mon 8:00 .. Tu 8:30/3:00 . Tue 6:30 .. Wed 8:00 .. Wed 6:30 .. Th 1:00 .. Th 6:30 .. Fri 8:30 .. Sat 9:00 .. Sun 6:30

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

*rated 4.0+ & having played your last 2 tournaments at 4.0+ ... Contact Elke at ecjabobsen@gmail.com

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 WITH BETTER PLAYERS. PLEASE PRINT THE PREVIOUS PAGE (#10) AND KEEP IT WITH YOU AT COURTS TO HELP OTHERS SEE THE TIMES THEY MAY WANT TO TRY.

Due to the heat, some sessions are starting earlier. Also, evening play has been of interest so I've moved some mid-afternoon sessions to 6:30. I've shortened the Wednesday morning Sycamore session and followed it with the mentoring, in hopes of getting more involved in those coaching clinics. If I've been watching and listening well, this new schedule should please the majority of our Palatine Picklers.



Mentor Mike gave tips to a group, while Mentor Dennis worked 1-on-1 with Picklers.

WEBSITE WISH LIST

I've been derelict in sending updates for the website to John Pihl. I'm expecting to send out a much smaller July newsletter. That will free some time to update PalatinePicklers.com with charts of all our shirt colors, the summer schedule that appears here on page 10, and some new copy on the club. If John can make it happen, maybe we'll be able to post the ever-changing Pickler ratings generated by the Green Machine (see Page 9). I've seen Greg's early ratings of some of our players, and it seems a really fun and motivating tool.



That's this month's news. Hope you take advantage of many of the events and opportunities we're offering to maximize the enjoyment you derive from belonging to the Palatine Pickleball Club.

Bear Shatwell
PicklersPrez