



JULY, 2025 NEWSLETTER

POPULATION RELATED TO OUTDOOR COURTS

A number of you asked if I'd share how many courts exist in our neighboring towns, not just the population per court. So here is the whole list, from Hoffman down to Palatine.

| <u>RANK</u> | <u>TOWN</u> | <u>COURTS</u> | <u>POPULATION</u> | <u>POPULATION PER COURT</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Hoffman Estates | 33 | 49,445 | 1,498 |
| 2 | Barrington | 6 | 10,326 | 1,721 |
| 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 | Wheeling | 6 | 21,700 | 3,617 |
| 8 | Elk Grove | 8 | 31,350 | 3,919 |
| | <i>including tennis courts</i> | 12 | | 2,613 |
| 9 | Mt Prospect | 12 | 54,298 | 4,525 |
| 10 | Arlington Heights | 16 | 76,200 | 4,763 |
| 11 | Lake Zurich | 4 | 19,676 | 4,919 |
| 12 | Schaumburg | 14 | 75,750 | 5,411 |
| 13 | Palatine | 10 | 64,869 | 6,487 |
| | <i>including tennis courts</i> | 12 | | 5,406 |

The Palatine Park District 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 options provided.

One Palatine Pickler who has lobbied more than I have for more courts in town emailed Executive Director Ben Rea and said we'd be happy to share his email address, in case any Palatine Picklers would like to share their desire to have more courts in town. Ben's email address is brea@palatineparks.org. Please do let him know what you think. Thanks.

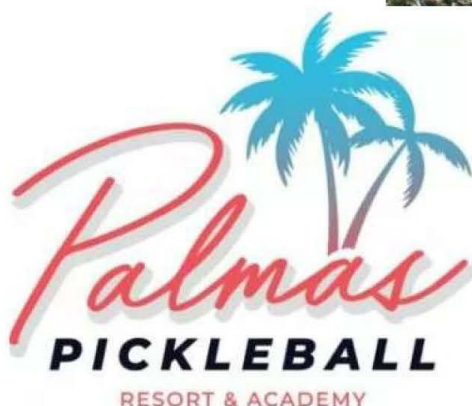
MEXICO IS CALLING YOU ... PLEASE ANSWER



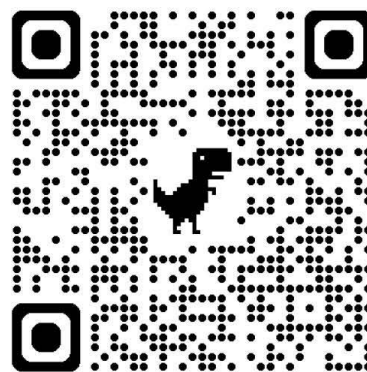
LET'S PLAY PICKLEBALL IN LOS BARILLES, BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR (B.C.S.) MEXICO!

DEPART: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

RETURN: TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026



Lodging at Hotel Playa Del Sol



COMPLETE 7-DAY, 6-NIGHT PICKLEBALL PACKAGE

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT WEBSITE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTER

<https://2026palatinepicklerpbvacation.blogspot.com/>

YOUR FLAT FEE for all but airfare and food is **\$1100** apiece for double occupancy or **\$1864** for a single. That includes all taxes and resort fees and your round trip from/to the Cabo San Lucas airport. It includes your room, 8 courts reserved for Palatine Picklers from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. ... unlimited open play 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ... two one-hour clinics with the pros (date/time to be determined) ... a pro exhibition and happy hour for our whole group (date/time TBD) ... free concierge service with discounted rates for other activities including ATV Baja adventures, world-class sport fishing, hiking, snorkeling, horseback riding, paddleboarding, kayaking, kite surfing, cooking classes, etc.

WHAT TO DO ... Go to <https://2026palatinepicklerpbvacation.blogspot.com> to make your reservation. Once you've made your deposit (3 options), email Jess@bywaterfilms.com to tell him. He'll help you select your room.

We did not ask for an all-inclusive option, as there are plenty of restaurants on-site and several more within an easy walk.

EMAIL ME ... Once you're all set with the resort, let me know so I can keep tabs on how many Palatine Picklers will be enjoying this Mexican pickleball week. I'm at aokbarry@yahoo.com.

IF YOU'RE A SIGNAL, BUT WOULD LIKE A ROOMMATE ... Email me. I'll have a list of any others who are in that same boat. I'm still at aokbarry@yahoo.com.



WALKERS ... DON'T SEND YOUR SCREEN SHOTS TO ME

We now have a Walkers Coordinator ... Mary Werling at mary.palatinepicklers@gmail.com is now your destination. Please record and remember this. Yes, for those who don't remember this and send your steps to me, I will forward your email to Mary.

WHEN IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ?

On Thursday July 10th, the 12 of uis with birthdays closest to July 4th will play a round robin tournament in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. We'll play from 9:00 to about 11:45 and then, schedules permitting, we'll go to lunch a mile away at the Kelsey Road House.

Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with your birthday. On the 5th or 6th I'll email everyone who has submitted their birthday, to let you know who the lucky 12 are.



MORNING MENTORING MISSING MENTOREES

For years we've had dozens of Picklers wanting to be among the 24 we'd invite to one of the two, 90-minute sessions held each Wednesday morning. So far this season, we've seen three weeks where we didn't get even the 24 we could serve. We're truly puzzled by this. As you an see in the Newbies section, a lot of individuals join our club each month. Actually you see only the ones I signed up in person. Far more join online, and I've yet to meet them. And, the majority of our Newbies have either never played pickleball or claim to be beginners. So why are they not clamoring for this free instruction? Participants will spend one-half hour with each of three Mentors. At least through July, Mentorees will be grouped with three others of similar experience and ability. (Bear is looking to retire from this chore next month.)

Virtually every week we hear from a first-time Mentoree that he/she learned more in 90 minutes than in several weeks of lessons that had a cost ... and had more fun too.

Of course, **you don't need an invitation** to participate in our Thursday and Saturday 3;00 to 5:00 mentoring sessions at Hamilton. Just please try to be a few minutes early.



IF YOU'RE NOT ON THIS LIST, YOU ARE NOT ON ANY INTRAMURAL ETBA LISTS

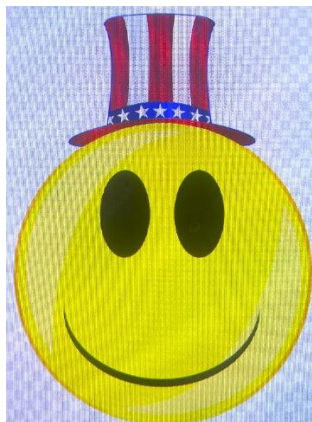
Jeff G, Scott P, Bruce K, Mark H, Kent K, Clay F, Dave S, Nicole G, Kim H, Colleen N, Angie I, Annette G, Mary Jo L, Leslie P, Lisa F, Karen K, Pam T, Mary Ka, Judy K

Due to some schedule changes, last month I announced we're starting over with an empty Expect To Be Available spreadsheet. Fewer than half of our 2024 & 2025 intramuralists have responded. SO here are the upcoming dates and times. Please, if your name isn't above, send me the (mostly) Tuesday mornings you can participate. My email address is aokbarry@yahoo.com. IF you think you're an intermediate level Pickler, send me dates. Thanks. Intramural times follow. All matches start at 9:00 in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington.

Wed 7/9 from 10:30-1:30 **Tue 7/22 9-12** Tue 8/5 9-12 Tue 8/19 9-12 Tue 9/2 9-12

Tue 9/16 9-12 Tue 9/30 9-12 Tue 10/14 9-12 Tue 10/28 9-12 Tue 11/11 9-12

Tue 11/25 9-12 Tue 12/9 That takes you through 2025. I'll ask for 2026 in November.



NEAL HARRIS PAID US A VISIT

Neal was among the first 600 to join our club and joined me for our first mentoring session in 2015. He was a very valued Mentor through 2024. Then he and Mary moved to the Atlanta area. She had a work-related event in Rockford mid-June. Neal accompanied her and visited us for a morning. A dozen of us joined him for breakfast and then joined him at Hamilton. He and I shared some mentoring



memories, while waiting for an open court.



Neal has scaled down his Reiki Healing practice, but has revived his decades old acting interest. Of course, he takes his golf cart to the pickleball courts frequently. You can see his home in the December, 2024 newsletter.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, OR THE CLUB WILL COAST

INTRAMURALS ... I'm reducing my role of running the Palatine Pickleball Club. I WILL NOT be running intramurals after the end of this year. It's not that hard. I'll be glad to share all the info you need to run it – and give you my scoreboard. I'll tell you our Canlan contact to secure dates a year in advance. So, if you have enjoyed these fun matches over the last three years, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com that you're willing to take over. If no one steps up, December 9th will be the end of intramurals. Clay Farnsworth travels a lot but will co-manage.

WEDNESDAY MENTORING ... I'll continue to book Wednesday Mentors and do the court assignments through July. After that I'll have Mentorees email their availability to Rune, not me. If no one wants to assign courts in advance, Mentors will have to figure that out at the beginning of each Wednesday session. I'll give you both indoor and outdoor balls.

FUN TOURNAMENTS ... After August, I'll be done creating and running our Thursday morning tournaments. I'll be glad to share those I've created with you. I'll give you our Canlan contact

for you to schedule courts (the number available can differ). I'll give you scoreboards, dry erase pens, and balls.

ACTION SHOTS ... I've already cut down on the number of pics I take. If you like the thousands of action shots I've taken and published, volunteer to be our photographer. You can edit your shots and send them to Jonny Storm on the 20th of each month. He'll add the first names you supply him and send them back to me.

NEWSLETTERS ... I'd love to hand this over to anyone. However, I'm willing to patch together everything above from other Picklers.

MEDALISTS ... Easy peasy. We'll have anyone who medals send YOU their photo, names, tournament, division, and medal. You edit it, arrange a page or two with it all, and send it to me, or whomever is taking over the newsletter, ready to copy and paste.

SO, BASICALLY, THE CLUB AS YOU'VE KNOWN IT FOR 10.5 YEARS WILL COME TO AN END AT THE END OF THIS YEAR, UNLESS YOU WANT IT TO CONTINUE ENOUGH TO VOLUNTEER.



MEET OUR NEW SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Cathy Maraist is my "Go to" expert, whenever I have a problem with WORD in creating these newsletters. She and Jeff came to Hamilton mentoring last summer. They have been active in mentoring and tournaments ever since. Cathy is quick to return any non-working situation with which I've been wrestling into a solved situation.

Now she's taken on the responsibility of getting our significant stuff on social media. She's even gotten some Mexico stuff onto our Facebook page. Welcome, and thank you, Cathy.



HEY, TEACHERS – JUST IN TIME

Before some of you head back to school, register for this Thursday, July 24th tournament just for current, retired, and substitute teachers. It will start at 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Barrington Canlan Sportsplex. You'll pay their \$10 daily fee at the lobby desk. Then you'll enjoy a round robin morning – playing once WITH each of your fellow teachers. This will be our 2nd teachers tournament. We had a lot of fun with last year's. Afterward, we head to Kelsey Road House a mile away to enjoy a bonding lunch. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com that you want to be a part of this rewarding morning.

DO YOU REMEMBER ALL OUR 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 grtfuldad@aol.com.

Pickleball Paddles | Engage Pickleball – EngagePickleball See what they offer this month at engagepickleball.com, with the code 20jon. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1j9Uuk8xn_r-CREN7UYI9AqYQGFnLO5i3MspEkh3AdHk/edit?usp=sharing New Engage discount

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.



WIDOWS TOURNAMENT/DINNER RESET TO 8/14

Unfortunately, too many widows who would have wanted to participate in our 3rd, annual widow event had conflicts. So, I've rescheduled it for Thursday, August 24th from 4:00 to 7:00 followed by dinner a mile away. If you were widowed, you **are** a widow, regardless of whether you've remarried since. Bring photos, memorabilia, poems (at least in my case), etc. You can share them with Picklers who "get it." Over dinner, we have experienced both tears and lots of laughter you wouldn't share with those not in this club no one want to join. To be included in this 3rd annual Widows evening, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. Thanks.

THIS MONTH'S MEDALISTS



- | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| . | <i>Lisa Matsunari & Daniel Koste</i> | <i>Daniel Koste & Greg Share</i> | <i>Dan Salbego & Greg Kuhs</i> |
| . | Summer Bash at Pickled in Batavia | Center Court King of Court | SureShot in Naperville |
| . | 4.0 mixed doubles – Bronze | 3.75 - 4.5 – Gold | Open age 3.0 – Bronze |

OUR MENTOR/PHILOSOPHER HAS MORE WISDOM TO SHARE

Jeff Balicki has offered more food for thought. Here's what he'd like to share.

People seemed interested in this topic at mentoring today and I had a thought this might have a place in an upcoming newsletter. Feel free to edit as you see fit, including removing altogether the second section on my own personal top five traits. No worries if you don't want to include this at all, just thought I'd make the offering.

Pickleball doubles is a team game so try giving some thought to traits you would like in your next pickleball partner and then try one or more of these questions (or your own) in Google to see the AI overview and more detailed breakdown.

What makes someone a good pickleball partner

What makes someone a fun pickleball partner

What makes someone a winning pickleball partner

What makes someone a good social pickleball partner

Remember, you have the right to be that type of Pickleball Partner!

My personal top five traits are compatibility, attitude, readiness, effort, and stress-free:

1. Compatibility: Team-focused using extra communication with common goals.
2. Attitude: Control what you can control and let the rest go, sportsmanship, and positive encouragement. Takes game seriously, but not themselves.
3. Readiness: with the right gear, nutrition/hydration, basic skills for level of play, stretches, and mindset.
4. Effort: Predictable effort to be in the right spot, make one of the best shots for their abilities, and follow team strategy.
5. Stress-free: reliable, stable, worry-free partner

IT'S WALKER RECOGNITION TIME

ULTRA SUPER STEPPER (30K+ in a day)

34,144



Lois Farb

SUPER STEPPERS (20K+ in a day)

25,239



Ben Farb

24,625



Natalie Silverman

23,239



Jesse Cohen

22,047



Bob McGowan

21,518



Bear Shatwell

21,293



Joe Mazzocchi

21,078



Mary Werling

20,055



Marcia Cohen

WORTHY WALKERS (15K+ in a day)

19,711



Ben Farb

18,293



Jesse Cohen

17,154



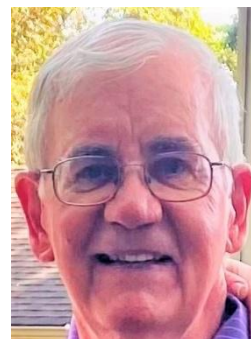
Cathy Maraist

16,475



Bear Shatwell

16,366



Bob McGowan

16100



Mary Whitehead

15,083



Lois Farb

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!

ORDER SHIRTS NOW & GET THEM IN JULY

Shirt Lady Linda has 8 shirts ready to order. She needs at least 4 more. Go to PalatinePicklers.com (not on phone) and place your order for new colors & styles.

JUNE NEWBIES



Ann



Ayaka



Barb H.



Barb M.



Bill



Bijan



Brian



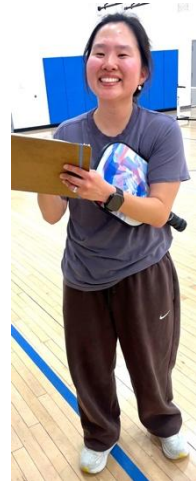
Carl



Chris K.



Chris T.



Connie



Debbie



Elliott



Emmett



Frank



Gavin



Glen



Gordan



Henry



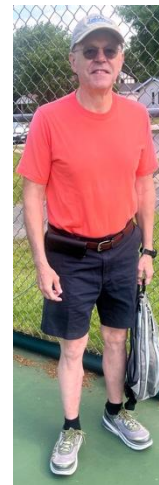
Issac



Jani



Joel



John



Kavi



Kellie



Lea



Leisa



Marian



Martin



Matt



Michele



Noor



Olya



PJ



Rejesh



Renee



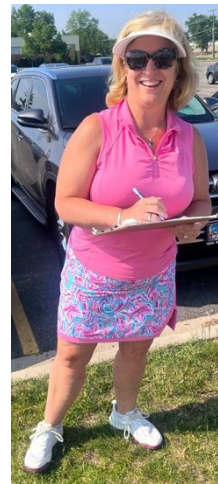
Roman



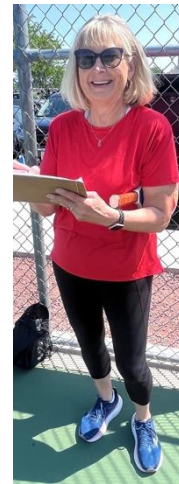
Sameer



Sarah



Shari



Terri



Tibor



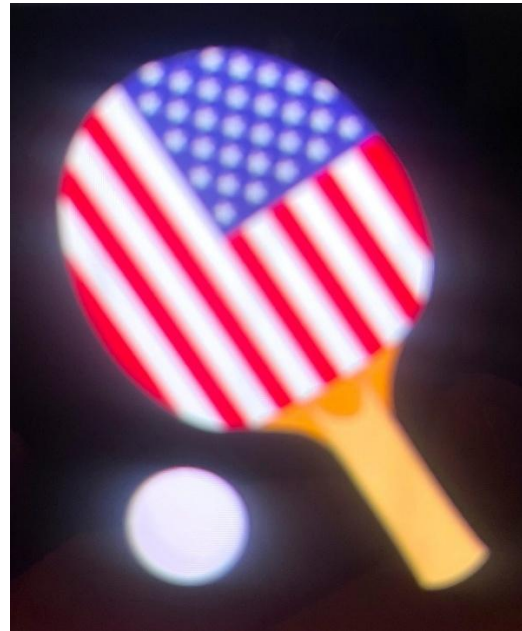
Tony



Vishnu



Zach



PICKLERS AT PLAY



Bill



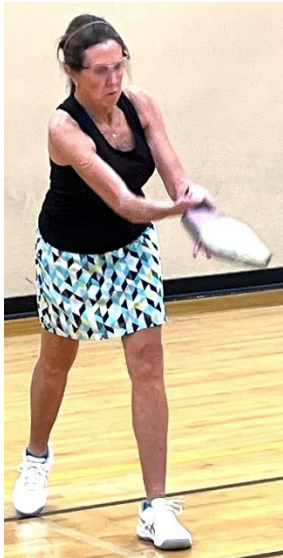
Chris



Eric



Steve



Sheila



Kim



Mario



Jay



Frank



Evelyn



Joanne



Brian



Cindy



Colleen



Doris



Clay



Dan



Chris



John



Jaime



Karen



Tom



Sue



Rose



Terri



Tom



Natalie



Nichole



Tom



Ann



Bill



Annette



Barb



Tony



Neal



Nancy



Mike



Mary



Don



Jeff



Heather



Chri



Dave



Chris



Carol



Debbie



Brian



Jay



Lesa

**COME ON, TEACHERS, WIDOWS, & THOSE WITH BIRTHDAYS
BETWEEN MID-MAY & MID-AUGUST... EMAIL ME
AT AOKBARRY@YAHOO.COM**

**AND EMAIL PALATINE PARK DISTRICT'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BEN
REA WITH YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT MORE OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL
COURTS IN TOWN ...
BREA@PALATINEPARKS.ORG**



Bill



Sally



Stephanie



Diane



Karen



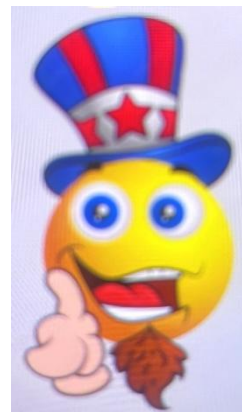
Marti



Noor



Gerd





John



Natalie



Leslie



Allie



Tommy



Mike



Linda



Lucia

LOTS OF IMPORTANT STUFF IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Most importantly I really do need some of you to “pay your dues.” That’s what I’ve been doing for ten years. I’ve had SO much for which to be thankful in my life that I felt the need to brighten the lives of others. After years of my typical overinvolvement in baseball and hockey, I decided it was my time to pursue my love of volleyball, tennis, and golf. I quit everything for everyone else and enjoyed just my own interests. Then, the same year I retired, pickleball came into my life. When the Park District asked me to start a pickleball club, of course, I said, “Sure.” That was more than ten years ago. Those of you who actually read my newsletters know I’ve been over the top in this endeavor too. Now, I want, and need, to begin backing down. PLEASE pay YOUR dues and volunteer to manage Intramurals (can co-manage with Clay) ... or manage Wednesday summer mentoring ... or create page/s for medalists each month ... or take/edit photos of Picklers in action ... or create and run 1 OR 2 fun tournaments a month

to be played Thursdays in Canlan. I will help you get started and supply you with what you need.

AND PLEASE register for our January, Mexican pickleball adventure. When you do, email me that you have.

I'll run intramurals through the end of the year, but I'd really appreciate more of you intermediate Picklers emailing me the Tuesday mornings you expect to be available to participate. It's every other Tuesday starting now with (this one-time exception to Tuesday mornings) Wednesday, 7/9 10:30-1:30 – then back to 7/22 etc. at 9:00.

I introduced you to 45 Newbies this month. The majority are pretty new to pickleball. I need you to email me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) with the Wednesday mornings you expect to be available to be mentored at Sycamore. If selected you'll get an invitation from Scheduler Rune Sunday or Monday for that Wednesday.



If you were born June through August, email me your birthday. The dozen closest to July 4th will compete Thursday 7/10 in Canlan in a round robin tournament. I'll email everyone 7/y6 with who made the closest 12.

TEACHERS ... current, retired, substitute ... email me your availability to play in your tournament on Thursday, 7/24 from 9 to Noon and then join for lunch.

This month's closing Bear photo is from quite a while ago, back when I loved, and could play pretty well, volleyball, tennis, table tennis, golf, bags, and even, last on that abilitylist, pickleball. While looking for this month's photo I came across it, and it prompted happy memories so I decided to use it this month.

And, if you believe there is a need for additional outdoor courts in Palatine, email Ben Rea at brae@palatineparks.org ... and please send me a copy of your email. Thanks.

Happy July pickling.

Bear Shatwell

PicklersPrez

aokbarry@yahoo.com