



PalatinePicklers.com

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APRIL, 2025 NEWSLETTER

MENTORING MOVES OUTDOORS IN MAY

There is still time for newer players, and those intermediate Picklers wanting to hone their skills to participate in the Canlan Sportsplex mentoring sessions. We have two remaining sessions. Tuesday 4/8 and Tuesday 4/22. Sessions start at 9:00 and end at Noon. These are free from us, though Canlan charges a \$10 daily fee. Over the course of those three hours, you will share a court with Picklers of similar experience and ability and receive coaching from each of six Mentors. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to be put on one of those two Expect To Be Available lists. Then check your email over the weekend. I'll send invitations for 4/8 on Sunday 4/6, and Kathy will invite students Saturday or Sunday 4/19 and/or 4/20.

TIME TO REGISTER FOR WEDNESDAY MENTORING AT SYCAMORE ... For those who have not participated, our primary outdoor mentoring consists of two, 90-minute sessions each Wednesday at Sycamore Park on Carpenter at Clark. You must email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to be put on an Expect To Be Available (ETBA) list for any weeks you'd be interested in participating. We invite 12 students for the 9:00 to 10:30 session and 12 for the 10:30 to Noon session. You'll spend all 90 minutes sharing a court with three I believe to be of similar experience and ability. You'll have a new Mentor each 30 minutes. These sessions are totally free. Since summer mentoring started nine years ago, roughly 300 students have participated. I believe two of them didn't think it was for them. Your odds of loving your mornings with us are pretty good.

THEN THERE ARE SESSIONS NOT NEEDING AN INVITATION ... We have walk-on mentoring at Hamilton (Smith Road across from Sundling Jr High) on Thursdays from 3:00 to 5:00. Then, primarily for those who cannot attend either Wednesday or Thursday mentoring, we have a Saturday session at Hamilton from 3:00 to 5:00.

For beginners, I have loaner paddles. If buying your 1st, I strongly suggest NOT spending less than \$80, unless you buy a Friday paddle. (search Friday pickleball paddles). All are good.

Pickler men of at least 65 years competed for a pot of gold (or not). Lots of good matches and lots of fun. Then eight of us enjoyed a couple hour lunch.



Kneeling: Jeff*, Jim, John A, Scott, Kurt. Standing: Mark, John S, Bob, Ron, Bear, Michael, Kent, Tommy. *Due to an 11th hour dropout, I “decreed” Jeff could double his age for one day. Just as a side note, Jim’s new shirt (Irish Green) is a rare one that could work with either the navy or the white logo.



Ron finished 2nd ... Kurt took 1st with 83 of a possible 88 points ... John finished 3rd. Tommy finished 1 point behind John for 4th. The morning saw several close games.

mur

DID YOU REMEMBER THAT INTRAMURALS IS YEAR-ROUND? Page 8 of 20

Our 2nd most popular (mentoring is in its own league) program is our every other week, intermediate (3.0-3.5) intramural match. This is appropriate for half our membership. A quarter aren't quite up to that level, and a quarter are a bit too advanced. That leaves more than 2000 Palatine Picklers who would really enjoy participating in some of these bi-weekly events. I roster 8 men and 8 women. Based on their date of birth, they'll be on either the Whippersnapper or Wise Ones team for the match. (Yes, several can play for one team one match and the other the next.) You will partner with each of your teammates for one game ... three gender games and four mixed gender games.

These mornings are WAY too much fun to ignore. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to ask to be put on an ETBA (Expect To Be Available) list for the weeks you do think you'd be available to participate. They are every other Tuesday in the Lake Barrington Canlan Sportsplex, starting at 9:00. You'll pay their \$10 daily fee at the lobby desk. We don't charge. So, if you even think you're in the 2,200 Palatine Picklers who is appropriate for these "competitions" (not that serious), email me that you want to give it a try. Our next bi-weekly match is on April 15th.

Please check these dates and let me know on which ETBA lists you'd like me to add you.

4/15 ... 4/29 ... 5/13 ... 5/27 ... 6/10 ... 6/24 ... All these **Tuesdays** run from 9:00 to Noon.

July is a different animal. We have **Wednesday 7/9** from 19:30-1:30 and **Wednesday 7/23** from 2:00 to 5:00.

Oh yeah ... Usually, more than half the participants want to enjoy lunch after the match.



HIPPITY HOP INTO **\$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 anything at engagepickleball.com, with the code 20jon.

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

5% 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.

FOR NEW PICKLERS LOOKING FOR THEIR FIRST PADDLE ... As I tell Newbies at mentoring sessions, do NOT consider spending less than \$80, UNLESS you go to Friday.com and buy a Friday paddle. IMHO these are the only ones below \$80 that are as good as those above \$80. Mine is one of my favorite three paddles. If you'd like to spend a LOT more, I have three paddles that sell for \$250 to \$280 that I have for demos, before you buy. I'll be glad to loan one or more to you for a game or two. I'll even loan you my Friday paddle which was \$50.

END OF INDOOR SEASON IS APPROACHING

Falcon's last day will be Friday, May 23rd. Birchwood's will be Thursday, May 22nd. As I write this, no information is yet available regarding Community's Monday evening and Thursday morning. If I don't come back to add to this, you can call them at 847-991-0333 to inquire. As for Harper, I suggest checking the Palatine Picklers Facebook page for Jay Cozza's updates or his Team Reach posts.



It's been five years since 16 of us competed in this tournament. Put Thursday, April 24th on your calendar, and email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com that you want to participate. At 9:00 in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington, we'll judge your pajamas and then begin our round robin play.

Check out a few of our previous PJ participants.



How much fun is this? It's also a lot of fun to see the reactions when we walk into the Kelsey Road House for lunch. So email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com that you want to get into this one. Other than our Halloween Costume Party tournament and our Ugly Holiday Sweater tournament, you won't have a tournament that allows for so much creativity. Just do it.



SEEMS WE NEED TO REVIEW “STRIKES” AGAIN

At least every month I explain how anyone ... whether in mentoring, intramurals, or a tournament ... who has asked to be put on a given ETBA (Expect To Be Available) list, needs to email ME by noon three days before the event to take you off that ETBA list. If you put on your calendar “Maybe Canlan” each day you send me, it should be an easy reminder, in the event a conflict arises.

So how do you earn a strike? (1) You do not respond to an invitation by 10 a.m. the day after you receive it. (2) You reply saying you cannot make it. (3) In the event of mentoring, you contact (email, text, or call) Kathy with absolutely anything other than your acceptance of her invitation. (Everything else comes to me.) (4) You are a no-show. We frown, roll our eyes, and overlook your offense the first time. If you get a second strike, you are out of EVERYTHING for the next six months, even if your strikes were from different Palatine Pickler events.

I’m not shy about reviewing how strikes are earned, at the start of events. Yet, all too often, within two weeks, one of those hearing that yadda yadda yadda speech, earns a strike, sometimes a second. Strikes exist to keep Scheduler Kathy and me from wasting time seeking a replacement for you when you told me you’d be there. By then others may have other plans.

PHOTO DAY WILL BE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23rd



The photo above is from last year's Photo Day at Falcon. If you have a Palatine Picklers shirt, wear it to Falcon on the 23rd. At exactly 10:00 I'll blow a whistle and ask you to remember your score and who will be serving when you return to your court. If you'll be coming just for the photo and not to play, you won't have to pay the Park District's daily fee. So mark your calendar now.

Because some of you will forget and some of you, for some unknown reason, don't own a club shirt, I will bring a bunch of my own for you to borrow JUST FOR THE PHOTO.

Oh, this is a photo of our group, not a "Look at me" photo. Please don't make me have waving arms or tipping caps edited out of the photo again. Thank

NEED A VOLUNTEER FOR OUR NEXT PICKLEHAUS DAY

I ran two, very fun mornings at Algonquin's Picklehaus last year. If you're willing to organize and run a morning of pickleball followed by lunch right there, email me. You can do whatever you want, but I can share what I've done the last two times, if you'd like. You can volunteer at aokbarry@yahoo.com. It's not that difficult, if we ignore the 11th hour dropouts, but my pickleball plate is already really full. I want to promote another Picklehaus Day, but I don't want to run it again. Hope to hear from you.



I believe Daniel Koste may run a close 2nd, and several other appear here frequently, Sue Cole is our most medaled Pickler. She's our only medalist this month, but duh, she did it twice.



. Lisa Bruder & Sue Cole – Macon, GA -
. Women's 76 4.0 - 4.5 – Silver



Don Tombs & Sue Cole – Macon, GA -
Mixed 80+ 4.0 – Gold

In case you are newer to newsletters, names in *italics* belong to those not PPC members.

NATALIE'S PICKLEBALL CRUISE HAD HIGHS AND LOWS

Natalie Silverman (previously affectionately identified in multiple newsletters as "Tiny Person") helped to organize a ladies pickleball cruise. Several Lady Picklers got on their ship in Fort Lauderdale and ... well, I'll let Natalie's summary suffice...

The cruise was really not what we expected, at least the pickleball portion. Unfortunately, it rained all day on Monday and Tuesday. We did listen to our "Pro" Andy Rubenstein tell us his life history.... Started playing tennis at age 6, won his first tournament at age 8.... Played in the US Open.... Never had one job other than playing tennis and pickleball. He is currently 55 and no kids, never married. Our rained out lessons were rescheduled for 9 pm, and most of us were out partying at that time. He was very hurt that we missed the lesson. Gave us a lot of attitude after that. Wed was absolutely lovely, we went to BahaMar by shuttle with our pickleball group of 25. It was gorgeous weather. I played an hour of open play and then went to the pool. The others had their lessons with Andy for an hour. It was just 3 drills and each person stood in line to try it once. Not that great. Barb did get the only award from our group.... Most Dedicated to Pickleball. She enjoyed her lesson and Andy, and was really happy

to get to play as we didn't play a lot of pickleball. Thursday, our final day, we spent at a private island, Coco Cay. It was nice, but no pickleball courts. I did play Sand Pickleball with some others in our PB group, but it was really hard to keep the ball in the air. I had my one and only lesson on Thursday morning before heading to the island. It was exactly as everyone told me.... I will show you the drill.... Start at the line and do a "Hard drive", move up to half court and hit a "Block", and then get to kitchen for a "Dink". That was my lesson.... That is all I "learned."

I played more pickleball in Mexico last Nov and in Vegas last May than I did on this cruise, but I still had a great time. Just don't think we should have paid that extra \$600 for the pickleball stuff, as it wasn't worth it. We did do a really fun scavenger hunt for only the 25 of us..... Our pro Andy liked two things.... Andy and Andy. Would I do it again, absolutely... just not a pickleball cruise with that group. Very unorganized and believe me, I know the rain was not in their control, but none of us wanted to play in the night and the other group got rescheduled for 3:30 pm My group's ages were, aside from me (50), 60, 67, 74, and 76.... they did not want to play at 9 pm. Things just didn't seem very fair. We all survived, and I think everyone had a nice time. Halina said she would never go on another cruise, but she still a nice experience. I'm very excited for the Mexican trip you and John are planning!!



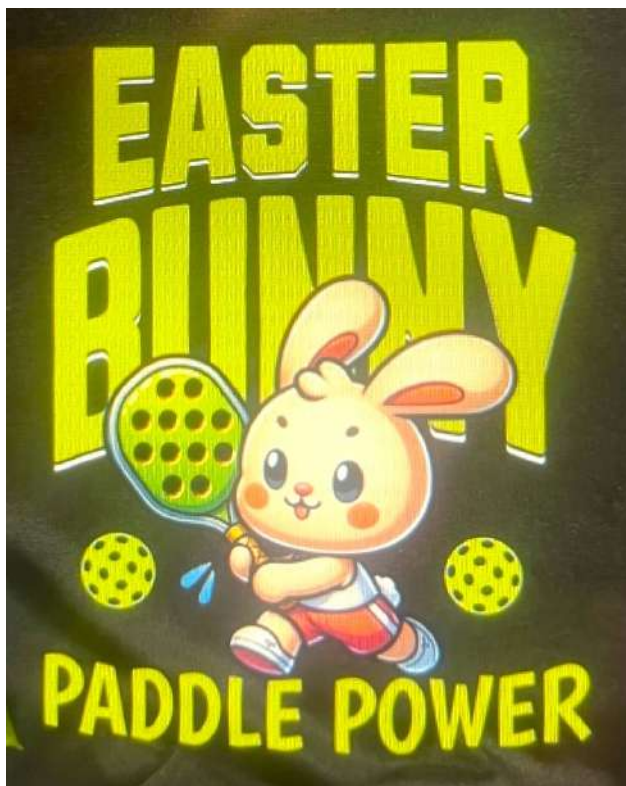
Natalie, Halina, Tammy, & Joanie



Barb missed that photo



Barb wore one of the shirts they had made to Falcon. This shows front and back. Pretty cool.



TOO SMALL A SPACE FOR ANYTHING ELSE ...

Please think about volunteering to run our next Picklehaus Day. I'm still at aokbarry@yahoo.com. Thanks.

MORE PALATINE PICKLERS CONNECTING IN OTHER STATES

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Sheila O’Gara (last month’s profiled Pickler) was playing pickleball in La Quinta, CA. Someone there knew she was from the Chicago area and pointed out another lady from there. Sheila walked up to the individual (Deanna Carstens) and started talking. They shared a Canlan connection, though Sheila said she played there only with the Palatine Picklers. Deanna shared she was a Palatine Pickler too and said nice things about me. Actually, so did Sheila. Then Deanna introduced a Barringtonian who, I understand, is also a member of our club, though I sadly don’t recognize her. Her name is Sally. Just love Palatine Picklers finding each other in other states... again.



Sheila, Sally, Deanna



SUPER STEPPERS (20K+ in a day)

21,103



Natalie Silverman

20,249



Jeff Greenberg

WORTHY WALKERS (15K+ in a day)

16,225



Bobbi Campbell

15,601



Bear Shatwell

Either far fewer Picklers than normal were walking in March, or they're forgetting to send me their steps. I'm not sure we've ever had as few as four recognized in this section of a newsletter.

CHECK YOUR PHONE (LITTLE RED HEART) & JOIN US HERE

Many of you don't realize it, but your phone may be tracking your daily steps. If you have a little, red heart icon, that's where you'll find your daily steps. If you get 15K or more, just take a screen shot and email it to me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. You too can be featured in this walker-honoring section!

You know I call Natalie Silverman TP (Tiny Person). Now can meet PP. I call Joanie Willmeth Purple Person. We owe her a couple thank yous. She's gotten several members of her bike club to become Palatine Picklers. And it was her love of purple that got me to expand our shirt options to have white iso purple, and a lot of other darker colors, could be ordered.



you

HEY, INDOOR MENTOREES – REGISTER FOR YOUR MAY 6TH TOURNAMENT

For a nine years we've had two Mentoree tournaments each year. One for outdoor Mentorees and one for indoor Mentorees. Those of you who have participated in at least two Canlan mentoring sessions are eligible to try for one of the 24 spots on the May 6th Mentoree Tournament. Of course, it will be at Canlan and start at 9:00. To register just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. And, of course, when it's over and I've taken pics of the top three in each of the two divisions, we'll have lunch together at Kelsey Road House a mile away. OK, email me you want "in."

PICKLER LADIES CLOSEST TO 60 TOURNAMENT



Maureen, Joanie, Cindy, Donna, Janet, Karen, Bari, Pam

Once again, eleventh hour withdrawals prompted me to adopt my feminine name Bari and fill in. It was a fun morning, as all our tournaments are. Everyone played one game partnered with each of the participants. Then we had a lot of fun at lunch. Here are the winningest Ladies of the day.

Cindy 1st, Maureen 2nd, and Janet 3rd.



THIS MONTH'S CAPTURED PICKLERS PICKLING



Angie



Barb



Barb



Bob



Carol



Carol



Cathy



Chris



Chris



Dan



Dawn



Deb



Debbie



Don



Garth



Geoff



Howard



Jack



Janet



Jeff



Jenny



Jim



Joe



John



John



John



Julie



Karen



Kathleen



Kenny



Kent



Marianne



Mark



Marla



Mary



Masumi



Michael



Mike



Natasha



Pam



Paul



Satish



Scott



Shelly



Theresa



Tim



Tom



Tom



Tommy



BERNADETTE



BOB



CASSA



GAIL



JIM



JOE



JOHN



JULIE



MARIA



MICHDELLE



SAMIR



John Schehl (at left) brought this resort to my attention. He's stayed here and loves it. He made a powerpoint presentation to a bunch of us after intramurals a couple months ago, and we loved it. He has gotten some input from me, but he's been on point so far. I hope to have more specifics in the May newsletter.

We'll fly to Cabo San Lucas on Wednesday, January 14th (2026), for fun week of pickleball at the awesome Palmas Pickleball Resort in Los Barriles. Most of us will fly home Tuesday, January 20th. The round trip from and to the airport will cost \$100 per person.

Take a look at what you'll find:

www.palmaspickleballresort.com

Let's look at lodging. Prices include taxes and fees:

At Palmas De Cortez ... 2 double beds, ocean view, 1 or 2 people ... \$264/day (8 available)
2-bedroom condo, ocean view, sleeps 5 ... \$624/day (7 available)

At Playa Del Sol ... 2 double beds, ocean view, 1 or 2 people ... \$252/day upstairs or down (6 available)

King bed, ocean view, 1 or 2 people ... \$276 upstairs or down (2 available)

2 double beds, poolside view, 1 or 2 people ... \$252/day ground floor (10 available)

King bed, poolside view, 1 or 2 people ... \$276/day ground floor (2 available)

2 double beds, Garden Room, 1 or 2 people ... \$180/day (6 available)

The resort requires a 20% deposit, with the balance due upon arrival.

There are also Air B&B options within easy walking distances.

Let's look at pickleball:

We'll have 8 courts reserved from 9:00 to Noon all six days. For this the total cost is \$3600. If we have 40 Picklers each day, the individual cost is \$15. Of course, I'd be very surprised if we have 40 who want to play (32 at a time) every day for 3 hours. I'd originally wanted 2 hours each day. I think we may need to return to that idea. And John and I will have to play with how to charge/collect for the different numbers who want to play each day.

Then there is open play at a cost of \$13 per day, at least if all 40 of us want to play each day. Again, we've got more questions and more number-crunching to do, before I write the article for the May newsletter. In open play we can interact with other guests.

Let's look at food:

Resort breakfasts usually are \$10-12 courtside. Resort lunches will be about \$15. Dinners can run \$25 to \$60, with several restaurants within an easy walk.



Skills & Drills Clinic: \$50 for two, one-hour sessions. We'll find out if you can sign up for just one for \$25. Also, you can sign up for individual or small group lessons. We'll investigate those fees.

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Center luxury wellness and physiotherapy

- Moschcat massage technique**
- Chocolate Therapy**
Immerse all your senses in aztec chocolate
- Wine Therapy**
Anti-aging wine soaking
- Beer massage 2x1**
The funnest activity in LB
- Physiotherapy**

Reserve Now!

Free massage minutes at the bar

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Palmas Pickleball Resort, Los Barriles, BCS.
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MOSCHCAT

luxury wellness and physiotherapy

TOURNAMENT 'S PROMO!

	59 USD
Cryotherapy.	5-10min
Massage hot stone.	30min
Pressotherapy	10min
	60 USD
Muscle discharge	45-60 min
Shiatsu chair	1 min 1 USD
Massage moschcat hot stone.	60 min. 65 USD
Cryotherapy.	5-10min. 20USD
Pressotherapy.	10-20min. 15/20 USD

What to do in Los Barriles:

There are plenty of activities, including water sports, fishing, jet skiing, hiking, whale-watching, art walks, ATV rides, etc.



Another active month. It's been interesting with the temps from day to day going from 28 to 79 to 34 to 63. It gave a lot of us both indoor and outdoor play time. Perhaps, you noticed a shortage of Newbies this month. Strange. Won't go through all the experimentation and investigation, but it's due to Yahoo totally screwing up their everything. New applications get sent to Sheila Lullo (2 yrs ago the website stopped liking me so we have them sent to her who then forwards them to me). We tried her using a different email. We tried copying and pasting in a new email. Yahoo kept saying, "No way, Sucker." So I opened a gmail account just for Newbies. Bingo. So Since late on 3/13 until 3/30, I had no Newbies online. I've now gotten the 22 that applied in that time range so May's Newbie section will be much bigger.

Obviously, our Mexican trip is the biggest thing in here. Though details are sketchy now, please email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com (I still get unencumbered emails) IF you THINK you'll go. The dates are 1/14 to 2/20 next year. We're expecting 30-40 Picklers. That's twice what we had in Jamaica, but it's closer, better, and SO many wished they'd gone to Jamaica. The first 40 to let me know will get to go. If more want to join us, we MAY get to enlarge our group.

OK, on to current stuff. Plan to be at Falcon at 10:00 a.m. for Photo Day on Wednesday, April 23rd. I will bring 8 or 10 of my shirts for those of you (for whatever lame reason) don't have a PPC shirt to borrow.

The only fun tournament I've scheduled for April is the Pajama Party tournament on Thursday, April 24th at Canlan. We'll judge pajamas at 9:00 and then play. And then have a pajama lunch.

Newer players can email me to get on an Expect To Be Available list for either the 9:00 to 10:30 and/or 10:30-Noon mentoring sessions at Sycamore Park, starting in May. Invitations will be sent on Mondays.

Intermediate level Picklers should send me the every other Tuesdays (next is 4/15) you expect to be available to play from 9 to noon in Canlan. When you email me, please include your MMDDYY date of birth. It's oldies against youngsters. All fun. Not serious. Then lunch.

FYI the last day of indoor pickleball at Falcon is Friday, May 30th. Birchwood's last day is Thursday, May 29th.

Happy pickling.

Bear Shatwell

PicklersPrez

aokbarry@yahoo.com

Kathy will get started with mentoring in May. We'll be like the 70th couple to be playing at the same time. Yea!

