



# SCOV Pickleball Club Newsletter November 2024

<https://scovpb.org>

## ***IN THIS ISSUE:***

- Pickleball Rules You Should Know!
- What's New on the Courts
- Pickleball Board Elections
- Fall Social Save the Date!
- Tips to Improve Your Play
- Mystery Member



## **PICKLEBALL RULES YOU SHOULD KNOW!**

**Ever wonder what happens if you or your partner drop your paddle?**

**Let's Find Out!**



**A Partner with a Loose Grip...**

1. I hit a volley from just behind the kitchen. My partner also swung at the ball but did not hit it. My partner dropped their paddle into the kitchen after missing the ball. Is this a fault?
2. What if my paddle makes contact with my partner's paddle and his paddle ended up in the kitchen?

### **Answers**

Q1. If you touched your partner at all during your volley, then it is a fault. If you did not touch your partner during your volley, then it is not a fault.

Q2. This is a fault, given you volleyed the ball when you contacted your partner's paddle.



## WHAT'S NEW ON THE COURTS!

Ralph and Nelson have been busy trying to **recruit help** and several members have stepped up to help maintain our courts. If you like sunrises, then come out and help us maintain the nets and courts. Without much rain the birds have been making periodic spots that must be cleaned by hand using buckets of water and brooms. We have small buckets and squeegees in our storage room and brooms on courts 1 and 5 if someone can help us out.

Now that the **daily temperatures** are beginning to fall we will need to start using the Onix Fuse G2 balls. We have about 50 of these Onix balls to use up until using the new Selkirk Pro S1 balls (that we have about 100 remaining). Our rule of thumb on switching balls is when the morning temperatures are 55 degrees or colder, we put out the cold weather balls (Onix and Selkirk). If you are unhappy with the balls stocked on the courts, you can always bring your own choice to play with; please write your initials each one.

**Cracked balls:** Recently, we found that almost half of the balls in the bag on court 3 were not cracked. If you suspect a ball is cracked but are not sure, have someone else verify it before you discard it in the bag.

**Wind vane and windsock:** The wind vane has been lubricated and is working well. Recent winds blew the windsock completely off! Ralph replaced it and it's now working fine. Thanks, Ralph!

The **Lost and Found bin** has been replaced with a new crate on court 1. Please do not stand or sit on these bins.

**Chairs:** the feet on our court chairs have had their feet replaced to prevent scratching the surface of our waiting areas. Thanks to Ralph Perillo and Tom Cooksey for their hard work!

**Court 6 and 7 Glare Problem:** Recently the Tennis Club moved their glass-cased bulletin boards to the fence on our court 6 and 7. They tried to mitigate the sun-reflected glare with a light green colored fabric. We thanked them with a note to their president and asked if they would mind us fixing the problem with dark sunscreen. Ralph and Nelson placed the new dark sunscreen over the original screen and now the problem is solved.

**Utilization of courts 6 & 7:** Some players do not want to walk down to 6 and 7 to play even when courts 1-5 are full. The complaint is that you can't see if 6 and 7 are open without walking over and back to check. Meanwhile, others will go down to 6 and 7 and never leave until asked effectively having their own special group and two private courts. This division affects the perceived equality and harmony of players within the group.

In order to know **when courts 6 and 7 are in use**, we need a way to know if 6 and 7 are being used. The simplest idea so far is to use two old paddles numbered 6 and 7; place the paddles on hangers by the court 3 paddle racks. When courts 1-5 become full, then the next 4 waiting could take paddle #6 off the hangar and go to play on #6. As an incentive, they would be allowed to play 2 games before returning to courts 1-5. Upon return you would bring the #6 or #7 paddle back to the hanger on court 3 thus alerting everyone that the #6 or #7 court was now open. On days when only 5 courts were needed, this would help keep the noise down for the Tennis Club with 6 and 7 being empty. This would not preclude members from doing drills on #6 and 7; but if 4 players are waiting, then court 6 or 7 should be used.

We would like to begin a trial using this method beginning Monday, November 4th. We could try it for a month before we begin working on the Winter Schedule.

**Courts 6 and 7 badminton net:** A badminton net has been installed between our courts 6 and 7 and tennis court 5. This was done to keep balls rolling between the courts. Someone has decided to move our badminton net to prevent balls from rolling between courts 6 and 7 and then not moving the badminton net back where they found it. If you are one of the movers, please see Ralph or Nelson for instructions in the use of this net. Anytime you have a problem with the courts, please contact Ralph or Nelson. We need your input and help.

**Courts 6 and 7 Quiet Times:** The Tennis Club has requested that we not use our courts 6 and 7 during their tournaments and inter-club home matches. Their match schedule is Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please note that they will no longer ask for us to refrain from playing on 6 and 7 during their round-robin socials or mixed doubles. A copy of this schedule will be posted on the courts.



## 2025 BOARD ELECTIONS!

The Pickleball Club will be holding elections for three open positions on the 2025 Pickleball Club board during the week of November 8-15, 2024. There are 3 candidates running to serve on the board.

You will receive an email on November 8<sup>th</sup> with a link to the elections ballot. You can also vote by going directly to the ballot page on our website. Look under the Members tab.

## Meet the Candidates!



My name is **Phil Rose** and I am running for a position on the Pickleball Board of Directors.

In my previous life I was a radiologist in Oregon as well as the USAF, once stationed at Davis-Monthan AFB in that capacity. I have an extensive coaching background in a variety of sports and have served on many community Board of Directors prior to retirement. Now fully retired we live mostly in SCOV but summer in Oregon. I have played pickleball since 2020, primarily playing with the 4.0+ group and competitive group. My biggest passion in this club is the opportunity to instruct, advance enthusiasm for the game and just enjoy the great friendships and personalities that are replete throughout the organization.

I have been a regular instructor for multiple seasons when clinics are offered and am a big fan of providing instructional access to club members on a regular basis. If elected this will continue to a focus of mine. I know many of you in this capacity.

Last season I was asked to take over the club mentorship program. I was able to start a weekly scheduled drop in meet up for instructional purposes. It proved greatly successful and very well attended. Many of you were invaluable volunteers and will be counted on to continue to build on the past success.

I also coached the ladies 3.5 APPL team last winter, which won its division! Numerous cross city friendships were made during then season. For this reason I see great value in the APPL league for those members desiring friendly competition outside of SCOV. That said, I recognize we are a club composed of participants looking for fun, community, and healthy court based exercise to share with local SCOV friends. Adequate access for casual and competitive court usage, both scheduled and unscheduled must be maintained.

With my wife, Suzy Rose, I revamped the Suzy Foster Memorial Pickleball Poker Run and Community Food Drive in 2022 and 2023, which proved hugely popular. This tournament has the strength of numerous volunteers working for a common goal of serving the community in the spirit of Suzy Foster's memory. Many of you have participated and been a crucial volunteer. Thank you once again!

I have worked personally with all of the current board members with good collaborative results. If elected, I expect good working relationships to continue.

My other community involvements include the SCOV Ambassador and Posse programs as well as prior membership on the Hard Court Task Force.

I realize this is a thumbnail sketch of my candidacy and am available for conversation/clarification of my club positions before the election as needed. I respectfully ask for your vote to the SCOV Pickleball Board of Directors.



My name is **Anne Wolfinger** and I am running for a position on the Pickleball Board of Directors.

I started playing pickleball in 2018 in Helena, MT by showing up at the local courts and asking for instruction. Coming from a competitive tennis background helped me learn the basic game quickly. The following year I competed in my first tournaments, was appointed a USA Pickleball ambassador, earned my coaching certification with the Professional Pickleball Registry (PPR), and started introducing the game to beginners. In following years, I gave pickleball clinics for the city parks and rec department in the summers. During the winter months, I worked for the local YMCA giving lessons for beginners and experienced players. One summer day at the outdoor courts, I looked around and realized that

more than half the players were former students. In 2020, I was promoted to regional USA Pickleball ambassador for Montana and started training as a referee. In 2022, I edited the USA Pickleball Rule Book, earning a commendation from the Rules Committee. I continued competing in tournaments locally and in the region, always learning that there was more to learn.

Pickleball brought me to SCOV. I had so much fun in January 2023 when I was renting my brother's

house that I bought my own the following month and moved here full-time. Last winter I drew on my 12 years of experience captaining tennis league teams to captain the SCOV Dinkbats 3.0 ladies APPL team.

This summer I was asked to serve out the board term of our dear friend Jim Steinmetz. In my prior life, I was a publisher, life coach, program manager, and project manager. I served on the boards of the Helena Regional Airport and the public library.

The world of pickleball has changed dramatically even in the relatively short time I've been playing, with a plethora of paddles, balls, shoes, clothing, and products, not to mention professional leagues. Yet it remains a sport where you can have fun no matter what your level or ambition. Keeping it that way and working to support a safe, friendly, welcoming environment will be my goal if elected.



My name is **Nelson Brown** and I am running for a position on the Pickleball Board of Directors.

Before moving here, my aviation career started in the Air Force flying fighters. Having met my wife in the Air Force, we decided that nine years was enough, so we moved to Saudi Arabia where for three years I was an F-15 simulator instructor. When the new contract came due, we decided that I should go back to flying, beginning with the Goodyear Tire and Rubber flight department. The next 30 years or more were spent in corporate aviation. I retired from the Mylan Pharmaceutical flight department as chief pilot in Pittsburgh, PA in May of 2014.

My addiction to pickleball began in 2015 when my SCOV neighbor asked if I wanted to learn how to play. My wife and I had moved into our renovated home in mid-May that year. The game was so much fun that I began playing twice a day, seven days a week. I rapidly became a "slammer" that many of the Casuals did not want to play against. So they highly suggested that I move up to the Competitives. Now, after the past nine years, the legs can only support playing once daily, six days per week.

In those past nine years, I served two years as Club Secretary and one year as President. I am now serving as interim President since late August. The new courts committee was my first job within our Club, and in the years since I also served as the Chair of the first Hard Courts Task Force.

I have been active ever since in doing orientations and helping in training. For about 3 years me and one or two others cleaned the courts each day. The HOA in those times did not clean any of our courts. Today I am still on the courts maintenance committee and help almost every morning. I like to think that I have a wealth of Club knowledge being so active within our Club for the past nine years.

Why did I accept the challenge to be on the Board again? Good question considering our Club has several committees and many tasks to perform. Our membership is about 530 today, and that means even more work to keep things rolling, training, scheduling, socials, meetings, court maintenance, etc. Even at our current growth rate, the HOA doesn't plan to build more courts until 5-6 years from now. So, our Pickleball Board will continue to look for alternatives to meet the demand for court times to play. I would like to continue to help in supplying our current and future needs.

# Tips to Improve Your Play!

## HOW TO BEAT THE LOBBER ON THE PICKLEBALL COURT



The lob is becoming more and more prevalent on the pickleball courts. With the rise of the lob, it is more important than ever to know how to beat a lobber on the pickleball court. Generally speaking, there are three main strategies in beating a lobber or otherwise defending against the lob: (1) anticipating and avoiding the lob from your opponents; (2) hitting a strong overhead; and (3) effectively chasing down the lob to get back into the point.

### Best Shot to Return the Lob

When returning the lob on the pickleball court (assuming you let the pickleball bounce), the general goal is to reset the point. If you are not hitting an overhead (which is an offensive shot), then you are likely hitting a shot to get you and your opponents back onto neutral footing - in other words, hit a shot that allows you and your partner to get back to the Kitchen line. There are generally three options when returning a lob if you are letting the lob bounce:

**DROP:** The first option is to hit a drop shot after the lob bounces. This is likely the preferred shot off of the lob, as it is the highest percentage shot. A drop shot-particularly one that lands in the Non-Volley Zone on your opponents' side of the pickleball court-will allow you and your partner to get back to the kitchen line. Plus, with a drop shot, you have the most time to hit the pickleball, as you can let the pickleball drop low to the ground before hitting your shot. In fact, it may be preferred to let the pickleball drop low, so that you have the most time to compose yourself and prepare for your shot.

Watch for more information on best shots to return the lob in next month's newsletter.

## Welcome Back Annual Fall Party

Saturday, November 16, 2024

Beginning at 4:30pm

Activity Center Auditorium



**Cost pp: \$5 CASH ONLY; NO CHECKS, NO CHANGE!**

Pizza will be provided! Wine and beer will be complimentary while supplies last.

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED; Register via the email invitation OR Log into our website and click on EVENTS**

If your last name starts with A-J, please bring a dessert. If your last name starts with K-Z, please bring a salad.

Recorded music will be provided for dancing.

# November Mystery Member ... Who Am I?

I was born in Denver and raised in Arvada, Colorado. After graduating from high school I went to college for 1 year at Western State College (now University) in beautiful Gunnison, CO. I enjoyed my year in college skiing at Crested Butte and hiking in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison Valley.

I worked summers at the recreation district in Arvada. I worked at ballparks, the ice arena, and my last year in the Parks department where I met my husband. We will be celebrating our 46th anniversary next July.

After my year in college, I decided to go to cosmetology school. After graduation I worked for a large company before opening a salon in my home. I was able to comfortably raise my two boys while I enjoyed working at home. When my boys reached high school age I ventured outside of my home and partnered in a salon with another stylist. After 8 years I returned home to work before retiring after 45 years. I absolutely loved my job and the many long time clients I had. To be honest I would still be working had we not decided to move to Sun City.

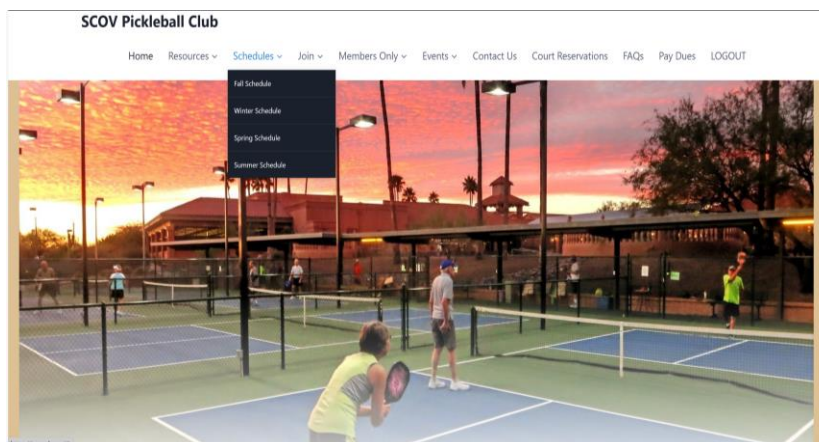
Our two boys kept us busy throughout the years playing many competitive sports which took us all over the US and Canada. My oldest was an all-state football lineman and is currently the principal at a catholic K - 8 school. My youngest played Division 3 college hockey and as a coach won back to back state high school hockey championships.

We are blessed with 3 grandchildren and 3 step grandkids as well.

We began coming to Arizona many years ago when my oldest "kid" (my husband!) started coming to the Phoenix area to play in Adult Mens World Series baseball tournaments. At that time we fell in love with the state. Eight years ago my younger brother and his family moved to Oro Valley. After a number of visits we fell in love with the area as well. After touring Sun City we knew this is the place we wanted to be especially with all the great activities and friendly people.

My pickleball journey began in the fall of 2023. I participated in the beginner clinic and fell in love with the sport. I've met so many wonderful friends and have been blessed with people willing to help me improve my game.

**Can you guess who this mystery member is? Look for their name at the bottom of this page.**



Want to download and/or print the court schedule? Just go to our website and click on **Schedules**. Click on the season you want to view.

<https://scovpb.org>

**Did you guess who our November mystery member is? Thank you, Suzanne Schoepflin, for sharing with us!**