Pickleballs! - The Franchise of Buddy Comedy Films

A SUPERLATIVE production, presented by Dan Beeman

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Film #1: Pickleballs! - A SUPERLATIVE love story

Background/History

According to <u>USA Pickleball</u>, Pickleball is a sport combining many aspects of tennis and Ping Pong, played on a court the size of a badminton court.

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country with 4.9 million players.

It is trendy in Hollywood.

In 2020/21, the sport grew over 38%. According to IFP, it is also played in 63 different countries: Double the amount from the previous year.

Pickleball also has a very silly name and lots of interesting, quirky personalities, making it ripe for comedy.

Logline: When an aging, former tennis champ loses his job, home, and his mother on the same day, he must travel the country in an old RV with his former rival while hustling for enough cash to pay off gambling debts by playing in pickleball tournaments.

Genre: Buddy Comedy

This adventure/comedic buddy movie was inspired by Blades of Glory, Talladega Nights, Wedding Crashers, Step- Brothers and Dodgeball.

Synopsis:

The story is about transformation of two men who, based on ignorant assumptions, despised each other for their passionate adherence to opposing ideologies: capitalism vs communism.

The comedic plot comes from obvious, contrasting differences in the main characters, both caricatures, decades after they first met. These two are now in their 60's.

One is a cocky, jingoistic, arrogant American capitalist from California named Chip Cox.

The other is an introspective, brooding Russian communist named Boris Baryshnikov.

Chip was a blend of a youthful John McEnroe and Andre Agassi. He was deeply tanned, heavily muscled, and a chick-magnet. Now, he is a pale, flabby, single, sex-craved gambling-addict. His maturity level and sense of humor remains adolescent. He talks a lot of trash to opponents,

Chip has tried to ignore but has seen the rise of pickleball at the country club where he had been teaching tennis. His once flowing blond hair is now replaced by a receding hairline that he desperately attempts to hide with hats and wigs.

He lives in Van Nuys, CA in an old, run-down RV in his mothers' driveway directly across the street from the tennis club that displays a statue of his younger self at the entrance. It is a daily reminder of what he once was.

Early in the movie, he gets fired as a teaching pro at the same club, his mom dies and she wills her house to her church to help her have a better chance of getting in to heaven. With no job, no money and no living family, Chip needs to reinvent himself. He wants to make up for his failures in life and pay homage to his mother by paying off his debt.

He owes the mafia a million dollars from gambling losses but doesn't learn about it until after his mom dies unexpectedly. They are coming after him and they may have been responsible for both of his parents' demise.

He needs money and fast. He has an idea: recruit Boris, his old, singles nemesis and doubles partner, who has the best hands Chip had ever seen, to travel with him across the country competing in Pickleball tournaments, to pay off his debts. One problem - they still despise each other and have not spoken to each other in nearly 40 years.

Chip uses his Amazon Alexa device to find a destitute Boris living in a commune in Northern California. He says he wants to reconnect. He convinces Boris that they can recreate their magical tennis chemistry through pickleball as partners while redeeming Boris's reputation and wipe out his debt. He doesn't tell Boris that he is broke too and owes a million dollars to the mob.

Boris is a skinny, old-school communist-loving Russian who loves to quote Karl Marx and Dostoyevsky. He came from nowhere to "win" the 1978 French Open singles due to a drug test failure and illegal gambling by Chip (the reigning, six-time champion).

Boris vanished after the French Open and has been living in a failing commune for 30+ years.

He has bad breath, a bad stomach, bad hearing, and bad teeth. He is learning the marijuanagrowing business while trying to manage and motivate a lazy staff. He struggles with the hypocrisy of his need to make a profit despite his antipathy for capitalism. He owes a lot of money in taxes but thinks he owes "Texas" and doesn't understand the difference.

They will live together in the RV, learning from each other, traveling to compete in tournaments across California. In the end, they find the happiness they were seeking was the opposite of what they thought it would be.

Here is the untold story that is not in the synopsis but inspired it.

The backstory and philosophical underpinning that drives the narrative comes from the ideological differences between the protagonists:

Chip, the capitalist is selfish.

Boris, the communist is selfless.

Capitalism, unchecked, puts the priorities of the individual over others.

Communism, in the purest form, puts the needs of others before the self.

Chip's gluttonous greed and arrogance led to a gambling problem that left him morally and financially bankrupt.

Boris's naïve ideology left him broke because he gave away everything he had. He thought that others would reciprocate his unconditional giving. They didn't. The commune was failing because he didn't understand how to get staff to work hard or compete in a capitalistic society.

Both Chip and Boris thought their way of living was the right way and stubbornly stuck to their individual ideas about how to live. Both were wrong.

Both were alone and lonely.

These themes are woven into the story through the two men who are coming to terms with their eventual mortality and realization that their stubbornness was a weakness, not strength. They needed to change to succeed.

They eventually discover that empathy and teamwork is the best way to achieve success and happiness...And true success and happiness are different from what they thought it would be.

At the end, Boris, the communist becomes a capitalist as the GM for the new Margaritaville Resort.

And Chip, the capitalist, embraces communal living as a pickleball teacher giving free lessons in exchange for room and board at Margaritaville.

This is the real story we are telling that is buried subliminally to the humor of their adventures together both on and off the court.

Film #2 Sequel (1-2 years after Pickleballs! release)

"Pickleballs! A SUPERLATIVE Revolution!"

Logline: Two, newly victorious senior pickleball champions parlay their victory into eliminating their debts and gaining new business opportunities including co-managing a new Margaritaville resort, while balancing their obvious, ongoing philosophical differences.

Synopsis: This follow up to Pickleballs! is set mostly in the new Margaritaville resort in Northern California that once was a failing marijuana farm on a commune led by one of the protagonists, Boris Baryshnikov.

Chip Cox and Boris (stars of Pickleballs!) have agreed to co-manage the resort after winning the BetMGM Senior National Men's Doubles Championships over the vaunted, French pickle ticklers in Indian Wells, California.

Well, Chip initially agreed to live for free at the resort in exchange for giving free pickleball lessons. That didn't last long because he hated the idea of giving away anything for free, much less his time and lessons. Chip keeps promising to change but really can't change.

Almost as soon as they arrived at the resort, Chip started telling Boris how to run the place. Meanwhile, Boris hated being the GM and was clearly overwhelmed with demanding American tourists who always wanted more. He also hates Jimmy Buffet and Margaritas.

For example:

Boris wanted it to be a self-service, all-inclusive resort – communal style living. Chip wanted to charge \$100 for his group lessons and everything a la carte – still a capitalist.

All of the main characters in this film leveraged their newfound fame from their inclusion in the 30 for 30 documentary: Inside Cox, to create new businesses based on their personal brands. All became caricatures of capitalism and sell-outs to support their brand. All were pushing for maximum exposure - often in conflict with each other.

Humor comes from the total cluelessness of the characters in their blind pursuit of wealth and fame.

Lots of new technology is introduced which enables product introductions and old people humor. All are wearing various versions of smart glasses, gloves, wristbands, phones, and other accessories. All devices supposedly make them more efficient, but all struggle with how to use them so they rely on the daughter of Marcus and Lacy to constantly help them.

All type on their phones with one thumb in contrast with Kyla's continual speed texting. Chip skipped both in favor of his preferred method of audio notes now using his Amazon glasses

for this task. He walks around talking into them and people think he is just a crazy old man who is talking to himself.

Most of the characters are constantly losing, searching for and needing their cheaters/readers to do just about anything. (scene in shower trying to read the shampoo vs body wash or conditioner bottles or trying to find Wi-Fi or trying to add someone on their phone or WhatsApp).

A QR code for each of their business endeavors will be shown on screen and integrated organically in dialogue in their scenes in this movie. These websites and businesses will be fully developed in real life so the audience can scan the QR code and go to a real, live website that will capture the viewers information or have a call to action. They will have business models that enable scale for their products outside of the movie itself, and the scenes promoting their use as a funny promotional platform for the brands.

Imagine scenes with Chip his Dick Pump or Boris with his continuous breath spray.

These brands can be developed by a leading company in each category (wine, spirit, plastic surgery, cosmetics, financial services, merchandise, technology, paddles etc.) who would pay a license fee and commissions on sales of products for the rights to create the product, brand and then, sell it. They would use the character to launch it and pay that actor to be the ongoing spokesperson.

In essence the person playing the character in the movie will agree to do promotional appearances as their character to represent the brand outside of the film itself.

One of the new characters, the son of Rocky is launching two tech products. The first is a scannable, personalized QR code chip that is embedded in the forehead of customers. It contains all pertinent health information like vaccine and booster shots, current bodily temperature etc. It is called the Third Eye and marketed as a defense against health threats by anyone in your vicinity. The newest version of the Amazon Glasses has the capacity to scan the Third Eye and download information about the person wearing the Third Eye. This also will be a real-life business developed in conjunction with Amazon.

The second is a SmartGlove. It does many of the same things as Third Eye except that his customers all buy and wear hypoallergenic gloves that constantly monitor all bodily systems and transmits that information and some social media information when shaking hands or bumping fists with other clients wearing a similar glove. It is marketed to protect against sharing infection/disease and connecting with commonalities of other product owners with just a simple tap of another hand wearing the SmartGlove.

Each business endeavor is foreshadowed in the original film titled, Pickleballs! – A SUPERLATIVE love story.

Here are each of the characters, their obvious character traits and their commercial endeavors.

Each business endeavor was foreshadowed in the previous movie.

Chip Cox.

Personality characteristics: Obnoxious loudmouth. Obscene capitalist. Self-marketer. Has been/wanna be. Mommas' boy. Limited intellectually.

Physical characteristics: Fat. Balding. Sexual disfunction. Bad Knees. Big, artificial penis. Bad vision.

Wrote A book and created a penis enhancement empire despite not having any involvement besides allowing them to use his name for it - *Dick Tricks: From small to swollen, by Chip Cox.*

He offers a private label vibrator that comes in all sizes: Chips' Cox, for men.

He also got endorsement deals from Cialis, Rogaine, etc.

He sports all of the many sponsor logos on the same outfit that he wears day and night.

He will gladly brag about his youthful accomplishments to anyone who will listen.

He teaches (currently free) introductory pickleball lessons at Margaritaville and sings nightly in their karaoke bar. But he is not allowed to sing any songs by Jimmy Buffett. He doesn't understand why. Jimmy knows and it will become evident.

His new bespoke paddle is called The Cox Crusher.

Boris Baryshnikov.

Personality Characteristics: Self-depreciating. Reserved. Philosophical. Stubborn. Alcoholic.

Physical Characteristics: Skinny. Tall. Bearded. Bad breath, teeth, stomach, hearing.

Also wrote a book and hosts a podcast called *Nothing Rules: a pauper's guide to finding true love*.

He and Chip hired ghost writer for their book: Winning Big by avoiding Taxes.

He co-branded a private label CBD oil and vape called Commie Chronic.

He also sings at the karaoke bar and has an amazing voice but prefers to sing reggae music a Capella.

He and Chip do lots of duets: Love will Keep us together, I got you babe etc.

He has endorsement deals with a dentist, Listerine, CBD, Pepto, hearing aids ect.

Rocky

Personality Characteristics: Impersonating the buffoonery of a mobster but uncomfortable in the role. Likes to play video games on his phone. Uncomfortable trying to be tough.

Physical Characteristics: Nerdy.

Had a book Ghost written: How to win big betting on sports legally. Became a major gambling celebrity in media. He was a major spokesman for BetMGM, now he is launching a new gambling website: Rocky's Perfect Picks

Rocky's Son – Ricky – 22

Personality Characteristics: Total tech nerd. Brilliant. Anti-social. Distracted. Shy.

Physical Characteristics: TBD

Inventor of Third Eye and SmartGlove.

Knows how to fix all the issues for the old people but plays dumb.

Uses their inadequacies to think of new products that he wants to invent.

Hates Chip and Boris. Strangely attracted to Lacey Underhill and her boobs.

Is uncomfortable around Kayla. Wishes he would quit masturbating so much and get a girlfriend. Or better yet, invent one.

Lacey Underhill (kept her maiden name after marrying Marcus)

Personality Characteristics: Queen Bee. Manipulates to get what she wants. Seeks attention.

Physical Characteristics: Fake everything. Kardashian-esque

Connected with lawyer for the Kardashians who ghost wrote, *Boobs, Botox and Beauty: The art of artificially staying young.*

She has a huge line of private label cosmetics and wellness products called, Pickle me Beautiful.

She has an endorsement with a plastic surgeon that bought a license to market her silicone implants called Under Lacey's Hills. She gets free unlimited enhancements. She has a massive IG following, is followed around everywhere by her daughter who is incessantly posting pictures of her. Lacey doesn't have the faintest idea of how to use IG or social media.

Marcus

Personality Characteristics: Fake integrity authenticity. Conflicted since married to Lacey.

Physical Characteristics: TBD

Hosts a podcast and wrote a life advice book about the power of integrity. His book is called: Call it like

you see it: How the truth will set you free and bring you happiness.

He has a failed motivational speech company. He secretly uses Cox's penis products to try to please

Lacey in bed.

Marcus and Lacey's Daughter - Kayla - 17 (Just Kayla - she doesn't use a last name)

Personality Characteristics: Typical Millennial. Entitled. Coddled. Addicted to social media. Glued to

her phone. Short attention span.

Physical Characteristics: Skinny. Faux Hippie. Small, regular boobs.

He whole shtick in life is pretending to be important and gaining followers on social media, but has

nowhere near as many as her mom, much to her chagrin.

She manages all of her mom's social media and helps all other characters with their technology and

social media needs, but she is not nearly as tech-savvy as she pretends to be.

President Underhill

Personality Characteristics: Overbearing. Pompous.

Physical Characteristics: Old

Wrote a book called Retire on your own terms and provides stupid septuagenarian financial advice like reverse mortgages in late night infomercials with Henry Winkler. He hangs out with Chevy Chase and

they watch re-runs of Fletch together.

Dayne Gingrich - self

Personality Characteristics: Intense. Motivated. Positive. Happy. Gimmicky.

Physical Characteristics: Athletic.

Hosts a YouTube channel and wrote a book: How to win at pickleball: the mental game. He and Dave still

compete together and are the favorites for the upcoming tournament at Margaritaville.

He owns several Starbucks franchises. They now actively sponsor him and sell pickleball event tickets

from their stores.

They created a private label paddle with his logo on it. He sells it in his franchise stores where he also

sells his book and hosts book reading. He loves to sing karaoke and make Tik-tok videos.

Kyle Yates - self

Personality Characteristics: Gregarious. Loves cougars.

Physical Characteristics: Athletic. Attractive. Fit.

Still competes in celebrity tournaments but mostly manages his specialty vacation/travel business launched by his book: *Pickleball, Sex and Sun: Getting it done!*

Kyles Cruises. Come in style with Kyle.

He is a part-time model and owns a specialty modeling agency in conjunction with IMG: Kyle's Sports Models.

Dave Weinbach - self

Personality Characteristics: Loud. Confident. Caffeinated.

Physical Characteristics: Fit.

and Chip - Co-wrote a book using a recording device called. *Free Advice: Don't quit your day job*. It is a trash talking guide on how to embarrass and humiliate your opponents.

They both wear private label co-branded Amazon Glasses everywhere and frequently call each other each to share trash talk with each other. They both have insanely bizarre, obnoxious laughs.

Dave is President of Resorts Consulting International. Launched in conjunction with Chip and Boris. Film #4 will be about their adventures together in Thailand – playing in a big tournament (BETMGM?) signing up new clients (5-star resorts) and converting their tennis courts.

Jay Hall/Gizmo – He has already created his own fictional character, Gizmo

Personality Characteristics: Kind. Helpful. Thoughtful. Loves hamburgers. Gimmicky.

Physical Characteristics: Dreadlocks, wild, colorful outfits featuring cheeseburgers.

Covets a sponsorship by Jimmy Buffet and Margaritaville.

Boris and Gizmo co-created a marijuana/CBD company and co-wrote a book: *Commie Chronic - How to make money and friends growing and sharing marijuana.*

They frequently support many children's charities and see nothing ironic about it. They frequently do kids pickleball clinics together with CBD brand logos displayed prominently and fliers that they have set up on a table.

All players listed above are sponsored and play with different paddles (some branded, private label) which they frequently endorse as the best paddle ever.

Jimmy Buffett – Self

Built a multi-media and business empire of resorts, music, restaurants and more: His book is called: Living the dream: How to retire with cheeseburgers in paradise, coral reefers and commie chronic at Margaritaville.

He occasionally drops in for jam sessions in the shark bite lounge of his resort. He has an uneasy relationship with Chip and Boris. He thinks that Chip is cheesy, and Boris is out of touch. He doesn't like them singing his songs and when he catches them, he docks their pay by eliminating their housekeeping services benefits.

They hang out together at the karaoke lounge and play the best drinking game ever, called *Superlative Drinks* while watching Pickleballs!

The game is simple - Every time they hear any variation of great, greatest, or best in that or any a tv show or movie, they must drink. Everyone drinks Superlative wine except Boris. Boris prefers Superlative Vodka.

Phil Knight (TBD)? – Self. If Nike gets into pickleball, they would replace Fila and he would have a more prominent role as himself.

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The opening scene is a flashback in the locker room before the previous movie's final match.

Rocco's son, Rocky legally bet big on Boris and Chip at the end of Pickleballs! via his BetMGM application on his phone after he witnessed a passionate motivational conversation before the match in the locker room between Chip and Boris.

There, in the locker room, surrounded by Lacey, Marcus and others, he was inspired by overhearing a secret guarantee from Chip of his forthcoming victory in honor of his mom in an emotional conversation with Boris. So, he placed a huge bet that paid off all the debts that Chip owed him.

Due to the size of the bet, he immediately became a super VIP, whale, and media personality in the sports betting world that he parlayed into a best-selling how to video, called Beating the Sharks. Rocky's Perfect Picks.

After the opening flashback scene, they are all gathered in a meeting at the Margaritaville resort hotel to discuss their event they are creating and he is providing the seed funding from unknown sources - The BETMGM Global, World Senior Pickleball Championship Invitational. It has involvement of all main characters from Pickleballs! and is sponsored by BETMGM and lots of old people brands like hospitals, health care, insurance, hair loss, CBD, anti-aging medicine, Lacey's businesses, penile and breast implant specialist and plastic surgeons.

It is a made for TV event on Amazon with a real, million dollar purse for the winning team.

Top ex-tennis professionals have been invited to complete: McEnroe, Borg, Connors, Agassi, Lendl etc...

The resort has built a brand new stadium court to host the event and the pressure is on for them to pull off the event despite the pressure and their opposite opinions on just about everything.

Of course, chaos ensues.

Film #3 – A Prequel

"Pounding Balls: Preparing for Pickleballs!"

Logline: Two, young tennis prodigies grow up in drastically different environments and when tragedy strikes each of their fathers, they must grow up quickly to support their families.

Synopsis:

"Pounding Balls" begins by introducing the two principals as the young boys they once were in the USA and USSR, respectively.

American, and I do mean American, Chip Cox, struggles mightily with his comical series of failures with athleticism and life. Chip is raised in a severely dysfunctional home fueled by his dad's addictions to gambling and alcohol.

To compensate for their messy home-life his mother Lovey tries her best to make life easier for Chip and his brother-and that only makes life all the harder for him. Chip ultimately develops a passion for the sport of tennis as an escape from his father's misadventures and it consumes him.

When devoting nearly every waking hour to something you are bound to be not only good but great-and that was Chip. Unfortunately, his meteoric rise to the top comes with the curse of "too much too soon" and he becomes a coddled, spoiled nepotist who is very difficult to tolerate.

Young Boris Baryshnikov, on the other hand, is the polar opposite of Cox as he was raised in the squalors of the Soviet Union by a very strict and rigid father. Discipline was the order of the day, and his upbringing is completely devoid of play and athletic conquests. Boris is required to work as hard as possible at the family compound to earn his keep.

No free lunches here!

He is appreciative of every little thing and is raised with the idea from both of his parents that "the harder you make life the easier it becomes." This concept serves Boris well as he is only inadvertently introduced to the idea of tennis by splattering potatoes against the side of a barn. Because of his unorthodox, skillful play he ultimately becomes a darling of Brezhnev and no spoil is spared for the USSR prodigy.

Consequently, we see both boys develop from children into young, dominant alpha males.

Chip and Boris have no concept that they are on a collision course to the most controversial and epic tennis final ever witnessed. The conclusion features the opening to the Memorable Match at the 1978 French Open.

Film #4: A sequel to the sequel (1 -2 years after previous film)

Pickleballs! in Paradise: A SUPERLATIVE Thailand Adventure

Logline: Chip, Boris, Dave and Dayne promote their evolving brands through a pay-per-view tv, pickleball event in Thailand sponsored by Rocky and Ricky (and their brands), promoted by Kayla (and her social media company).

Synopsis: TBD

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