

2019 May Newsletter

Annual Membership Meeting

The members voted and passed the updated By Laws at the May 11th meeting. We had juice and fruit and egg dishes provided by **Cece Kohl** and **Teresa Wenzel** and **Danielle Lucking**. We had pastries and cookies and lots of good food. We had about 60 show up to play after the meeting and everyone enjoyed breakfast.

New Members

Kirk Beitz, Julie Bosch, Jennifer Dorr, Becky Carey, Rebecca Gibson, Kevin Gianatiempo, Mark Gordon, Gary and Joan Grealis, Marsh Green, Dale Haithcock, Geoffrey Hillier, Steve Hutnick, Alan Mckay, Amy McDougal, Dave and Judy Miller, Scott Muller, Rob Ryan, Michael Schmidt, Fermie Tabones, Kevin Tan, Nancy and Rich Tietz, Sarah Williams, Steve Young,

Alamo/Danville Today

This local monthly newspaper ran a great article, this month, on the history of Pickleball and featured **Bill Dougherty** our founder and **Rusty Lent**, one of our IPTPA Certified instructors. We had front page exposure, with photos, of the Walnut Creek Pickleball Club and a long article on the sport we are all addicted too. You can ready it online or pick up a copy at Rudgear. It is the May issue.

Cinco de Mayo

We had lots of snacks, guacamole, chips, salsa and **Wendy Richardson** brought more cookies. **Vicki Morse** brought those yummy beans too. Fun day of play.

Courts in Lake Tahoe

Bill Dougherty said the voting on the conversion of some of the tennis courts at Kilner Park to four dedicated courts and some courts with temporary nets, would be voted on very soon. He will update us later.

Discovery Bay PB Tournament

Their fundraising tournament got rained out and they rescheduled for this coming weekend. Hooray! It looks like the weekend will be dry and sunny! They have ongoing fundraising for new courts out there. Help support them or sign up for their tournaments!

Tahoe Peak Pickleball Challenge at Northstar

Karen Johnson and Fred Safipour let us know that registration opens on June 21st at 10 am. The courts are at 12210 Sierra Drive East, Truckee, CA 96161-5000. The tournament will be held on September 5-8th and they will have 20 courts. Check our the information on tahoepickleball.com This is a very nice facility, so check this out soon!

Ten Year Anniversary Picnic/Pickleball Pot Luck at Rudgear

Our Annual Anniversary Party is scheduled for June. Another email about that event will follow soon.

Rose Park in Berkeley - New Courts Approved

We heard from **Cathy Taruskin** and others that the emails so many of us sent to the Parks and Waterfront department over there, **DID** make a difference. They were blown away! They got approval for four dedicated courts at Rose Park, Hopkins and Perratta cross streets. They are trying to raise \$2500 to get the project fast tracked. If you can donate, send the checks, made out to the City of Berkeley, to **Bill Powning**, 1919 Napa Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707 or you can use Venmo or PayPal and send it to, billpowning@gmail.com. The work is scheduled to start in June, so make any donations, ASAP.

Oceanview Pickleball Court fund is also raising money for those courts, 8 dedicated. If you have any questions email **Cathy Taruskin**, cathytaruskin@yahoo.com or **Bill Powning**, billpowning@gmail.com.

Rain Rain Go Away

The rains returned in Mid May and Winter was back for to many days. It looked like the "gully washers" from Wyoming, where the sky just opens up and so much water comes down! It just poured! The weather through Memorial Day was blustery and windy with some rain. I think we all thought we would be done with this weather in April. I did run into **Barbara Anast** while playing at Tice during those rainy days. She is doing great and still playing some good pickleball. It was nice catching up with her.

Memorial Day at Rudgear

Wow! Everyone played over the long weekend, but it was very windy. We had so much food on the tables. Thank you all that brought food to share. Memorial Day was one of the busiest days I've seen at Rudgear! Everyone was there! Lots of families and visitors too. We had more waiting than playing and we could have filled eight more courts and still had some waiting. Everyone had time to catch up with others. Players were still there at 3 pm. Very busy day!

Tice Gym

We stocked the locker with balls for the summer. Tice is having pickleball hours over the summer months! For those days when it's just to hot outside, try Tice. Here is the summer schedule:

6/3/19 to 9/6/19 Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 AM to Noon;

No drop in on these dates: 6/17-6/21, 7/4,7/15-7/19, 8/5-8/9
Put these on your calendar.

We always use Tice Gym, more during the Winter months and want to keep pickleball available over there. We did find out that we have the right to rent courts in the early afternoon, next winter to run drill days and Rusty Lent can run clinics over there too. We were told last winter that Lifetime Tennis controlled the gym. They do not. So we can look forward to working with **Hope Keung**, Program Coordinator, to make this happen.

Donations

Steve Ritz donated a Selkirk Maxima paddle on his way out of town. Hope he and his wife get back here for some visits! You will be missed! Steve has donated many paddles to the club this last year. Thank you Steve.

Linda Bower and May Wong, Patty Spinrod and Milo Harris, all donated money to the club this month. Thank you all for your thoughtfulness and understanding.

We sent the tournament refund checks out on Tuesday, so everyone should have them soon. The checks that were written were shredded. Thank you for signing up for the club tournament. We were sorry to cancel it so late and will promise to make it up to everyone. We hope to reschedule it for late summer and are looking for an available weekend.

Bob and Joyce Jensen

Some of our favorite members have sold their home in Blackhawk and have bought a new home in Palm Desert at La Quinta. For many years they have graciously allowed us to use there beautiful hilltop home for Summer and Christmas parties, since 2015! That goes above and beyond, especially when we have 100 show up for Christmas cheer!

Their children live in Southern California and their first grandchild, **Jackson**, was born in March! We know they will be enjoying a lot of special time with him!

We hope Joyce has recovered from her injuries when their car was totaled by another driver this last year. Thank goodness they were in their big heavy Mercedes. Recently, they have been running etiquette classes for school children at a impoverished school. The children receive so much that will help them get ahead in life and a certificate of completing the course. Last year they rounded up pickleball paddles and were showing the kids the game, after school too.

Bob and Joyce have given all of us so much. Some of the kindest folks you will ever meet! We hope to hear from them too. We will all miss you!

Seen Around the Courts or Not

Walter and Beverly Schlehuber have been back playing regularly. How great is that? **Bill Lide** stopped in one day. His shoulder surgery is going well and he is getting some range of movement back. It was nice seeing him. **Gail Zavala** has been taking care of her ankle and was able to play when she and **Rich** went to Mexico on a great trip. They are back on the courts regularly now. **Sylvia Sum** has been out of action and we hope she is back soon. We are also missing **Monica Mitchell and Nancy Smith**. You girls are in our thoughts! **Pasko Varnica** had an injured foot and that was keeping him off the courts. We hope he is getting better. I saw **Don Grant** and he is getting ready for surgery soon. Hope it goes well Don! **Rajat Jain** is finally back after many

months. Nice to see him playing again. **Joan Grealis** is back and she was missed after a very long absence!

Elaine Hennessy is having shoulder surgery after the tournament in Concord this summer. She convinced her tennis playing doctor to let her play ONE more! Hope it all goes well Elaine! She is one of our best women players and we want her back on the courts!

Sue O'Connell was in this week from Lincoln, CA. She is playing some great pickleball. Her husband **Frank** is getting ready for shoulder surgery at Stanford soon. We've missed seeing Frank and hope all the best for him!

We hope **Angus and Tricia Murray** are enjoying their new home in New York. Hope you come back to visit! It was nice seeing **Eoin O'Donoghue** last week! Long time no see. **Lee Otsuki** was back after a long absence too. **Tim Tamura** is back and is playing some great pickleball! He is known as the Panda!!

Tree Work

Yesterday the City of Walnut Creek told us the courts were going to be closed for some tree work. And today, the sun was really shining on our courts! The large, very old, non native pine tree was taken out at the far end of the newly resurfaced courts. We had been telling them it was a problem because of the shadows on the court and the inability of seeing the ball as clearly as we needed. **Thank you Public Works and Walnut Creek!** You make this facility rock!! Jared from Evergreen Tree Care was great.

They brought in a huge crane and the tree was down by 11 AM! He also blew all the dust off the courts. You will notice the difference when you play on those courts. There will be so much less tree debris too!

Member Directories

The 2019 Directories are out at Rudgear Park and Tice Gym. If you haven't picked one up, get one soon.

Website

Pasko Varnica has been so helpful and updates our website regularly, especially the Member Only area that is password protected. He put some new photos of the Rudgear Courts on too. He is always tweaking the site to make it more user friendly. Thank you for all the time you have put into improving our website!

Other Rudgear Reminders

We hope everyone signs in, every time they come to play. Those sign in sheets helped us show our great number of players and helped us get the dedicated courts. It convinced the City of Walnut Creek they needed some. Please bring the sign in table out too. The ball buckets should be put on courts.

The white board should come out and be hung up when there are players waiting. We always wipe it clean before storing it back in the shed. And the ball buckets should be picked up and put away if you are the last ones playing.

There are cleaning products and towels to wipe down the picnic tables. We don't want to invite the ants to join us!

There are First Aid supplies, band aids and ice packs, etc on the top shelf on the right in the shed, if they are ever needed. We also have CPR information on the bulletin board, hopefully we never need that information.

There is a list of our players by age and ability is listed also. This is for those looking for partners in tournaments. It is pinned to bulletin board. **Teresa Wenzel** put that together for everyone and it has been helpful.

How To Determine Your Pickleball Rating

When you don't have to think about which shot to hit, you just naturally hit it, **you are a 5.0**

When you don't have to think about which shot to hit, but you can't successfully hit it 2000 times in a row, **you are a 4.5**

When you have to think about which shot to hit, and when you figure it out, you can successfully hit it, **you are a 4.0**

When you have to think about which shot to hit, but then still hit the wrong shot, **you are a 3.5**

When you have to think which shot to hit, but by the time you decide on the correct shot it's too late to hit it, so you just go with trying to get it back over the net, **you are a 3.0**

When you don't bother to think about which shot to hit, and most of the time don't hit it in the court anyhow, **you are a 2.5** and guaranteed to be having a lot of fun!!