



SCOV Pickleball Club Newsletter March 2026

<https://scovpb.org>

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PICKLEBALL RULES YOU SHOULD KNOW!

DID YOU KNOW...



Safety and Distraction

USA Pickleball's safety and distraction rule (2.G.1) says that any player may be required to change any clothing that is "inappropriate." This includes clothing that is the same color as the ball. Players should avoid wearing shirts that closely resemble the color of the pickleball.

Depictions

USA Pickleball's clothing rule about depictions (2.G.2) says that any graphics, insignias, pictures and writing on apparel must be in good taste.

Footwear

USA Pickleball's footwear rule (2.G.3) says that your shoes must have soles that are not going to mark or damage the court's playing surface. As with all clothing, they must not be the same color as the ball.



WHAT'S NEW ON THE COURTS!

Spring Clinics: The spring pickleball clinics will be held on the following dates (all Tuesdays): March 3rd, March 10th, March 17th, and March 24th. The sessions will be from 1:00-2:00 PM and 2:00-3:00 PM.

Spring Scheduling Meeting will be held in the Kiva Room from 3:00pm - 4:30pm on Monday, March 16. The committee will use last year's spring schedule as a template to create this year's. You can find last year's spring schedule on the website. If you have any requests or concerns regarding the spring schedule, please email Cindy Gerck at cgerk@yahoo.com.

If you are **New to Pickleball** or just consider yourself having beginner skill sets, we have a team of volunteers ready to meet with you during the beginner's time slot. Simply email Doyle Ranstrom at doyle@doylearanstrom.com to arrange for a mentor to meet with you and instruct you at a level you are comfortable with. Visit our FAQ page of the website for additional mentors.

ANNUAL PICKLEBALL POKER RUN!

The annual Pickleball Poker Run fundraiser for Southern AZ Food Bank will be held on Friday, March 27 (Competitive play, beginning at 9:00AM) and Saturday, March 28 (Casual play, starting at 9AM). Please show up at the courts by 8:30AM for instructions.

Don't miss out on the fun and ice cream, which will follow play!

SIGNUPS will happen online starting on March 3rd. Watch for the email with the registration information.

We will need day of play volunteer card dealers, court monitors and all-purpose assistants. This is one of the most fun weekends that the PB Club offers each year so do not miss out.

If you would like to have a spouse/partner or club member recognized "In Memoriam" for the poker run, please contact Phil Rose at roseqp@msn.com.

We would like to thank Weathersby Window and Doors for their financial support of this event!

CLUB NEWS !

From the President:

- Regarding club membership cards, simply log in to the Pickleball website at scovpb.org with your personal password then navigate to the “Members Only” tab. Under Members Only find “Membership Card” and open. You will have the opportunity to either print your card or save to your device for proof of membership when on the courts during club time. I have had multiple inquiries from members since the club email was sent on February 22 announcing planned monitoring on February 24. Thank you for helping educate each other going forward.
- I have had more contact than expected from community visitors wanting to join in the play at club time. Emails and phone calls from the Welcome Center and even from the visitors themselves have reinforced the extreme popularity and social nature of our sport to these short-term visitors. Earlier I posted a summary of club rules court side for non-members that apparently are not read or understood. We as a club have no program for providing pickleball partners for visitors accustomed to daily or frequent play at their homes. Please kindly refer visitors who may appear during club time to the posted club rules, especially to the open times that they may qualify to use.
- Pickleballs purchased with your dues are for the collective use of all club members but NOT necessarily for all non-member SCOV residents. We received an inquiry from the HOA administration of our policy of removing balls from the court to the locked membership bin which prevented some non-club members from playing. While we do not actively prevent nonmembers from using balls should they be available on the courts, we do not have any obligation to provide club resources to non-members or visitors. This has been clarified to our administration.

Leaders Sought...For purposes of maintaining a strong pickleball club and providing you with services including clinics, equipment, parties, fundraisers, new court advocacy, orderly scheduling, tournaments...and more. I (Phil) continue to solicit capable leaders to serve this club once my term ends in December. Your innovation, administration skills and leadership will be put to great use with other capable Board Members. **YOU ARE NEEDED!**
Let's talk...

Thanks for claiming your items in the lost and found bin by Court #1. We donated 9 items to Goodwill. How to avoid losing clothing at the Pickleball Courts: If you take something off while on the courts, hang it on the gate to the court. When leaving the court put it in the bag you came with. Don't put clothing or bags on the chairs, benches or tables. Help keep our courts looking good!

SAVE THE DATE! Spring Social at Catalina Vista on Friday, April 17 from 4:00pm - 7:00pm.
Details to follow.

Tips to Improve Your Play!

Mastering Pickleball Shot Selection



Pickleball's all about picking the right shot at the right time. Whether you're a newbie or a seasoned player, knowing which shot to use can make or break your game. From the soft dink to the powerful overhead, each shot has its own place on the court.

The Drive: Unleashing Powerful Groundstrokes for Offense

In the fast-paced world of pickleball, among pickleball shots, the drive shot has emerged as a powerful offensive weapon that can be the key to unlocking a player's full potential. This groundstroke, characterized by its combination of power and control, allows players to take the initiative and dictate the tempo of the rally.

The drive shot in pickleball is more than just a powerful swing; it is a strategic tool that can be used to create scoring opportunities and put pressure on the opponent. By developing a reliable and consistent drive, players can effectively control the pace of the game, forcing their opponents to react and adapt to their aggressive style of play.

Mastering the drive shot in pickleball requires a deep understanding of both the technical and tactical aspects of the game. Players must focus on developing a smooth, efficient swing that generates ample power while maintaining control over the ball's trajectory and placement. This, in turn, necessitates a keen awareness of court positioning, footwork, and the ability to read the opponent's movements.

Being Strategic

Beyond the technical execution, the strategic deployment of the drive shot is equally crucial. Skilled players understand how to utilize the drive to create openings, disrupt their opponent's rhythm, and set up more aggressive attacking opportunities. By targeting specific areas of the court, varying the pace and spin of the shot, and adapting to the game situation, players can effectively leverage the drive to gain the upper hand in the rally.

Incorporating the drive shot into one's overall pickleball strategy can be a game-changer. By harnessing the power and versatility of this groundstroke, players can elevate their offensive capabilities, putting constant pressure on their opponents and increasing their chances of securing victory. As with any advanced pickleball technique, the mastery of the drive shot requires dedicated practice, a willingness to experiment, and a deep understanding of the game's tactical nuances.