



JULY, 2026 NEWSLETTER

POPULATION RELATED TO OUTDOOR COURTS

A year ago I shared how many courts exist in our neighboring towns, and how many residents per court that represented. Over the last year, Palatine has now fallen even farther behind.

RANK	TOWN	COURTS	POPULATION	POPULATION PER COURT
1	Hoffman Estates	33	52,300	1,584
2	Barrington	6	10,722	1,787
3	Libertyville	9	20,500	2,278
4	Kildeer	4	2,344	2,344
5	Buffalo Grove	14	42,800	3,057
6	Mundelein	10	31,790	3,179
7	Schaumburg	22	75,225	3,419
8	Wheeling	6	21,700	3,617
9	Elk Grove	8	31,350	3,919
	<i>including tennis courts</i>	12		2,613
10	Lake Zurich	5	19,759	3,952
11	Arlington Heights	18	77,676	4,315
12	Mt Prospect	12	54,298	4,525
13	Palatine	10	64,869	6,487
	<i>including tennis courts</i>	12		5,406

A year ago the Palatine Park District had just completed a random, community survey asking what the large parcel at 14 and 68 should become. A new equestrian facility and pickleball were among the top options. Now, one year later, nothing has been done, but they will turn it into turfgrass for now and have adopted a comprehensive masterplan. They'll be "determining how to implement the identified projects," whatever those are. They "will be completing an **additional** study, to help masterplan the remainder of Meadowlark Park (14 & 68)." We don't yet know what is planned for whatever land is not in that remainder.

Last year more than 100 Palatine Picklers emailed Executive Director Ben Rea how they thought pickleball would be a good use for at least part of these eight acres. I considered asking more than 1510 Palatine Picklers who reside within the Palatine Park District to email each PPD Director with our desires, but decided that wouldn't endear them to us.

I've learned from interviewing other park districts that they love offering activities for seniors, particularly those that require more activity than pushing a chair around a gym floor. Pickleball is surely at the top of that list. Yet, here we are with Palatine being home to one of the largest pickleball clubs in the country but having far fewer outdoor courts per capita than any of the surrounding suburbs. The policies we've established for play work. We don't have the problems other communities are experiencing. We teach newer members how to play and hone their skills and how to respect our policies. That has worked well for more than 11 years.

Given a sufficient number of courts in one location, we would gladly run tournaments which could actually generate revenue for the Park District.

Perhaps, the Park District may be willing to add pickleball striping to the beautiful, rarely used, tennis courts at the golf course, while they determine the destiny of Meadowlark Park.



Rose



Oliver



Soo



Mary



Adam



Barb



Bill



Greg



Clay



Deborah



Brian



Barb



Chris



Dawn



Janet



Jim

CHECK THESE ALL-AMERICAN 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.

20% OFF EngagePickleball - Use discount code 20Jon

Selkirk discount code is Adv-JBradford

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

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

15% 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. You can demo their paddles too.



Linda



Marcia



Linda



Denise

INTERMEDIATE PICKLERS NEEDED

Since early 2022 every other Tuesday 16 intermediate (3.0 – 3.5) Picklers have met from 9:00 to Noon, to enjoy three hours of fun games against other Picklers of similar skills. For each match the younger half of those rostered that day compete against their peers of greater years. The younger men and women comprise the Whippersnapper team, while their opponents are the Wise Ones. Even after all this time, the teams' winning matches are within a few of each other.

If you think you're better than 1/4 of your fellow Palatine Picklers but not quite in the top fourth of them, you **SHOULD** get on a bunch of ETBA lists. That means you **Expect To Be Available** on the dates you send Intramural Manager Chrissie at TonyandChrissie@earthlinl.net. **Be sure to include your MMDDYY date of birth.** Over the weekend before each match, Chrissie will invite eight men and eight ladies to participate Tuesday morning. To keep the fun going, when you're done playing, you can join the gang for lunch a mile away at Kelsey Road House. Don't overthink this. If you're obviously over or underqualified, you'll still have fun; you just won't be rostered again. We'll still be glad you gave it a try.

AH SENIOR CENTER'S 6TH TOURNAMENT IS COMING

Our Palatine Picklers have been key to the success of this, annual event.



PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
8:30 AM TO 1 PM

\$45
Per Person

- 10 Outdoor courts
- Round-Robin format
- No rain date
- Players receive tournament giveaway & Snacks

For more information
847.253.5532 or seniorcenter@vah.com

Register Online
QR code or <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ahsc-inc-pickleball-tournament-tickets-19884042686947aff-0ddtdtcreator>

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS Senior Center, Inc.



PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
8:30 AM TO 1 PM

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS Senior Center, Inc.

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____
 BEGINNER (3.0): _____ INTERMEDIATE (3.1-3.9): _____ ADVANCED (4.0+): _____
 STREET ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____ YEAR OF BIRTH: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT: CHECK CASH OR USE QR CODE FOR ONLINE PAY

ONLINE PAYMENT AND REGISTRATION PLEASE [HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/AHSC-INC-PICKLEBALL-TOURNAMENT-TICKETS-19884042686947aff-0ddtdtcreator](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ahsc-inc-pickleball-tournament-tickets-19884042686947aff-0ddtdtcreator)

MAIL OR DROP OFF FORM TO: ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SENIOR CENTER, INC., 1801 W. CENTRAL ROAD, ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60005. CALL 847-253-5532 FOR MORE INFO.

AT DRYDEN SCHOOL
PICKLEBALL COURTS

842 S Dryden
Arlington Heights, IL

I will make one change to the divisions. Beginner is meant to be anything up to 3.0.

The sooner you register, the more likely you'll get in. Palatine Picklers routinely win a large percentage of the divisions. Just remember to send me your medal results and photo of the two of you with your medals. I'm at aokbarry@yahoo.com.



Howard



Gavin



Jerry



Natalie



Jane



Kim



Kent



Tom



Karen



Michele



Mary



Karyn



Karen



Chrissie (sorry)



Barb



Joanie



Janet



John



Brad



Cindy



Scott



Tony



Sheila



Pat



Mike



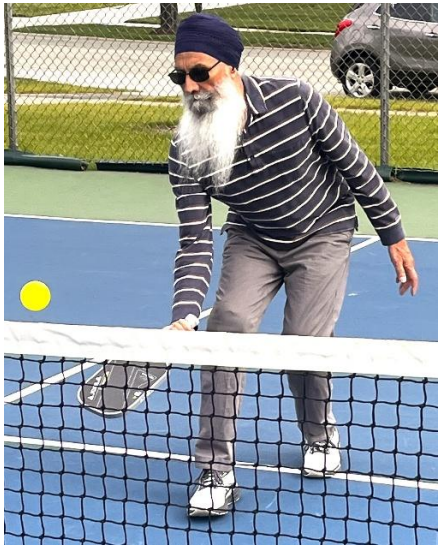
Noreen



Judy



Deborah



Mohinder



Joe



Annette



Paul



Tom



Pat



Holly



Kim



Diane



Steve



Kurt



Rune



Madeline



Sue



Lori

“SINGLE ADULT” TOURNAMENT

The first fun tournament in June was for Single Adults. Seven people competed and the tournament organizer Bob McGowan enjoyed filling in for the missing eighth player. My Stars the competition among the top three players was tight all morning. Ultimately, Jerry came out on top, Barb was second and Judy came in third. It was the first Pickler tournament for Tom and Nancy who had a great time.



. Nancy, Judy, Jerry, Natalie, Barb, Carole & Tom Barb 2nd, Jerry 1st, Judy 3rd



Carole



Tom



Barb



Judy



Natalie



Nancy



Jerry

Of course, those who were able enjoyed lively conversation at Kelsey Road House afterward.

NOW MORE PICKLERS AT PLAY



Jenny



Diane



Brian



Kaki



Jenna



Dave



Max



Don

“BIONIC BODIES” TOURNAMENT

The second fun event in June was our annual BIONIC BODIES Tournament which recognizes those who have endured months of recovery from surgeries prior to resuming time on the pickleball courts. Our president Bear was the “metal” winner with four replacement parts and a great attitude. The player pictures show where to find their metal.



. Ken, Joe M, Mike, Leslie, Cindy, Scott, Bear, Clay, Mary, Joe K, Marv & Marcia



. Joe M



Clay



Marv



Bear



Joe K



Marcia



Leslie



Scott



Cindy



Mike



Mary



Ken



Top Three Picklers: Scott 2nd, Marv 1st, Leslie 3rd

We had a good time at lunch too.

CALLING ALL TEACHERS (PAST & PRESENT)

Our annual tournament for present, past, and part-time teachers will be held on Thursday, July 23rd in Lake Barrington's Canlan Sportsplex. Attendance will be taken at 9:00 sharp. You will partner with each of your teaching peers for one game. After schooling each other on the fine "Points" of pickleball, you're invited to join for lunch a mile away at Kelsey Road House.

To register for this happy event, email Bob, our Fun Tournament Director, at BobMcGowan1946@gmail.com.



Marcia



Cindy



Kathy



Chris



Ken



Marv



Angela



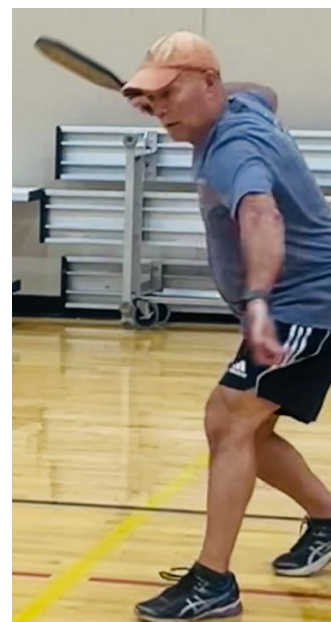
Bear



Leslie



Scott



Joe

2ND ANNUAL TEAM REACH PICKLERS PLAY & COOKOUT

After a successful event last summer, Fred Valdez and Ann Buras are having another pickleball tournament and cookout. It will be Wednesday, July 8th at Hamilton and then Meadowlark Park (the vacant land discussed on page 1 at 14 and 68. If anyone is interested but not yet a member of the Palatine Pickleball Club, go to PalatinePicklers.com, click HOW TO JOIN, answer all the questions, and hit SEND. You'll be a member immediately, but it may be several days before I include you in my next group welcome to Newbies. Below is basically what Fred wrote on Team Reach.

There MAY be room for you to still get into this event. There will be open play at Hamilton for up to 48 Picklers, from 9:00 to 11:00. Please arrive and check in by 8:30. The number of games will be determined by the number signed up. You will be paired when you check in. All games will be to 9, win by 1. Record your wins and losses. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

NOW FOR THE COOKOUT. The address of Meadowlark Park is 1502 W Northwest Hwy in Palatine. Enter from 14. Try to arrive by 11:30. There is no set ending time. There will be a donation bucket to help offset the cost of meat, etc. and the park rental. You DO NOT need to participate in the pickleball tournament, to be welcome at the picnic. Music and bag games will be provided.

To register for open play and/or picnic, TEXT Ann Buras at 847-347-1168.

ANOTHER TOURNAMENT ON THE HORIZON

Our 2nd "non-Native" tournament for Picklers NOT born in Illinois will be Thursday, August 13th 9:00 to Noon in Lake Barrington's Canlan Sportsplex. Email Bob at BobMcGowan@gmail.com.



MEET SOME OF OUR NEWBIES

Here are the Newbies I've met. There are also a great many I have welcomed via email but have yet to meet. Hope to share photos of them in the near future. Thanks to Nilesch for preparing the following pages.



Andrea



Benny



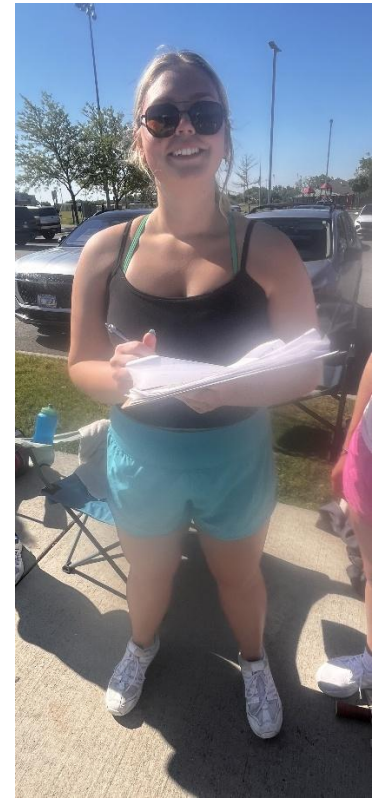
Bryan



Cary



Denise



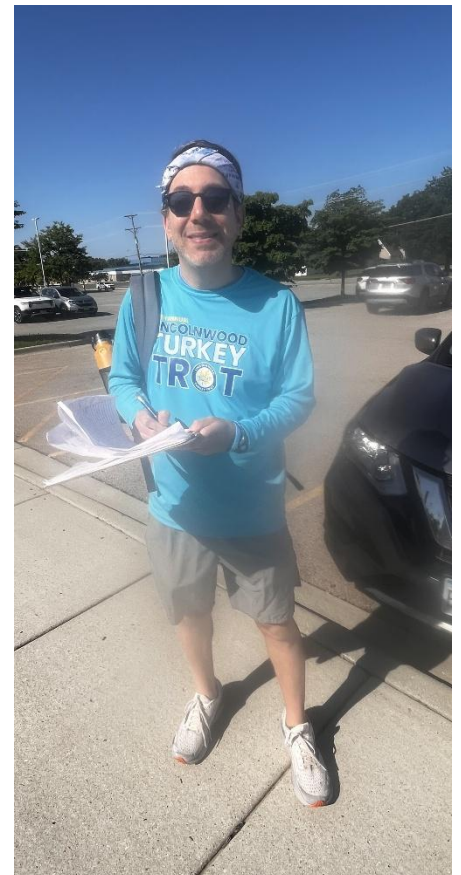
Hallie



Holly



Jean



Jeremy



Joe



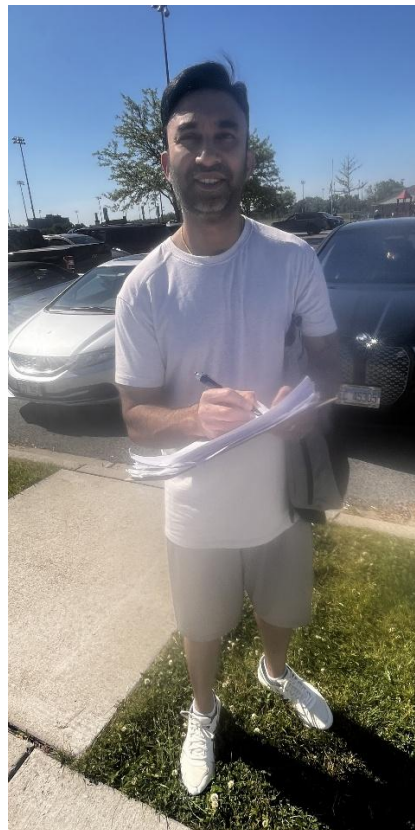
Julie



Kathy



Katie



Manesh



Michele



Nilesh



Oliver



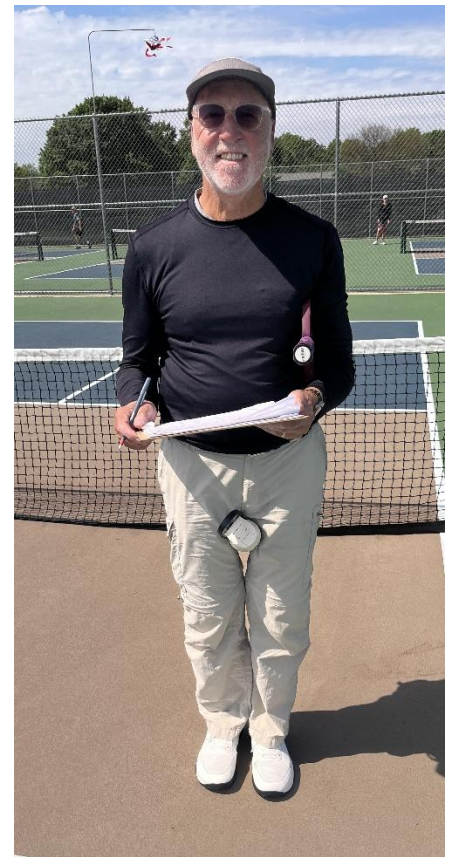
Ray



Serhii



Tom



Tony

THIS MONTH'S MEDALISTS



Mike Frenzer
Sandals – St Vincent
Guest Tournament
Gold



Stephanie Douglas
Picklr, Mt Prospect
Women's 3.0 Singles
Bronze

IT'S WALKER RECOGNITION TIME AGAIN

ULTRA STEPPERS (25,000 STEPS IN A DAY)



John Havlir

26,179 steps



Natalie Silverman

25,627

SUPER STEPPER (20,000 steps in a day)



20,915

WORTHY WALKERS (15,000 steps in a day)



19,312



18,596



15,477 steps

UPGRADE TO OUR WEBSITE

Nilesh Dhiman, Cathy Marist, and I met a few days ago, to explore how PalatinePicklers.com can be made more interactive.



NEAL HARRIS WILL VISIT HAMILTON 8/24

A favorite Mentor for years will be back in town for one morning. No party this time, but he'd love to say "Hi" to friends he's missed since moving to a snowless environment.

KILDEER PICKLR HAS AN OFFER FOR US

Our own Mailmaster Greg Kuhs works at the Kildeer Picklr. He sent me the following write-up.

“The Picklr Kildeer is offering special rates for non-members on days with extreme heat, humidity, rain, or high winds throughout the summer.

To stay updated, please download the TeamReach app and join the "Palatine Picklers" group using code PPball2023. We will post active weather alerts and rate details directly to that page whenever this offer is available.



Picklr | Kildeer, 20393 N Rand Road, Kildeer, IL Phone: 224-507-1570



Before coming to play at the Picklr: Download the Picklr app from your App Store and create an account; Once you create your account - in the app, click the magnifying icon on the bottom, then type in Kildeer where it says Find a Club at the top of the screen and search for Kildeer and "save" it - there is a heart next to it.

This insures that your Picklr account will show up in our system at Kildeer.”

POSSIBLE UPGRADES TO OUR WEBSITE

Nilesh Dhiman suggested we make PalatinePicklers.com more interactive. So Tuesday evening he, Cathy Maraist, and I met to explore the possibilities. You'll find any upgrades summarized in the August newsletter.

HAVE A FUN & SAFE 4TH

This will be our club's 11th 4th of July, but it should be the most memorable. We're joining the rest of the country in celebrating our country's 250th anniversary. Because there will surely be much more activity on the Hamilton courts than usual, **THERE WILL BE NO MENTORING ON SATURDAY, JULY 4TH.** Let's strive to celebrate this special day/evening safely.

I'm expecting to be back to playing at Hamilton this month, after five months of rehabbing. That will give me a chance to take more photos of Picklers in action. If you're new to the club since January, please flag me down so I can take your photo and get you into the Newbies section of our next newsletter.

This is the first July in our 11 years that I have help with (A) the Action shots - Karen Bryk, except this month and August, while she is enjoying China), (B) Intramurals – Chrissie Looper, (C) the Newbies section – Niles Dhiman, (D) the Fun Tournaments – Bob McGowan, (E) Scheduling Wednesday morning mentoring – Rune Karsbaek, (F) the Walkers section – Natalie Silverman, (G) and the Medalists section – Stephanie Douglas. Thanks also to Linda O'Connor who replaced me as Shirt Manager 2-3 years ago. Also helping is Sheila Lullo who forwards Newbie applications to me. (Our website stopped liking me and evaporated applications rather



than send them to me so they they now go to Sheila who forwards them to me.) And there is Cathy Maraist who remains on call to resolve whatever Word problems I manage to create.

WALKERS & MEDALISTS – I now realize it will work better, if you send your info and photos to me. I'll send them to our volunteers on the 20th of each month.

With all these Pickler volunteers, I'm dealing with just writing the newsletters, running Thursday & Saturday mentoring. Wednesday mentoring court assignments & announcements, welcoming and entering Newbies, mentoring 2-4 times a week, taking pics of Picklers playing and our Newbies, sending folders to our volunteers for them to handle, fitting their work into the newsletters, finding fun art to add to the pages, and responding to emails. Seems I'm on vacation. No more than 20 hours of pickleball laptop time a week now. I could get used to this.

Thanks, Everyone. Have a healthy and happy 4th.

Bear Shatwell

PicklersPrez

aokbarry@yahoo.com