

# SISTERS COUNTRY PICKLEBALL CLUB NEWS

## Striving for Public Pickleball Courts

### Why a Pickleball Club?

The Club was formed to promote the sport of pickleball in Sisters Country but, more importantly, to advocate for public pickleball courts. Presently, Sisters and Madras, are the only cities in Central Oregon that do not have a public place to play pickleball.

### Need For Members

The SCPC's first objective was to show decision makers how many pickleball players there are in Sisters Country. As pickleball players are well aware, pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America. Presently the SCPC has 82 members.

### By The Numbers

**Players:** Black Butte Ranch-100, Tollgate-53, Pine View Tennis Club@Sage Meadows-86 and Aspen Lakes-15.

**Private Courts:** Black Butte Ranch-12, Tollgate-4, Pine View Tennis Club@Sage Meadows-4 and Aspen Lakes-2.



## A Year in Review

### Prior to COVID

Just prior to the COVID shut down, the Sisters Country Pickleball Club(SCPC), Sisters Park and Rec District(SPRD) and the Sisters School District had established a partnership that would allow the SCPC to establish 4 pickleball courts on the tennis courts located at the Sisters Elementary School. The Club needed to raise \$10,000.00 to repair the court surface, paint lines, and purchase/install pickleball nets. Estimates were obtained and fund raising was to begin immediately with the goal to have the 4 courts available for play in June 2020. The Club was very aware of the proposed roundabout that is pictured above but as of this date, the proposed roundabout has not been funded and is not on the ODOT schedule to be built. The COVID shut down occurred in March of 2020.

### Sisters Country Pickleball Club Activities

Prior to the COVID shut down the SCPC had successfully

**Public Courts:** 0

**Central Oregon**

**Courts:** Bend-53, Eagle Crest-6, LaPine-8, Prineville-5, Redmond-10, Sun River-12, Thousand Trails-8.



**Economic Impact**

If the City of Sisters had 8 public pickleball courts available to run pickleball tournaments, it would impact the businesses in town much like the Rodeo or the Quilt Show.

Tournaments can extend from one to three days or more. Players come from near and far, stay in motels, eat meals in restaurants and wander through businesses in town during the tournament.

In addition, profit from the tournament could be used to maintain the courts.

**Lottery Funds**

If land was donated to SPRD, this may position them to be able to apply for lottery dollars through grants.

offered a beginning PB Class which filled within 24 hours of registration opening. Skills workshops were planned and scheduled for later that Spring 2020. Presently two beginning PB Classes will be offered Fall Term through SPRD.

*What Opportunities May Be In The Future?*

This summer there are plans to reopen discussion with the School District regarding partnership opportunities. The School District and SPRD have always had a close and supportive relationship with each other. Would the School District be willing to make property available for the building of 8 pickleball courts?

The new development that is underway on the prior owned Forest Service property is a possibility. The developers are required to donate an estimated 3.5 acres of land for public use. Would this be the perfect place for 8 pickleball courts?

The School District recently passed a Bond to build a new Elementary School. What will the present Elementary School Property be used for? Is this property available for 8 pickleball



### Local Player Strikes Gold

Recently, Riley McHugh and his partner, Georgie Scott, won the mixed doubles 4.0 Gold Medal at the 2021 USA Pickleball Pacific Northwest Regional Championship in Boise, Idaho. This win qualifies them to enter the national championships in December in Indian Wells, California.

### Sisters Country Pickleball Club Tee Shirts For Sale

Club Members will be contacted via email to place their order for the 2021 version of the SCPC Tee Shirt. The tee shirt will have the SCPC logo on the front and on the back the text will be, "Promoting Public Pickleball Courts In Sisters, OR". Be on the lookout for your SignUp Genius email soon!

### We Need Your Help

Please encourage your pickleball friends to join the SCPC. It's an investment in the future quality of life in Sisters, OR. Club numbers count!

### Your SCPC Leadership Team

President: Bruce Carpenter, VP: vacant, Secretary: Robin Lewis Kane, Treasurer: Vivian Bousquet, Tollgate Advisor: Lori Chase, Aspen Lakes Advisor: Rod Stuve, Black Butte Ranch Advisor: Clark Brody.

### What Opportunities May Be In The Future? (Continued)

courts?

Does the City of Sisters have property designated for public use that would provide a home for 8 pickleball courts?

Would the City of Sisters partner with SPRD and the School District to provide property and financial support to build 8 pickleball courts?

Informal meetings have been held with a developer east of Sisters who has expressed a willingness to donate land for public use. Would this property be available for 8 public pickleball courts?

The SCPC is monitoring these opportunities and others that may arise in the future.



Dedicated pickleball players clear a court for winter play at Black Butte Ranch.

*The Sisters Country Pickleball Club is a committee of Sisters Park and Recreation District.*

We desire your feedback and ideas. We are in this together.

Contact us at: [sisterspickleball@gmail.com](mailto:sisterspickleball@gmail.com)