



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: March 6, 2026 from 1:30-3:30 PM at the Newbury Park Library Meeting Room

Call to Order: Allan Linderman

Roll Call:

- **2026 Board Members:** Allan Linderman – President, Dave Dolnick – First VP (*absent*) Ken Ferrell – Second VP, Gari Ann Douglass – Treasurer, Kathi Byington - Secretary
- **Members at large:** Colette Berney (part time), Jennifer Clark, Terry Koplan, Sharon Pacheco, and Lori Vreeke

Minutes approved from last meeting: Approved

Finances: This financial report was made during the executive board session with all tax filings are complete and no issues shared.

Follow-Up from February Meeting:

- Allan and Sheri are working on the annual planning meeting survey. It will still go out soon to our membership as per our bylaws.
- Additional Member Benefits – The informational paperwork on 3 possible coaches who could run clinics for VCPC members (that Marilyn Passante collected) was shared. It was decided that the clinic committee (Jennifer Clark, Marilyn Passante, and others) would set up interviews with these coaches.
 - Discussion also included demographics of members for clinic offerings, the number of clinics offered throughout the year, including a youth clinic, and the logistics of a member clinic sign-up.
- The AED purchase was completed.

Tournaments:

- **Spring Fling:** This tournament will take place on April 11th and 12th at the Rancho Conejo courts. Adam Gilbert is the tournament director with Lori Vreeke and Valerie Radocay as co-SWISH coordinators handling SWISH details and email duties. Although Dave Dolnick was not present, he did add in notes to the board that he is available to them for assistance in the lead-in to the tournament.
 - The registration will open to all VCPC members on Monday, March 9th.
 - Sheri Leiken will head the seeding committee for the tournament.

- DUPR and tournament history along reciprocal sharing of data with the Cam Slam organizers will help the seeding committee in their duties.
 - From Dave's notes – He created a document which Sheri made into a Google Sheet. He imported the Excel Winner's List documents from our past tournament results for 1 year in AI which lists 237 players in alphabetical order and their results in each tournament since the 2025 Winter Blast, except the MiLP tournament held last June. He strongly suggested that this document be updated from the Excel Winner's List after every tournament.
 - Beginning scramble – These players must have a partner for this tournament. Lori will watch the sign-ups and help match these newer players with each other so that all have a safe, fun, and positive introduction to competitive play.
 - Duties and other info for the tournament:
 - Lori, Valerie, Sheri, Kathy S, and Lou will monitor the registration.
 - Allan, for now, will help organize the tournament volunteers, bracket leaders, etc.
 - Valerie will order the medals.
 - Gari Ann will take care of the water and will provide a truck to transport equipment from the VCPC storage unit to and from Rancho Conejo.
 - Allan confirmed that Twisted Meats will provide lunch for participants (as part of their registration fee).
 - Players in the morning hours of the tournament will receive Starbucks coffee and Noah's Bagel's (donated by both companies).
 - Linda Johnson and Kathy Percy will take care of snacks available during the tournament (like oranges, bananas, nuts, etc.)
 - Sponsors include Santa Barbara Pickleball Shop, Everyone Reset, Gym Guys, and possibly a masseuse.
 - May have another raffle for a free paddle. Still working on this.
- Conejo Classic/Summer Slam: It was agreed that the Conejo Classic tournament will be cancelled this year due to the fact that CRPD cannot give us specific dates as to when the Rancho Conejo courts would be completely resurfaced. It was suggested to put the word "Cancelled" across the listing for this tournament on the VCPC website.
 - After the Spring Fling, we will send an email blast to members about the cancellation of the Conejo Classic, as well as announce the Summer Slam at the PAC on July 25th and 26th.

- Questions were asked about the logistics at the PAC. The set up is slightly different, but Allan let the group know that not as many volunteers will be needed as the PAC has many things set up ready to go (like tables, no need for an awning/canopy, etc.)
 - We have PAC access from 8:00 AM until 9:00 PM, but our tournament hours will be from 12:00 PM-close to 9:00 PM.
 - Dave’s notes included possible bracket information which we will review later, especially since the PAC has only 8 courts as opposed to the 10 courts we have access to at Rancho Conejo.
- Future Tournament Directors and SWISH Coordinators – Lori suggested that since Allan Linderman was tournament director, and Dave Dolnick and Kathy Scott ran SWISH for the Monster Smash last October and that Adam Gilbert, Valerie Radocay, and she are running the upcoming Spring Fling as tournament director and co-SWISH coordinators, respectively, that it would be a good idea to have a third partnership lead as tournament director(s) and SWISH coordinator(s) for the Summer Slam. The experienced tournament directors/SWISH coordinators would be on hand to aid the new tournament directors/SWISH coordinators-in-training, but that this new team would be beneficial in ensuring that more people have an experience at running a tournament in these positions.

Committees:

- Charities – Gari Ann
 - Gari Ann shared that she was helping VCPC find a local organization to support youth pickleball in accordance with our mission statement in our bylaws.
 - From an article in The Acorn, she discovered that a group of Westlake High School students (lead by Kyle Verdi and Gavin Finemel) have a goal of making pickleball a CIF-sanctioned sport.
 - Gari Ann would like to head a committee (possibly including Torrie, Kathrin, and Kathi) to meet with Kyle and Gavin and to see how VCPC can help them realize their goal.
- Grants – Kathi
 - Kathi shared 3 different grants:
 - CRPD Capital Improvement Fund Grant – Due May 1, 2026: This is matching grant (with a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$25,000) could be used to improve and enhance our parks and facilities.
 - Ken asked about the cost of building 1-3 pickleball courts. **3**

- Lori mentioned creating 2 more courts on Courts 8 and 9 at Rancho Conejo by relining a section of each tennis court so they could ultimately each house 3 courts, totaling 6 courts on the two tennis courts and bringing the total number of pickleball courts at Rancho Conejo from 10 to 12 courts. This is similar what they did at the Deerhill Park courts.
- The City of Thousand Oaks 2026-2027 Community Sports Grant – The application period is from 8/31/26-10/1/2026. The grant (with a minimum of \$2,000 and a maximum of \$10,000) would be awarded in mid-December 2026 with the grant funds being used between 1/1/27 through 12/31/27.
 - This grant could be one to help our partnership with the WHS students.
- USA Pickleball Grow the Game Grant – This grant provides nets, paddles, and balls to help expand pickleball access throughout the United States.
 - Allan wrote this grant with the principal of CVUSD’s Aspen Elementary School, Shane Craven, and received 3 nets, 70 paddles, and 100 balls.
 - After introductory lessons from Kathi Byington, Allan Linderman, and Kathrin Nolan, 2nd through 5th graders (including special ed students), their teachers, and paraprofessionals are all beginning to use pickleball drills and skills to benefit their designated physical education time.
 - This grant could also benefit our partnership with the WHS students.
- Social – Allan
 - Allan is still looking for someone to organize social events “off the courts” for all our members. He will fill in as “lead” for this committee until he can find someone to head it.

Donation: Colette donated white rubber strips for the medal stand podium (to make the surface less slippery).

Next meeting: Friday 4/3/2026, 1:30-3:30 at the Newbury Park Library Meeting Room.

Meeting adjourned at 2:47 PM.