

WCPC - September 2020 Newsletter

Long time No See You! So much has changed since Rudgear Pickleball courts were shut down from March to May, No Play. Then Singles Only Play, Then we had Doubles that the club was managing very well. We did Contact tracing, had ball sanitizer, hand sanitizer and turned over the picnic tables to improve distancing. Masks were required while waiting and coming off the courts after play.

Now we are back to Singles Play only, per the County Health Officer. The Board decided not to manage play for the morning drop in because of this change. Players now come and play at their own risk, putting paddles on the fence to take turns to play, when courts open up. Bring your own chair and hand sanitizer and don't forget to mask up.

We still want play, to be as safe as possible when using the courts.

Signs, Signs, Everywhere a Sign --NOT!

Tennis signs came down after we converted the courts to pickleball in 2016. We have been asking the City of Walnut Creek and Lifetime Tennis for new signs, for at least three years now. There is a temporary plastic laminated small sign by the gates that we were given, but it lacks correct information.

We have heard you and your many requests to get them up. We know there are times when groups will not leave the courts and players are waiting, that are causing problems. We are requesting signs once again.

Court Condition and Cleaning

Lifetime Tennis/Activities is suppose to wash the Rudgear Park courts, both tennis and pickleball, on a schedule per their contract with the city. The club asked them to post a cleaning schedule also, but we have never seen one. They wash the courts at Heather Farms every month, but out lying courts are only done every two months, supposedly. We have not seen any cleaning of courts since last year before the rainy season started. We are requesting cleaning with water ASAP. It rained last on May 30th, a pretty good rain. That was the last time the courts were "washed"!!

The courts are suppose to be blow off WEEKLY by Lifetime also and that is not being done either. I checked the tennis courts up by the parking lot and nothing has been done there either. More emails to send, letters to write.

I guess with all that is going on, we are just lucky to be playing pickleball with friends and new members.

Graffiti Being Painted

Hormoz Baba and **Jon Rego** will be trying to match the paint to repaint the gray paint that covered the graffiti very soon. Thanks guys!

Welcome New Members

It is a pretty long list of new faces around the courts. These folks have joined since March 31st. We are so glad you joined our club! Welcome One and All!! Wow!!

Mark Anderson, Leslie Anderson, Becky and Tad Beckelman, John Bell, Thomas Bishop, Cari Borja, Larry and Laura Brunkow, Tom Caufield, Mark Cohen, Mike and Pam Cooke, Karen Dam, Bridget and David DeMers, Pat DeRensis, Tanya Duvanchelle, Mary Elsbree, Jim Felt, Patty Brook Fong, Chris and Christine Gaber, Mary Gabrielson, Cindy Gershen, Michael Gold, Stephen Gordon, Donna Gray, Danno Higgins, CC and David Holland, David Huggin, Amir Jabbari, Paul Johnson, Sue Jones, Nathan Leal, Paul Leimone, Mark Lowe, Lori Lynn, Lori Bosler Martin, Amy McDaniel, Bill McAvoy, Andrea Miller, Lyndi Miller, Ori Moland, Jim Noe, Russell Ogawa, Tony Parisi, Phyong Pham, Walter Ramos, Don Rieschick, Tino Rodriguez, Greg Salmon, Richard Schmidt, Terry Schuman, Laura Seidel, Elida Shilts, Jeffery Shulman, Twila Slesnick, Amy Tsai, Fabian Vaucheret, Tony Villalobos, Ali Vojdari, Tony Weinstein, David Weiss, Pamela Welsh, Chuck Wong.

PickleBalls For Sale Again

Laurie Savage did such a great job selling balls to our members over the summer, such a great service and price to our members. They went fast! Thank you so much **Laurie!!** We decided to offer more balls for sale, at \$28 a dozen, Sold by the dozen only.

You can email Laurie at laurithia@gmail.com or **Kris Hunter** at shywyo@aol.com.

We have many **Neon Dura Fast 40, (1 dozen are Yellow) or Franklin Neon, 3 dozen of these.**

Community Service Day Food Drive

Put it on your calendar, **Saturday, October 10th** is the date this year, Bring canned foods to donate to the Food Bank and we will do a small clean up around the courts with our own tools, rakes, shovels, loppers, Don't forget your hat and gloves, sunscreen and bring your own water bottle. Masks also!

We will start around 8:30 and play pickleball afterwards. Thank you to all that have participated in this Community Service Day, for many many years .It was started by our past **Mayor and City Councilwoman, Cindy Silva**. All those CSD events are what made our pickleball courts so nice, removed many trees, built all the picnic tables, cleared brush and weeds from the edges of the courts, put in new gates and made walking paths to those gates. Lots of work from great volunteers!

There is a sign up at the corner of Rudgear Park with other details. We will email you closer to the date.

Donation and Many Thanks!

Rusty Lent made a nice donation to the club recently. Thank you Rusty!

Reminders for All Playing at Rudgear

We have been contacted by the local Homeowners Association, because of noise and parking issues. Many are complaining that players park too close to driveways and or block their cars. Parking near trash cans are also a problem, causing trash not to be picked up. Noise from the courts too early is also an issue.

Let's try to remember to be a good neighbor. **Don't park across the street in front of neighbors homes, Park on the park side** or up in the parking lot by the restrooms and tennis courts. It is a 5 minute walk.

There are local CC and R's which regulate noise before 8 AM. And if you are helping the club, with the blower, let's not blow off courts **before 9 AM and give our neighbors a break. I like sleeping in once in a while too!**

Interested in Serving on the WCPC Board?

Contact **Hormoz Baba** or the Nominating Committee.

A Note of Condolences

To **Rich and Gail Zavala**, so many of us heard, of the loss of your grandson Samuel. My son, Alec was one of his friends. We are all heart broken for you and are all thinking about you in this unsettled time and year. We can't imagine anything worse. Our hearts are full of love and prayers for your family during these most difficult days. We are here for you when you return.

Trust In Education Looking for Donations

Its that time of year, there is usually a packing party with all the donations Budd McKenzie collects all year long. This year Budd is asking you to drop off donations at his home with a very large porch. The address is 1260 Rose Lane, Lafayette, Outside Garage Doors. Please drop the items off in plastic bags that can easily be dropped into boxes for shipping to Afghanistan. The children and families need, clothing for all ages, (no XXX sizes), shoes and boots, winter hats and gloves, scarves, blankets, sleeping bags, pillows, hot water bottles, comforters, clean toys and stuffed animals, pots and pans, school supplies (no books or paper), backpacks. Computers, Laptops/Tablets (please call or email before)

Budd's email is TrustinEducation@gmail.com. This is the 11th Annual shipment!! Please drop all donations off by Halloween!

Missing and Injured, Traveling?

I feel like this could be a very long list of missing. But are they missing? "Who is that Masked Man or Woman??"

Dick and Lynn Hildebrand have been hanging out in Geyserville. **Dick** is getting ready to have back surgery for a sciatica problem. We all wish him a swift recovery! Our past Webmaster, **Torry Wall** has a new hip now. We haven't seen her in a while, except on Facebook! I caught up with **Elaine and Kevin Hennessey** and **Elaine** is back tearing up the courts. **Stacy Spell** said she hasn't lost any of her great shots.

Tom Caufield is back on the courts playing carefully after tearing some muscle away from his hip. Glad you are back Tom. **Jan Gabe** is playing very well, even though her knee injury is still bothering her. **Laurie Savage** strained her calf the other day and is taking a few off. We hope it's not too long. It was nice to see her **husband Alan** back on the courts. He is on the other side of his knee surgeries. **Leslie Holt**, had been feeling poorly for months, but I hear from **Steve Martin** she is finally feeling like herself again. Hope to see you soon Leslie.

I heard **Pete Sciarretta** just had surgery. He is part of the large Benicia group that we get to play with. And I got on a court with **Ed Oncena**, Pete's good friend. I had not seen or played with him in months! I saw **Kim Bouffard** for a minute the other day, she's another one of the Benicia gang! **Stuart Roberts** is still trying to keep his shoulder injury from slowing him down. He seemed better too. Another, **Stuart, Mangini** is already back on the courts after his hernia operation. Be careful Stuart!

Grant Wyborny had a unplanned surgery and had to take some time off. I heard he was on the courts again, just last week. You all must know his wife **Monica**, she stays busy !! She plays in the mornings and gets us girls together on weekends and plays in the evenings, riding her bike to the courts. Great Gal!!

Milo Harris has been missing in action, way too long. We miss you! **Rick Corella**, we hope you've been able to adjust your running schedule to that new pacemaker. Thinking of you too. I saw **Carol Manuel** once or twice, at least she is getting to Rudgear to play. She helped us out with the Community Service Day last year and was a star! **Bob Walgren**, we hope you are on the other side of those cancer treatments. I would be good to see you in the near future.

Mark Litzau, we know you had a pretty good injury, that would take months to heal. I guess Covid has helped you stay at home with your **great wife Alicia**, trying out some new wines, hopefully! Hope you are on the mend. **Sylvia Sum**, seems you have had one "adventure" after another that has kept you away. You are in our thoughts and you are missed! I know your friend **Monita Pang** is missing you too.

So many of our members that used to travel here to play, we are missing, **Jerry Wertzer, Mary Zalatel, Wendy Richardson, Helene Rostock, Stephen Fox**, all those Oakland kids! **Jim Heick** has been regularly driving over from Oakland to play with us. Good games too! **John and Crisana Swindell**, from Albany, we miss your jokes John!! **Crisana**, you have to share the fun guy!

I am missing **Cedrick DeVries** pushing me around the court with his fabulous dinking ability. Hope you and your better half are doing well!

I was told **Linda Bower** and **Patty Spinrod** and **Anna Leskovar** from Rossmoor were seen at Rudgear this week! Wow! How long has it been?? We know everyone is playing in " Covid safe, Bubble groups", be we have missed a lot of you!

I heard through the grapevine that **Cindy Galbraith** and **Bev Nikolai** were visiting Montana. **Bill Matherly** has been posting some nice pictures of cows and landscapes from Montana too! It is nice to get away!

Fun Pictures

Bob and Joyce Jensen, past members extraordinaire, are now living in Palm Desert. They have a new grandson and are posting many fun pictures. The other day, there was someone new,....it was **Frankie Avalon** standing there with Bob and Joyce!! Now that is a fun picture and must have been a fun day! He is still performing some shows every year! Pretty amazing! Nice to have fun neighbors, down there!!

A Note of Caution from our Member

Mark Bryant told me a story about having dinner in Walnut Creek that I thought needed sharing. In these very uncertain days, anything can happen, anywhere. He and his wife had dinner in Walnut Creek over on Locust St. a week or so ago. They finished eating and she decided to walk to the Container Store. He decided to walk down the alley by the Veggie Grill to get their car. I use that alley regularly myself, I'm thinking. As he turned the corner, behind the Grill, he noticed a man standing in the middle of the alley, where he would exit, facing Mark. Something didn't seem right, so Mark stopped and called out to him. "What do you want?" The guy said nothing back. Mark made a good decision to turn around and go back. When he did that, the guy started chasing him. Mark said he felt like he ran faster than he ever had in his life. He got back to the beer garden area in the street and got to the other side and turned back to look. The guy stopped on the other side. Again, Mark said, "What do you want?" Again, no answer. Mark yelled for someone to call the police, and the guy took off. He and his wife were eventually escorted back to their vehicle. This was not late at night and Mark is one of those guys who is very aware of his surroundings, lucky for him.

While we were talking I thought about the pepper spray I keep in my car door. Now that should go in my purse. Mark bought a small canister that is on his keychain now. I guess you can never be too careful and be prepared for anything.....even in Walnut Creek!

Board Meeting Wishes

At our Board meeting, we were all reminiscing about the fun summer picnics we usually hold with a play day, and the fun parties we've held. We are all missing the events our club regularly holds every year.

Someday, this will end. The virus will be controlled. It is not forever. **Someday**, politics won't be so overwhelming or divided. **Someday**, we will all be able to have those parties with our pickleball pals and we can't wait!!

We miss you all! Hang in there!!