

Pickleballs!

Writers Guild of America Registration # 1979358. Expiration: 12/07/2023

Copyright Registration # Pau-0080219

Background/History

According to [USAPA](#), Pickleball (a sport combining many aspects of tennis and Ping Pong) is among the fastest growing sports in America. In 2021, the sport grew over 21% compared to an average growth of 10.5% the previous 3 years. It has over 4 million active players in the United States. According to [IFP](#), it is also played in 64 different countries with organizing bodies.

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

Logline: When a disgraced former tennis champ loses his job, home, and his mother on the same day, he must travel the country in his old RV with his former rival hustling for enough cash to pay off 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* and *Fletch*.

Synopsis:

The story is about transformation of two aging, men who despised each other for 40 years and now need each other to find redemption. The comedic plot comes from obvious, contrasting differences in the main characters decades after they first met. These two are now in their 60's.

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

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

Both are stubbornly attached to their extreme, opposing ideologies.

Chip was a blend of a youthful John McEnroe and Andre Agassi with the style of Bjorn Borg. He was deeply tanned, heavily muscled, and a chick-magnet.

Now, he is pale, flabby, single, and a sex-craved gambling-addict. He is largely ignorant, and 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 on the courts next to where he taught tennis at his country club. His once flowing blond hair is now replaced by a massively receding hairline that he desperately attempts to hide with hats and wigs. He has been living in Van Nuys, CA in an old, run-down RV in his mothers' driveway. He has just been fired as a teaching pro at his local club and his mom just died and willed her house to her church.

With no job, no money and no living family, Chip needs to reinvent himself. He needs to create a buzz to sell his, soon to be released, self-published, autobiography that he "wrote" using a portable, digital tape recorder.

He has an idea: recruit Boris, his old, singles nemesis and doubles partner, to travel with him across the country competing in Pickleball tournaments, while promoting his autobiography. One problem - they still detest each other.

Chip uses his Amazon Alexa device to find Boris living in a failed commune in upstate New York. He calls him and says he wants to help Boris fix his financial problems. Chip doesn't tell Boris that he, himself is broke.

He hopes they can recreate their magical tennis chemistry through pickleball as partners while redeeming their reputations and wiping out their debt, even though they have not spoken to each other in close to 40 years.

Boris is a skinny, hairy, old school communist-loving Russian who loves to quote Karl Marx. He came from nowhere to "win" the 1978 French Open singles due to a steroid drug test failure by Chip (the reigning, six-time champion). Boris returned home after the French Open and promptly gave his winnings to the communist party. He took orders to spread communism in America. He has been running a commune for 30+ years. He is learning the marijuana-growing 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 back taxes and is nearing eviction.

Chip convinces Boris that they can play and win together on the Senior Pickleball Tour.

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

Boris, the communist becomes a capitalist as the GM for the new Margaritaville Resort on the land of his former commune.

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

And they discover that the happiness they sought individually was found together.

Contact: Dan Beeman 818.983.5700

www.danbman.com
debeeman@gmail.com