



SCOV Pickleball Club Newsletter February 2025

<https://scovpb.org>

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Pickleball Rules You Should Know!
- Club News
- What's New on the Courts
- Memorial Tournament
- Tips to Improve Your Play



PICKLEBALL “SOFT” RULE YOU SHOULD KNOW!

THE 3 / 5 RULE!



Ever find yourself on the court with 3 strong players and one who is not?

Well, there is a rule for that to help all 4 players have a good game. It is called the 3 / 5 Rule.

If the strong team is up by 3 points, try to play half your shots to the stronger opponent. If you are up by 5 points, try to play most, but not all of your shots to the stronger opponent.

In other words, target the stronger player, not the weaker. It is an opportunity to improve your shots, forcing you to make more difficult shots against a stronger opponent.

Remember, no one in recreational play should ever get pickled. Some games are about improving, not about winning. Keep the spirit of pickleball alive, make everyone enjoy the game.

CLUB NEWS

The Pickleball Board unanimously approved moving forward with upgrading our membership platform at the January 22 meeting. This gives us a license to use add ons such as an accurate membership directory, calendar year membership, and option for auto renewal, if so desired.

- The membership card add on is actively being explored as an alternative to membership stickers, to be available upon renewal via the platform.
- A transition plan from individual date renewal to fixed date renewal is in the works with a desire to be fully transitioned by January 2026. This transition provides a more robust system of membership onboarding and greatly relieves the man hour burden on our volunteers in multiple ways.

We are in discussion with the Tennis club about the possibility of license sharing as a cost saving measure. Each club webmaster is involved as we will be using the same platform.

Large (240 members) turnout for the annual meeting on January 11. Very positive feedback, especially in restoring the FUN in our club and remembering that we are privileged to live and PLAY here. Keep pickleball in perspective. It is only a game.

Hold the Date: Annual SCOV Memorial Pickleball Tournament

Friday and Saturday, March 28 and 29th, 2025.

Up to 40 Competitive players will compete on Friday with help from volunteer Casual players.

The Casual players (also 40) will compete on Saturday with Competitive players volunteering. There will be 4 substitute/reserve players.

Sign up will begin mid-March via email.

This event will be held in conjunction with a food drive for Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. Even if you don't plan on playing, please consider a donation to the Food bank in the form of non-perishable items, on-line donation or a check made out to: Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona.

Donate online at <http://donate.communityfoodbank.org/SCOVmemPB>



WHAT'S NEW ON THE COURTS!

Remember to use courtside clocks and not wristwatches to determine when to yield courts.

Please avoid any possible safety hazard by not walking near the stabilizing footplates of our new Selkirk nets on courts 6 and 7.

We have a new clear plastic bin located in the storeroom on top of the black metal cabinet. It's marked "HV (for high value) Items". If someone finds an item they consider high value (ie: personal paddles, prescription eyewear), place here rather than court side lost and found. That bin has had thefts lately.

Save the dates of March 10, 17, 24 and 31 for instructional clinics, March 28 or 29 for the Memorial Poker Run, and April 12 for our Hawaiian themed Luau street party. More information to follow on our new social events bulletin board soon to be hung on the courts.

APPL LEAGUE PLAY SCHEDULE....Come out and support our APPL teams when they play their home matches here on our courts!

3.5 Men Home Matches

Tues., Jan. 28th @ 11: 00 AM

Sat., Feb. 8th @ 1:00 PM

Sat. Feb. 22nd @ 1:00 PM

Sat. March 8th @ 1:00 PM

3.5 Women Home Matches

Tues., Feb. 9 @ 3:00 PM

Sun., March 2 @ 3:00 PM

3.0 Women Home Matches

Mon., Feb. 3rd @ 1:00 PM

Mon., Feb. 17th @ 1:00 PM

Mon., March 3rd @ 1:00 PM

SCOV Pickleball Club

[Home](#) [Resources](#) [Schedules](#) [Join](#) [Members Only](#) [Events](#) [Contact Us](#) [Court Reservations](#) [FAQs](#) [Pay Dues](#) [LOGOU](#)

FAQs



Frequently asked questions about the SCOV Pickleball Club:

- ▶ How do I join the club?
- ▶ How do I register for an account?
- ▶ How do I login to my account?
- ▶ How do I pay dues?
- ▶ How do I get scheduled for an orientation session?
- ▶ How do I change my password, my email address, etc.?
- ▶ How do I recover a lost password?
- ▶ How do I keep from getting locked out?

**YOU HAVE
QUESTIONS**

WE HAVE ANSWERS!

**Check out our FAQ
page for information
on how to use our
website.**

Tips to Improve Your Play!

PARTNER PLAY

TWO WINNING STRATEGIES



Move in Sync with Your Partner

Imagine an invisible link, or string, that keeps you and your partner no more than about 10 ft. apart. When your partner moves to retrieve the ball, that link is like a powerful magnetic force that pulls you with him. If your partner is pulled to the sideline to play the ball, you are pulled with him to cover the middle. If that link is broken, you leave a big gap up the middle. It is very common to see players protecting their side of the court instead of moving with the ball and their partner.

In the same way that the link pulls you laterally, it should also pull you forward and back. When your partner moves up to the no-volley line, that link is pulling you along to establish a position of strength. When your partner is forced to the backcourt to retrieve a ball, it is much more likely that he will hit a return that can be slammed back at you. So the link should be pulling you back with him, at least part of the way, until you see what type of return that your partner is making. That link has some flexibility, but should never break completely.

Watch for those broken links on the other side of the net. That creates an opening for you to hit a winner.

Court Position for Doubles

The strongest position in doubles is when both players are at the no-volley line. Try to position yourself so that your feet are just a foot or two behind the line. Give yourself just enough room to pivot and step into the ball as you hit it. You want to volley (hit before the bounce) as many balls as you can – you get the most power and advantage over your opponent.

Many beginning and intermediate players say that they are more comfortable when playing midway between the no-volley line and the baseline. They insist that it gives them more time to see and react to the ball. That is true, but it also gives your opponent more time to react to your shot. And if your opponent is at the no-volley line and you are playing back, it gives him a much wider range of shots and angles to play. Most of the time, he will just hit it hard at your feet. Even the very best players have difficulty making an effective return of a hard shot at the feet. That is why that zone midway between the no-volley line and the baseline is called “no man’s land.” You don’t want to be there if it is possible to get to the line.

If you are playing against a player that likes to stay back while his partner is up, always return the ball to the player that is staying back. It puts you on the offense while your opponent is on the defense.

SPRING 2025 COURT SCHEDULE PLANNING

The Scheduling Committee is preparing to work on the Spring 2025 court schedule. Please review last years spring schedule (see below). If you have any suggestions for changes, please email Cindy Gerk at cgerk@yahoo.com.

Spring (Mar 25 - May 12, 2024) Pickleball Court Schedule

Court #	Monday					Tuesday					Wednesday					Thursday					Friday					Saturday					Sunday									
	1	2	3	4	5	T	1	2	3	4	5	T	1	2	3	4	5	T	1	2	3	4	5	T	1	2	3	4	5	T	1	2	3	4	5	T	1	2	3	4
6:30-7:30	Open					Open					Open					Open					Open					Open														
7:30-9:00	Casual					Competitive					Casual					Competitive					Casual					Competitive					4.0	Open								
9:00-10:30	Competitive					Casual					Competitive					SKTU	Transitional				beg	Competitive					Casual					Competitive RR								
10:30-12:00	4.0	Beg				Open	Transitional					Open	4.0	Transitional				Casual					4.0	Transitional				beg	Transitional					beg	Comp	Casual				Open
12:00-1:00	Open					Open					Open					Open					Open					4.0	Transitional				Open									
1:00-3:00	Casual					Mixed Women	Women				Open	Casual					Competitive RR					Casual RR					Open					Transitional					beg			
3:00-4:30	Open					Open					Open					Open					Open					Open					Open									
4:30-6:00	Open					Open					Open					Open					Beverage					Open					Open									
6:00-7:30	Women	80				Open	Comp	Casual				Open	Women	80				Open	Casual					Open	Women	80				Open	Comp	Casual				Open				
7:30-9:00	Open					Open					Open					Open					Open					Open					Open									

You can find the court schedule for each season on our website (<https://scovpb.org>). Click on the season you want to view to download and save or print.

