



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

**Date/Time:** April 3, 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, Ken Ferrell – Second VP, Gari Ann Douglass – Treasurer, Kathi Byington - Secretary
- **Members at large:** Jennifer Clark, Adam Gilbert, Terry Koplan, Sheri Leiken, Carole Linderman, Marilyn Passanante, Lou Patalano, Mark Radocay, Valerie Radocay, Mary Soria, and Lori Vreeke

**Minutes approved from last meeting:** Approved

**Finances:** This financial report was made during the executive board session with no issues shared.

**Membership:** There are currently 357 members.

**Follow-Up from March Meeting:**

- The Annual Planning Meeting Survey went out to members with 54 respondents.
  - It was noted that this number represents approximately double the number of responses in previous years.
  - The main takeaways from the results are that members:
    - Enjoy the friendships cultivated while playing pickleball together.
    - Would like more planned social activities off the court.
    - Exhibit a high interest in the Monday and Wednesday Ladder offerings.
    - Would appreciate more courts being added to those already present.
    - Would like to participate in clinics to better their game.
  - This information will aid the board in their annual planning for the year.
- Additional Member Benefits – The Clinic Committee headed by Marilyn Passanante and consisting of Jennifer Clark, Dawn Foley, Sheri Leiken, Mary Soria, and Cindy Wolfe reviewed the process they went through to determine the 3 coaches they believed had the qualifications to lead a clinic for VCPC.
  - The board did meet with one of the coaches, Kelly Mada, via Zoom to have her explain her clinic program and organization as well as to ask questions.

- It was decided to move forward in having the Clinic Committee work on the logistics of having Kelly run a clinic on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, including the management of the clinic, member notification, and any other pertinent information.
- Now that the AED purchase is complete, Dave shared the possible trainings that could be offered.
  - Trainings:
    - American Red Cross training in Camarillo– First Aid/ CPR/AED at their facility or online.
    - Fire Department training
    - CRPD training
  - Cost – Once Dave has collected all the pertinent information of the different training available, VCPC will determine whether to cover the cost of everyone volunteering to be trained.

### **Tournaments:**

- Spring Fling: Lori Vreeke, one of the co-SWISH coordinators, shared that although registration started out slowly, that there are 101 teams signed up for this tournament.
  - Most brackets are filled with a few openings, except for the 4.0 women's doubles which has 4 team openings.
  - Since the tournament's SWISH registration is now closed, Gari Ann will help Lori and Valerie with any late registration payments.
  - Lori and Valerie will help Gari Ann determine which of our members are also PAC members so that they can receive their 10% discount for their Spring Fling registration fee.
  - Mark has the key to the shed and will meet Gari Ann and other volunteers at 3:00 PM on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, to transport any tournament items to the Rancho Conejo storage area.
  - Adam mentioned that a light rain is predicted for Saturday afternoon. The forecast will be watched; hopefully, rain will not be an issue!
- Summer Slam: To bridge the gap between the Spring Fling and the Monster Slam in the fall (due to the resurfacing of the Rancho Conejo courts in the spring which led to the cancellation of the Conejo Classic in June), VCPC will be sponsoring a Summer Slam at the Pickleball Athletic Club (PAC).
  - The Summer Slam will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00-9:00 PM.

- Dave has set up several options of how to run this tournament using only 8 courts.

## 2

### Committees:

- 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.
- Charities – Gari Ann
  - Gari Ann met with Kyle Verdi, a Westlake High School senior, who has been instrumental in building an awareness for the need of pickleball as a high school sport.
  - Kyle, along with his partner Gavin, has contacted Agoura, Calabasas, Chaminade, Newbury Park, Oaks Christian, and Thousand Oaks high schools to garner interest.
  - Gari Ann will discuss the following topics with Kyle to see how VCPC can support this process:
    - Consistent leadership once senior high school leaders graduate.
    - Court availability as tennis coaches do not want tennis courts relined for pickleball.
    - Training in organizing and running a tournament.
- Sponsorships – Ken
  - There is no report at this time.
- Grants – Kathi
  - Kathi reviewed the 3 grants she shared at the last meeting:
    - 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.
      - Some ideas shared for this grant:
        - Redo the permanent nets at Del Prado.
        - Kathi will research the cost of this and begin the grant process as it is due in less than a month.
      - Mark mentioned Lori’s idea from the last meeting of possibly 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.

### 3

- 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.
- 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Conejo Creek West:** Allan shared that he attended the CRPD board meeting in February, and that the CRPD board was more amenable to including pickleball interests. Therefore, it was added to the 2026 Master Plan and approved for inclusion in the Conejo Creek West area.

- It was asked if an ad hoc committee should be formed to present ideas for the pickleball part of the master plan.
- It was shared that one of our members, Lori Hare, invited one of the CRPD staff, Jim Friedl, to come play pickleball with her on the courts to see how much fun it is and to experience the community we have on the courts.

**Ojai’s First Pickleball Tournament:** Valerie shared a flyer for Ojai’s first pickleball tournament coming up on June 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. Tim Krout has worked diligently to get pickleball started in this area, so it would be helpful if we could help spread the word for his tournament.

**Next meeting: Friday, 5/1/2026, 1:30-3:30 at the Newbury Park Library Meeting Room.**

**Meeting adjourned at 3:21 PM.**

