



PalatinePicklers.com

palatinepicklers@gmail.com

JANUARY, 2022 NEWSLETTER

HAPPY, HEALTHY, HOPEFULLY MORE NORMAL NEW YEAR

Despite a more normal summer, we're certainly a L O N G way from being ready to return to our 2019 lifestyle. Now is absolutely NOT the time to let our guard down. More Picklers have told me they tested positive since mid-December than had done so in the last 22 months. Illinois is sixth highest for positive tests. Granted, many of the positive tests come from downstate where so many truly don't get it, when it comes to vaccinations. Still, unmasked, holiday get togethers and attending large gatherings (church, theaters, sporting events, company parties, etc.) almost certainly will begin to stretch hospitals' ability to fully serve patients.

It is my belief, and that of most health care providers, that properly wearing a quality mask such as a KN95, rather than a surgical mask or, worse, a gator ... and staying 6' from even well-masked individuals ... are the easiest steps to prevent the spread of COVID. The Omicron variant is far more transmissible than the Delta. COVID been decimating pro sports teams. Let's keep it from keeping our Picklers off our courts.

It's not the time to feel awkward about asking a fellow Pickler to put his/her mask back over the nose. You'd be doing your part to protect all of us. I admire the Hamilton regulars that play every morning. They'd rather bundle up than enter a crowded gym. We played almost every morning last winter and had a safe, fun time. It's worth considering, particularly if you spend time around senior citizens or unvaccinated grandkids.



Jeff



Jenny



Laura (pic by Anne S)



Janice



Jim



John



Gene



Janet



Jim



John



Carol



Bob

TUESDAY MORNING MENTORING HAS OPENINGS

While we mentored a total of 55 Picklers in November and December, as I write this, only 18 have signed up for one or more of our 2022 winter sessions. On the following Tuesdays at **10:00 a.m.** in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington, Neal, Dennis, and I will mentor a maximum of 24, fully vaccinated and properly masked students on six courts per day. If you believe you'd be available to participate in any/all of these, email Bear at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the dates you think would work. The dates are **January 11, January 25, February 8, February 22, March 8, March 22, and April 5.** You will be in a group of 8 of, hopefully, similar ability and experience and will have each of us as a mentor for 30 minutes.

Sign up to go on as many "Expect to be available" lists as you think would work for you. Right now it seems likely you will receive a Sunday afternoon invitation to participate two days later. So check your email on any Sunday before a date you sent me as believing you'd be available. NOW the important thing. If you know a conflict has come up, email me immediately that I should remove you from whichever date it is. Not only is this a courtesy, it also keeps you from getting a "strike." Strikes can be earned three ways... (1) not responding

at all to a Sunday afternoon invitation prior to 10:00 a.m. Monday, (2) responding saying you can't participate after all, or (3) being a no-show after accepting an invitation, barring a last minute emergency. Unlike baseball, mentoring allows only one strike. With your second, you will be removed from all subsequent participation lists, until we move back outside in the spring.

WE LOVED OUR UGLY SWEATERS AND NOT SO UGLY PLAY

On the morning of December 7th, 16 colorfully clad Palatine Pickler players and I enjoyed two competitions. First, we gave grades to each of the 17 sweaters. Then the Picklers played a 15-game round robin tournament.



Front row: Greg, Linda, Connie, Laura, Deb, and Vikki. Back row: Kathryn, Cindy, Gary, Bob, Teri, Sarah, Bear, Jennifer, Jan, Karen, and Brandon.



SWEATERS: Bear tie for 2nd, Brandon 1st, Sarah tie for 2nd



PLAY: Cindy 2nd, Gary 1st, Laura 3rd



Bob



Brandon



Cindy



Connie



Deb



Gary



Greg



Jan



Jennifer



Lunch at nearby Kelsey Road House was a great ending to a fun morning



Karen



Laura



Linda



Sarah

SEE HOW MUCH FUN WE'RE HAVING?

Hope you consider playing in the next fun tournament for which you qualify.



Vikki

GOOD SPOT FOR YOUR DISCOUNT CODES

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.

20% OFF anything at engagepickleball.com, with the code **20jon**.



Carolyn



Anneliese (pic by Anne S)



Chris



Anne (pic by Anne S)



Bill



Dori



Frank

OUR TRAVEL TEAM IS PICKLING WELL

On the 6th meeting of Palatine, Hoffman, Libertyville, and DuPage, Hoffman Estates emerged the day's winner, with a 25-11 record. Our Picklers took 2nd with 19-17. DuPage just behind with 18-18. On this day Libertyville finished last with a 10-26 record.

Through six weeks, Palatine remains in 1st place with a 121-95 record. We're followed by Hoffman at 119-97. DuPage is 3rd at 102-114, and Libertyville has a 91-125 record.

John Kirchner will be handing Captainship of our Palatine Picklers team over to Bob Bregenzer, for the winter season. If you want to learn more about this 3.5-4.0 team, email Bob at rjbregenzer@yahoo.com.



Deb



Don (pic by Anne S)



Giuseppe



Gary



Debbie



Hayden



Heather



Daniel (pic by Anne S)



Howard



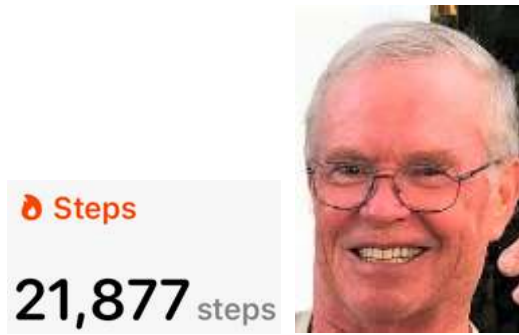
Jim



Jennifer

OUR HOLIDAY WALKERS

STEPPERS SUPER (20,000 steps in a day)



Bear Shatwell



Kathy Ford

WORTHY WALKERS (15,000 steps in a day)



Bob McGowan



Bear Shatwell



Kathy Ford

MEET PICKLER JULIE GANZER

--Julie Ganzer made her debut in 1952. She attended Quincy Notre Dame High and Quincy College. While working at Firestone as a steel purchasing agent in 1979, she met Bill. They married in 1979, 41 years ago. They have three daughters and six Papi. They love playing golf, though pickleball this year. They hope, they'll be last Marco in March April, and Smoky Mountains Then



there's their riverboat cruise scheduled September. Of course, much of their home time will find them attending Cubs games. As do many Picklers, Julie forward to warmer weather, outdoor pickleball. Playing indoors, particularly in a mask, isn't that appealing, but she simply has to show up occasionally. After, all most of us are well aware, pickleball IS an addiction. truly loves our Palatine Picklers group and enjoys playing with "some of the nicest, friendliest people around." In the family photo, you see Julie, Colin 6 wks, Emmy 4, Isabelle 10, Anna 2, Lily 6, Bill, and Evan 2.

grandkids who call them Gigi and Julie has been playing far more though it's looking more doubtful, able to enjoy a trip to Mexico in January. A little more likely is



Island and the in June. for late 2022 at looks Julie



Bill



Ann



Cathy



Clay



Dan



Lauri (pic by Anne S)



Kenny (pic by Anne S)



Wendy



Ann (pic by Anne S)



Marv (pic by Anne S)



Marcia (pic by Anne S)



Jeff (pic by Anne S)

EARLY STAGES OF PLANNING AN INDOOR PB FACILITY

I've been contacted by a couple who discovered pickleball just this past summer. They fell into a world-class addiction and want to make it available to more picklers in the NW suburbs. They live in Elgin and want to open a state-of-the-art, 8-court, indoor facility kind of on the border of Hoffman and Elgin. They asked me to test the interest. I asked a number of questions, before presenting this to you. Normally, I'd summarize what I have learned, but I think I'll let Andrea's response speak for itself. If you have feelings pro or con, please email her directly at amkruth28@gmail.com. Your input may help them create something that works for all of us. Here are Andrea's replies to my queries:

Thank you for the great questions! Here are our answers below. I do want to preface it with these are not all set in stone yet and can change to meet the needs of the business.

We are hoping for a mid-spring opening

1. 8 "Cushioned Courts"

2. We will have several different memberships options ranging from 125.00 to 995.00 per year. All memberships will include advanced court time reservations up to 14 days. The top option would include all court time and advance reservations privileges. We will also welcome all walk ins. Court time is 10.00 per person per hour. There will be courts available for walk ins. We will offer rental equipment for new players etc.

3. We will always try to pair similar skill level players. We will run skill level leagues and hope to host tournaments down the road

4. Balls will be provided if needed. We will also have rental rackets as well.

5. Courts are rented by the hour and we will eventually have food and beverage. Vending machines will be on the premises.

6. There will be a minimum of 6 feet behind each court (service line). We will also have netting separating all the courts so that you can spend your time playing and not chasing balls on other courts.

7. The facility is 20,000 square feet with 8 courts. We can have 32 people playing at 1 time. The only time we would get over is in the cross over traffic.

As we get more specifics and the construction begins we will keep you up to date.

Please send Andrea your thoughts, including asking about that gigantic range of membership fees. It COULD be a great thing for all of us. I wonder if that thousand dollar membership includes steak dinners and a massage after every game. It surely has some interesting perks. I commend them for wanting to provide us with a needed opportunity to enjoy indoor pickleball. Now it's time for us to help them make it happen.



PalatinePicklers.com ... Revamped & Ready

Webmaster John Pihl has been working tirelessly on upgrading our website. As I write this, he's in final testing stages, but he assures me that it will be ready by Friday, January 7th. Be sure to check it out. Thanks for the great work, John.



Stana (pic by Anne S)



Maureen (pic by Anne S)



Silver



Mike (pic by Anne S)

ROBIN DUBIN ... PICKLER of the MONTH

Robin volunteered in 2020 to relieve participate mentoring at 10:15. As month's because be mean they endured a last year, handle the Over the a total of 133 mentorees. She also mentoring sessions Dennis and I ran at my invitation to participate in the Neal, and I run at Canlan. Robin is our first in the hearts of a whole lot of mentorees.



me of the job of getting two groups of 12 to in each – one you may someone available will be. lot of she task all summer participated in the Thursday afternoon Hamilton over the summer and always accepts Tuesday morning mentoring sessions Dennis, first Pickler of the Year, and she's long been



SINGLES TOURNAMENT UPDATE

Eight Picklers have signed up to play in the Tuesday, February 1st full-court singles tournament at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. Because it's been a while since the early Picklers signed, I thought I better let them know they're on the list ... and let anyone who thought they signed up that they aren't on the list. Our eight, energetic Picklers are, in alpha order, Ann L, Connie K, Daniel K, Janine S, Mike F, Robert W, Syed K, and Tony M.

I'd like to have a few more on this list as subs ... or if about 10 of you want to play, I'll format it for 16, rather than 8. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com.

Now for some heartfelt filler **HAPPY NEW YEAR – HAVE A GREAT 2022**



Cindy (pic by Anne S)



Steve



Jaime



Mary



Clark



Susie



Jonny executing an Erne

FALCON & BIRCHWOOD SCHEDULES

BIRCHWOOD ... Closed until Monday, January 3rd. From Monday the 3rd through Friday the 7th pickleball is available from 9:00 to 12:30. They are closed on the 8th, and there's no pickleball on the 10th. As I write this on December 23rd, future pickleball has yet to be determined.

FALCON ... There will be no pickleball until Monday, January 10th. Then it will return to its previous schedule of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 to 1:00.

HAMILTON ... If the courts are free of rain or snow, there will be Picklers playing by 9:00 a.m. every day.

PETITION FOR ADDITIONAL CHICAGO PICKLEBALL COURTS

One of our Palatine Picklers asked me to share this petition with you. The sport's popularity is exploding everywhere, and Chicago isn't coming close to keeping up with the demand, particularly on the south side. Our sport appeals to all ages and athletic abilities. It's especially great for seniors with impaired mobility. There just aren't that many alternative forms of exercise that are appropriate or fun for a large percentage of this group. I think we'd be doing them a favor by signing this petition. You can reach the petition by clicking [Chicago Permanent Pickleball Courts](#),



Roger



Terry



Marti



Laura



Greg



Kathy



James

SHIRTS ... ORDER THEM

We still may encounter COVID delays, but try.. Go to [PalatinePicklers.com](#) (didn't turn blue so copy and paste) and find your shirt. The website will tell you what to do next. We have well over 600 shirts being worn now. That's obviously an ego trip for me, as I drew the logo, but more importantly, it promotes both the sport and the club. That's good for all of us. So buy a first or an eighth shirt. You'll look good in a lot of colors.



Mark



Tom



Steve (pic by Anne S)



Susan (pic by Anne S)



Sue



Sue



Rick

MARGARITAVILLE NATIONALS MEDALISTS



Liz Chaplinski & Jerry Huo ... 4.5 35+ ...
Gold



Dale Zwack & Jonny Storm ...
4.5 35+ ... Gold



Natalie Todorovic & Liz Chaplinski
5.0 50+ ... Silver



Margo Dago & Sue Cole
3.5 80+ ... Gold



Christine Towers & Renee Braeunig
ipickle bowl, Arcadia, CA ...
3.0 ... Silver



Centre Court Hanover Park Dinkle
Bells Mixed Scramble ... 3.5 ... Patrick
O'Connell, Silver, Gary Patel, Gold



Shannon



Mike



Mariana

TREE TOPPERS TOURNAMENT

It's a gamble, but let's see if we can get eight Picklers who are fully vaccinated, willing to properly wear a mask, and are at least 6' tall, to compete in our 2nd, annual Tree Toppers Tournament at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday 1/18 in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. That's only a couple weeks away so check your calendar and email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com, if you'd like to participate. The first Tree Toppers was a lot of fun for everyone. It's a round robin so you don't need to find a partner. You'll have seven of them.

Of course, as is tradition after my tournaments, we enjoy lunch after play is done. I need at least 9 Picklers to respond. The 9th will be a sub, in case someone has to pull out. If I don't get 9, I'll reschedule it in a couple months.



George



Mike



Nancy



Nora (New Jersey guest)



Kathy



Carol



Kurt



Patty

SOME OF THE SHIRTS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP

Last fall's shirt order was the most complicated ever, due to COVID and some confusion on our part. The thing is I'm still in possession of a number of shirts for which I've paid but most of you have not. Here are the future owners of shirts I have in my car. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to tell me when you can pick yours up at Hamilton or my residence near Rand and Lake Cook.

A FEW NEWBIES

Because I won't be cleared to play for two or three more months, I'm not my usual every day player. So I'm not at Hamilton to recruit new members. Even though I'm vaccinated and boosted, I'm still high-risk so am not anxious to go to Falcon or Birchwood to take pics, knowing not everyone wears a mask properly. That means I'm not recruiting would-be members in person and not getting many pics of those who join online. I admit it was more fun publishing pics of 50+ newbies a month. I hope we can keep COVID in check so our growth will climb big time again. Then I will become a pain again to the Park District, by asking for more courts.



Chuck



Eric



Geoff



Jane



Jim



Lisa



Robert



(sorry – lost name)

YEAR END STATS

In less than 7 years, I have welcomed 2,227 members to the PPC. Of those, 622 reside within the Palatine Park District. I've sent 85 newsletters, including this one. They've contained 1,334 pages and 11,076 photos. We've had visitors to our website from most states and several other countries. Our Facebook page has hundreds of members. Basically, we're one of the most prominent clubs in the country. Thank you, Picklers, for putting us on the pickleball map.

Welcome to what, I hope, we can make the best year since 2019. Hope you newer Picklers, and those who love it, sign up for some of the 7 winter mentoring sessions. Hope you big guys/gals sign up for the Tree Toppers tournament. Hope you all check out our updated/upgraded website next week. Hope you can convince anyone not yet vaccinated to help us all get through 2022 safely and get vaccinated. Hope, if you do play indoors, you cover your nose with a real mask. Just FYI my pullover was a great, custom gift from my bride Kathy. It is not available for you to purchase. Hope more of the many Picklers listed earlier decide to pick up and pay for the shirts I've been financing. Hope you'll email ME, rather than hitting reply.

Happy New Year

Bear

PicklersPrez

aokbarry@yahoo.com

