



**PalatinePicklers.com**

**palatinepicklers@gmail.com**

## **DECEMBER, 2022 NEWSLETTER**

### **COULD USE A COUPLE SUBS**

We did have 16 registered for the **Ugly Holiday Sweater Tournament** on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Canlan AND one sub. However, as is the norm, so far two have withdrawn. We're now one short of a full tournament and no subs. The odds of more dropping out next week are high. Please let me know that you'd be glad to strut your ugly and play in this round robin. We'll judge the sweaters, have our tournament in those sweaters (health issues allow shedding them), and then enjoy lunch at Kelsey Road House. Please email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com). If we don't get at least one more, there will be 15 byes. Not ideal.



John



Karen



Joe



Jeff



Clay



Debbie



Steve



Robin



Mardy



## **COURT ASSIGNMENTS ARE PERFECT WHEN UNDERSTOOD**

Falcon play is divided between “competitive” and “rec. We have an awesome, paddle racking system to keep things simple (when understood) and equitable. When you arrive with your name on the top of your paddle, put it in the “in” side of either the competitive or rec rack. As at Hamilton, if you win three games in a row on rec courts, put your paddle in the competitive rack, and, if you lose three in a row on competitive courts, put it in the rec rack when you leave the court.

The racks have an “in” and an “out” side. Paddles will move toward the “out” end. As four are removed to hit the court, paddles in that rack are moved to the “out side” and the “next” disc is moved to the other side. Also the Next chained indicator is moved to the other (rec vs competitive) rack. In other words, competitive Picklers and rec Picklers alternate heading to the court, and within each group winners and losers alternate. a

## **GLARE COURT POLICY**

When a court opens on either side of the curtain, players should all move over (west) one court. This is particularly important on the lobby side. The court nearest the gym door to the lobby is the “glare court.” When that court finishes its game, the other two courts MUST move to the next court in that direction. When you move to the glare court, note your score. You will change sides when you are halfway between the higher score and 11 (round up). This isn’t optional either. It is a distinct disadvantage to be facing the lobby doors. This disadvantage must be shared as equitably as possible. If the score is 8-5 when you arrive at that court, the difference between 8 and 11 is three. Round up. So when one team gets 10, you MUST change ends.



Mike



Mike



Michael



Marcia

## REMINDER OF INDOOR PLAY TIMES IN PALATINE

**FALCON** ... Falcon Rec Center is located on Recreation Drive, just east of the Toyota dealership at Rand and Hicks. It's official address, though, is 2195 N Hicks for some reason. All six courts are available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 8:30 to Noon. It will be closed 12/26-12/30. There is no limit to the number of players who will be allowed in the gym. To use these paddle racks, get your name on the very top of your paddle. \$5 per day or less costly 10-pass. Phone 847-202-5111, if you have questions.

**BIRCHWOOD** ... The Birchwood gym's drive is on the south side of Illinois, west of Plum Grove and east of Quentin. It's address is 435 W Illinois. We have some great, December times. Play is limited to 18+. Here are the times for each December day: Mon 12/5 11:30-4:00 Tue 12/6 11:30-3:30 Wed 12/7 11:30-4:45 Thu 12/8 1:30-3:30 Mon 12/12 11:30-4:00 Tue 12/13 11:30-3:30 Wed 12/14 11:30-4:45 Thu 12/15 1:30-3:30 Mon 12/19 11:20-4:00 Tue 12/20 11:30-3:30 **Wed 12/21 4:30-7:30** **Thu 12/22 8:00-4:00** **Fri 12/23 8:00-4:00** Mon 12/26 10:00-4:00 Tue 12/27 10:00-4:00 Wed 12/28 10:00-4:00 Thu 12/29 10:00-4:00 **Fri 12/30 10:00-4:00** **Bold indicates special days/times.** Obviously, It may be best to bring your own foursome. \$5 per day or 10-pass. Questions? Call 847-991-1960.

**HARPER COLLEGE** ... Play is in the M Building in the SW corner of the cluster of buildings. Enter from Algonquin Road and use the first parking lot on the left. Walk up the ramp to enter and turn right to get to the sports desk. You'll sign in which allows you to see how many others are already there. Play is Monday evening from 6:00 to 9:00, and the fee is \$5. Masks must be worn in the building. Paddles are available by the downstairs courts, for anyone who doesn't have one. There are six courts on the new floor. Again, there will be paddle racks for determining the next four players to play. Toward the end of the evening, more serious players will seclude themselves for more competitive play.

## FIND A GAME, ALMOST ANYWHERE

You pick the time and place you'd like to play and give your skill level. The site contacts players of your level who have chosen that location. Everyone confirms through the site. Next time you're out of your geological comfort zone, try <https://www.playtimescheduler.com/login.php>



## WE HAVE SOME HEARTY HAMILTONITES

Not as impressive as the photos from last December's newsletter in which I showed eight of us playing the day after Thanksgiving, when it was 18 degrees, but still worth recognizing our Polar Picklers' freezing dedication.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL UNTALL LADIES TOURNAMENT

These have been so much fun for all. It's a round robin tournament for the first ladies to apply who are not over 5'2". This year's Canlan Sportsplex tournament will be at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com) to register. Following play we'll all enjoy lunch a mile away.

## MENTOREES & INTRAMURALISTS – PLEASE AVOID STRIKES

Just to remind you, when you fail to accept an invitation by noon the next day or say you can't play after all, you earn a strike. Two strikes and you're out for the season. Of course, a no-show doesn't get a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance.

It's easy to email Bear at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com) to say you need to be taken off an Expect To Be Available list to which you asked to be added. Please exercise this common courtesy. We have way too many strikes each week, causing Bear and/or Robin totally undue stress and work.

## LET'S CELEBRATE OUR MEDALISTS



• Dick Johnson & Sue Cole  
 • Indian Wells – 80+ 4.0/3.5  
 • Silver



• Sue Cole & Margo Drago  
 • Indian Wells – 80+ 4.0/3.5  
 • Silver



• Norm Dickman & Ray Jenkins  
 • Pictona Open – 70-74 4.0  
 • Bronze



• Joyce Pihl & Linda Van Som  
 • SSPS Sr Women's, Surprise, AZ  
 • 65+ 4.0 - Bronze



• Ray Jenkins & Claudia Shirley  
 • Pictona Open – 65-69 4.0  
 • Bronze



• Daniel Koste  
 • Hinsdale Round Robin  
 • Intermediate – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

## GIFT DISCOUNTS

**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 [gtrfuldad@aol.com](mailto:gtrfuldad@aol.com).

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

**25% OFF** anything from Gammaspports.com, with the code ba\_soderborg25

**\$99 Paddles for \$75** Only one style – See or contact Neal Harris at [neal@picklecoach.com](mailto:neal@picklecoach.com).



David



Dee Dee



Janet



Jesse



Chris



Larry



Suren



Lupe



Scott



Bob



Hayden



Ann



Cindy



Frank



Bear



Stu

## WALKERS' PERFORMANCE THROUGH 11/18

Needing to tend to more holiday activities, I'm posting only the walkers who submitted their steps by today, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Any subsequent walkers will be included in the January newsletter. Everyone who keeps a smartphone on them is likely to have their steps recorded. Just take a screen shot and email it to me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com). This month I'm not taking the time to remind regular entrants to send me their steps.

### SUPER STEPPERS ... Those who walked at least 20,000 steps in a day

Bear Shatwell (3<sup>rd</sup> day of COVID)

Bob McGowan

Clay Farnsworth

Bear Shatwell

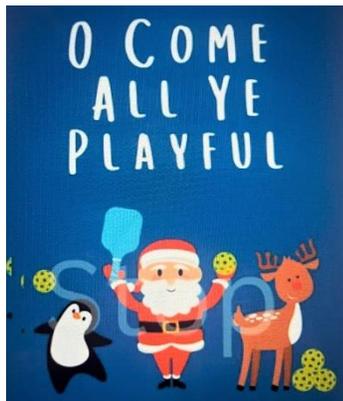
Ben Farb

Lois Farb

Bob McGowan

## MENTORING STILL TAKING APPLICANTS

OK, Newbies, beginners, and those wanting to tweak basics, ifask to go on some Expect To Be Available lists for 9:00-11:30 at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barington. Dates are 12/13, 1/10, 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, and 3/21. If interested we go to lunch afterward or keep playing 'til Noon. Email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com) with all of the dates you THINK you'd be available to participate. If selected for a session, you'll get an email invitation Sunday afternoon. Just be sure to accept it by noon Monday. And be sure to let me know, if I should take you off an ETBA list, before you get an invitation, or you earn that dreaded strike. 2 and out.



## LOWER INTERMEDIATE INTRAMURALS' ROSTERS OPEN

We love to have competitive games. That's why I started intramurals for those in the 3.0 to 3.5 range. For the most part, matches have been competitive, as well as always fun. I have had the unpleasant task of letting several know that they are either not quite up to that range or well past it. If I do not know your game, I'll get you on a roster. If it doesn't seem a fit, I will let you know. Meanwhile, I roster 8 men and 8 ladies for each match. I then arrange them by their date of birth. The youngest four of each gender comprise the Whippershapper team, while the elder four make up the Wise Ones team. So far the Wise Ones have a 7-5 lead for the season.

If you think you might enjoy participating (you think right), email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com). As an added benefit to the fun, following the match, we drive a mile to have lunch together. Totally optional. Here are the remaining dates on the schedule for 9:00 a.m. matches at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. (Intramurals will go all year, but I hesitate to add more dates, as your schedules are likely to change, and I really hate to learn you can't come, when you said your could.)

12/6 12/20 1/3 1/17 1/31 2/14 2/28 3/14 3/28



## WRECKING BALL PICKLEBALL PARODY

Thanks To Jake Livingston, our RUSH PT mentor, for sharing this pickleball song with us.

[https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_https://youtu.be/95\\_HeEELzYU\\_!!Dsthdr1F7A!DX6PtYEOw2FWFPj1CINhF9wVKKDCR8ziznA60puirB9F8F8Zz\\_woPmOTTsmhJeJZaR9DpEq3A2ZzkXPmRcE8xauODm2q\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://youtu.be/95_HeEELzYU_!!Dsthdr1F7A!DX6PtYEOw2FWFPj1CINhF9wVKKDCR8ziznA60puirB9F8F8Zz_woPmOTTsmhJeJZaR9DpEq3A2ZzkXPmRcE8xauODm2q$)

# MEET THE NEWBIES I'VE MET

Thirty-seven have joined in the first two weeks of November. The last half of November I've been enjoying COVID quarantine. I'm sharing here the eight I met in early November. Those I meet in my limited December (Jamaica for a week with 19 other Picklers will be in January's newsletter.



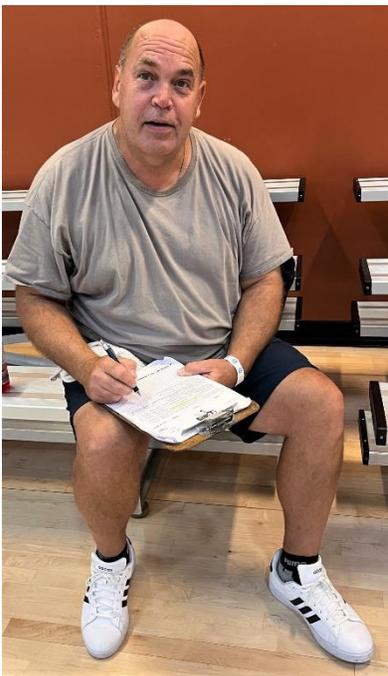
Anna



E J



Elizabeth



Jim



Mark



Marlene



Pat



Scott



Steve

## STILL HOPING MORE OF YOU WILL UNSUBSCRIBE

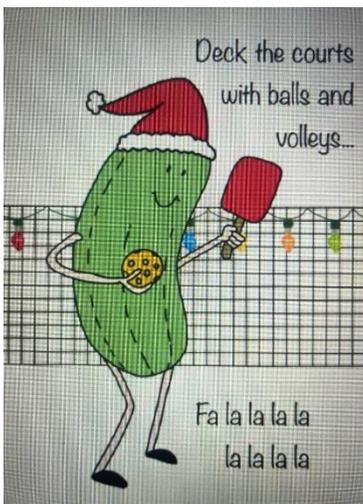
We're getting close to randomly deleting Picklers from the list, to avoid a huge, monthly fee. Click on "Unsubscribe" link at the bottom of the email with the newsletter link. Then get newsletters on the website.

## FIRST, LOVERS' VALENTINES TOURNAMENT

Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. We'll have our first Couples in Red or Pink pickleball tournament at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. Participants must wear either red or pink (men and women need not match). Each couple will play against each other couple in the tournament. Afterward, we'll all go to lunch nearby. To register just email Bear at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com).

## HOW 'BOUT SOME HELP FROM FELLOW PHOTOGRAPHERS

I take virtually all the photos that appear in newsletters. My opportunities to get pics for the January newsletter are really lessened. First, I was quarantined with COVID for two weeks. Then Kathy and I will be in Jamaica with 16 other Palatine Picklers mid-December. So I'd really appreciate any help with getting pics. Please go for close-ups (basically a body, not a gym with six players in action). Be sure to get anyone in a Palatine Picklers shirt. Then email me whatever you have at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com). Thanks.



## HOLIDAY SALE ON IN STOCK PALATINE PICKLERS SHIRTS

All summer and fall I've been selling abandoned shirts out of my car. I have only seven left. You can have any one of these for only \$15. I've held them for would-be purchasers more than long enough. Happy shopping.



. #1 XL cotton crew #2 L wicking V #3 XL wicking #4 XL wicking #5 XXL cotton #6 L wicking #7 XL cotton

If interested in one or more of these club shirts, email me at [aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com). First come first served.



## UPPER INTERMEDIATE TRAVEL TEAM UPDATE

Through the first four matches the mostly Palatine Picklers Palatine team is performing well. These 3.5 – 4.0 picklers are currently in second place. Libertyville leads the league, with DuPage in third and Hoffman Estates in fourth. Matches are played every other Thursday morning at the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington.

### PICKLER OF THE MONTH ... JOHN STEPAL

In my opinion, if we exclude will never be a rival, John Stepal most anxious to help others, pickleball Pickler in the club. He always volunteered to stay for a may have (I left at 5:00 after two



always on Picklers. To use always loved, Five months game through a Mentor and respected not only loves giving back to it. Pre-pickleball Tuesday mornings were devoted to his (then) first love – cribbage. Now he's skipping those



Tracy Weslager as being so other-worldly there is the most positive, most pickleball-oriented, most sponge-like absorbing of everything began as a Mentoree in the early spring. He 2<sup>nd</sup> session. He attended Thursday sessions and hours) stayed until the lights turned off. He is TeamReach looking to coordinate games with a long word I've John is indefatigable. after learning the mentoring, he became has been a well-Mentor ever since. He the game, he loves



sessions to help newer players be the best they can be. If you haven't met him, you should. Warning: he's not a man of few words. LOL. What he is is a genuinely good guy who just happens to have a killer slam of which all intramuralists are well aware.



. Thanks Mike Kaminski for this one

### DOWNER WARNING

Seems a popular mindset that we've survived the pandemic. That's not the case. Area hospitals are overloaded with RSV, Flu, and COVID cases. Unmasked, unventilated, family/friends gatherings are adding to the nightmare. Be smart.

## A PALATINE PICKLER IS STAGING A CHARITY TOURNAMENT

Pickler Laura Matuszewski is staging a first tournament for (breast cancer) density matters. This charity event will be held Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Zurich YMCA. It will be a round robin so every participant will partner with each of his/her seven competitors. Warning: the online registration is not QUITE ready for you, but keep trying. This is a wonderful, new to us cause, and round robin tournaments have been such successes for Palatine Picklers who have gone out on a limb to host them. Because this is an early notice, I'll include it again in the January newsletter, but don't wait. Keep checking, and register as soon as you can. Thanks.



Empowering women to find out their breast density,  
learn their options,  
and take charge of their breast cancer screening.



## 1st Annual My Density Matters



### *Pickleball Tournament*

Sunday February 5th, 2023

9:00am to 2:00pm

**WHERE** Foglia YMCA 1025 N Old McHenry Road Lake Zurich, IL

**COST** \$50.00 per person

**DETAILS** 32 player spots available consisting of 3 skill levels,  
8 beginner, 16 intermediate, and 8 advanced.  
Guaranteed 7 games vs 7 different players

Can't attend but want to support our mission? Consider making a donation at  
[mydensitymatters.org](http://mydensitymatters.org)

## LOVE THESE RECENT, SHORTER NEWSLETTERS



Here's hoping your December is filled with warmth, health, family, and happiness ... and, hopefully, some pickleball too.

Please sign up for the Ugly Holiday Sweater tournament. We need you.

If you even think you're in the 3.0 – 3.5 range, let me know you'd like to try our intramural program. Give me the dates you THINK you'd be available. If unsure of your ability, ask. We'll figure it out.

If you'd like to be considered for one of our final, seven indoor mentoring sessions, don't think about it ... just email me with the dates you think you'd be available, if selected to participate.

It's not too early for you couples to commit to playing together in the Red/Pink Valentines tournament. Email me that you're in love and loving pickleball.

Don't mean to short sell the Untall Ladies Tournament. If you are adequately diminutive, email me that you want to party with your petite peers.

Meanwhile Rusty and I (and Kathy too) wish you a truly happy holiday season.

Bear  
PicklersPrez  
[aokbarry@yahoo.com](mailto:aokbarry@yahoo.com)

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS