

4th Quarter 2024

Written and Edited by Dee Morris & Mark Nollsch

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



WALNUT CREEK PICKLEBALL CLUB

Around the Post

Dear Walnut Creek Pickleball Club Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the game we all love. Unfortunately, I must inform you of a challenging situation our club is facing. A lawsuit has been filed against the City of Walnut Creek by seven residents living near our Rudgear Courts seeking to have the courts removed or relocated.

First and foremost, I want to assure you that we are taking this matter seriously and are working closely with the city to address the concerns raised while also protecting our right to play. The lawsuit primarily focuses on noise issues, increased traffic, and alleged disruptive behavior by some players. While we strongly disagree with the drastic measure of removing the courts, we acknowledge that there are legitimate concerns that need to be addressed. As a club, we are committed to being good neighbors and finding a solution that works for everyone.

Here's what we have been doing in response:

- Collaborated with the city to explore noise mitigation options, such as additional sound barriers.
- Reduced hours of play to reduce impact during sensitive hours.
- Reinforced our code of conduct to ensure all players respect our neighbors and the surrounding area.

For now, our courts remain open, and play continues as usual. However, we ask all members to be extra mindful of noise levels, parking considerations, and overall behavior while we work through this process.

You can help by following all posted rules and encouraging others to do the same. Be considerate of our neighbors, especially regarding noise and parking. Share positive stories about how pickleball has impacted your life with friends, family, and on social media and especially with Walnut Creek City Council members, including the Mayor.

We're optimistic we can reach a solution that allows us to continue enjoying pickleball while addressing our neighbors' concerns. While we can't predict exactly how long this process will take, we promise to keep you updated every step of the way. Your continued support and passion for the game are what make our club special. By staying positive, respectful, and united, we can overcome this challenge and emerge as an even stronger community.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this time. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Let's keep paddling forward together!

Best regards,
Tony Parisi
President, Walnut Creek Pickleball Club

Board of Directors & Committee Chairs

The WCPC Board of Directors and Committee Chairs meet on the third Thursday of each month.

President	Tony Parisi	tonyparisi9@gmail.com
Vice President	Mike Gabrielson	cpa711@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Dave Holland	holland_42@yahoo.com
Secretary	Dee Morris	deirdre8morris@gmail.com
Venue Maintenance	Darrell Hoh	darrell.hoh@compass.com
Membership Director	Mark Nollsch	mark.nollsch@gmail.com
Social Director	Cindy Gershen	cindymgershen@gmail.com
Public/Community Relations	Jill Shinkle	jill.shinkle@gmail.com
Tournament & Skills Director	Skip Sewell	mjsewell13@gmail.com
Venue Maintenance Assistants	Ed Oncena Pete Sciarretta	eoncena@sbcglobal.net pjss10030@yahoo.com
Fundraising	Lisa Regal Brad Falk	lrmama007@gmail.com bradralfalk@gmail.com
Webmaster	Pasko Varnica	varnica@pacbell.net

Member Spotlight - The Naulu Family

Have you ever wondered about those great peanuts that magically appear every week for everyone to share? They are generously donated by the Naulu family - Inga, J.T. and their son J.J.



Well now you know!

J.T. and Inga are originally from Tonga. J.T. moved to Hawaii to attend BYU Hawaii, and Inga followed along later and worked at the Polynesian Cultural Center in Laie. Some of you may have seen her dancing there on one of your visits!

Inga takes care of babies from newborn to 4-months old, and J.T. is a contractor. After 37 years of marriage, they have four kids and have lived in California for 26 years.

They love how friendly, respectful and nice everyone is in our club, and how many good players we have. So the next time you're at the courts, take a moment to say hello to our friends who are always sitting by the stairs, and be sure and thank them for the peanuts!



Welcome to our Newest Club Members!

Autumn Benavidez	Ken Bucho	Heather Caputo	Mark Cisneros
Melanie Coakley	Jakub Glodek	Everett Louie	Mark Melton
Kirsten Melton	Maggie Peressini	Diane Perry	Jesse Rodriguez
Debasis (Deb) Saha	Sandeep Sanga	Atul Sood	Sanjay Vepa

2025 Membership Renewals coming up soon!

Thank you to all of our members that have been with us throughout 2024. Our club membership currently stands at 360 players. Starting in November, we will begin our membership drive for 2025. Please consider renewing for the following year. Where else can you have so much fun for only \$5 a/month!

So far this year, your membership dues have funded pickleballs for Rudgear open play, the popular SummerFest tournament in September, our Valentine's and St. Patrick's Day mixers, the summer picnic/annual meeting in June, and the festive courtside barbecue in August. Coming up later this year, we have the Halloween mixer and the very popular annual holiday party in December.

Please join us again this year in our efforts to support and expand high-quality pickleball in WC.

Membership dues are only \$60 per year and there are several easy ways to pay:

- Cash given directly to Mark or placed in the provided envelope with your name and dropped in the ball donation box
- Venmo to @Mark-Nollsch (last 4 digits of cell phone are 7080 if needed)
- PayPal to wcpctreasurer@gmail.com. Specify the member's name in the Comments section, and check the "Friends and Family" box to avoid PayPal fees.
- Snail mail a check to: Mark Nollsch, 2323 Belford Drive, WC, CA 94598



*Mark Nollsch
Membership Director*

Summer Fun - Rudgear BBQ

On August 16th, the club hosted another social event for our members and guests. This time it was a casual BBQ! Special thanks to Robert Gates, Pete Sciarretta and Darrell Hoh for coordinating this fun little event! Robert purchased the groceries, while Pete, Darrell and others helped prep, cook, and clean. Many others brought a side dish, dessert or beer to share. All-in-all it was another great day at Rudgear Park!



Community Service Day - October 12th

As in past years, the club has participated in the annual Walnut Creek Community Service Day. This year's clean-up effort will be held on Saturday, October 12 from 9:00am to Noon.



We are seeking volunteers to help pick up trash, spread bark, blow courts, scrub picnic tables, clean out the shed, secure nets, etc.

Click [here](#) to sign up and complete the waiver, and let Darrell Hoh know that you'll be there!

Darrell.Hoh@compass.com | 510-295-3541



*Darrell Hoh
WCPC Venue
Maintenance Director*

The Great Pumpkin Pickleball Event - October 30th



IN THE SPIRIT OF HALLOWEEN, THE CLUB WILL BE HOSTING 'THE GREAT PUMPKIN PICKLEBALL EVENT!' COME JOIN US FOR FUN, SNACKS, AND POKER-CHIP PLAY FROM 9:00 - 1:00, Wednesday, October 30.

PLEASE CONTACT CINDY GERSHEN @ 925.360.8543 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER.

Annual Holiday Party - December 8th

We are pleased to announce the details of the WCPC's Annual Holiday Party! This year, the event will take place from 5:30-10:00 pm, Sunday, December 8th at the Elk's Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek. Club members and their "plus one" are invited to attend an evening of delectable food, no-host bar, and dancing to the live music of *Rewind!* The cost is only \$25 per person!

If you would like to attend this fun and exciting event, please RSVP to Cindy Gershen @ 925.360.8543 by Sunday, November 17. Maximum capacity is 140 attendees.

We must receive your payment by no later than Sunday, December 1. There are three easy ways to pay: 1. PayPal; (UPC code below) 2. check made out to WCPC; 3. cash. Place check and cash payments in an envelope with your name and drop it in the cash box or give directly to Dave Holland, WCPC Treasurer.



WCPC SummerFest Tournament

The Board of Directors would like to thank all of the participants who played in the inaugural WCPC SummerFest Tournament and congratulate all of the amazing medal winners.

The success of this tournament would not have been possible if it weren't for our spirited and hard-working volunteers and tournament coordinators! A special thanks to Tournament Director, Skip Sewell for running a smooth event and getting us through some minor technical glitches. Amazing job, Skip! We would also like to acknowledge Ti Caudron and Dee Morris for working closely with PB360 and DUPR to complete the post-tournament administrative tasks.

We appreciate your support and patronage for this event and look forward to another great tournament in 2025! Thank you!

Here are the final results:

Women's 4.0 15+

*Gold: Tanya Veldkamp & Kyla Grant
Silver: Missy Park & Jane Mitchell
Bronze: CC Holland & Jennifer Cyrkler*



Women's 3.5 15+

*Gold: Karen Means & Cindy Tottle
Silver: Andrea Shelley & Juliana Matson
Bronze: Debbie Stanley & Donna Meyer*



Women's 3.0 15+

*Gold: Julie Pryde & Karen Louis
Silver: Anne Sommers & Linda Kinsey
Bronze: Katie Tuck & Lisa Tuck*



Women's 2.5 15+

*Gold: Renata Swickard & Carol Van de Poel
Silver: Renata Carey & Cindy Wong*



WCPC SummerFest Tournament

Men's 4.0 - 1

*Gold: Steve Barnert & Andrew Chang
Silver: Omar Cantillo & Rick Topp
Bronze: Rabi Bala & Phil Davis*



Men's 4.0 - 2

*Gold: Michael Addicott & Jamie Patterson
Silver: Rajvinder Singh & Puneet Khurana
Bronze: Austin Chiu & Steve Lui*



Men's 3.5 15-49

*Gold: Alex Amato & Christopher Vu
Silver: Rashaad Hussein & Alan Ho
Bronze: Michael Stesin & Sam Chatterjee*



Men's 3.5 50+

*Gold: Scott Bromstead & Derek Bromstead
Silver: Rich Gitelson & Richard Frederick
Bronze: Paul Fruin & Walter Horst*



Men's 3.0 15+

*Gold: Luke Denham & Zaid N.
Silver: Frank Tijiboy & Vincent Tijiboy
Bronze: Paul Burroughs & Stuart McMurrin*

WCPC SummerFest Tournament

Mixed Doubles 4.0 15+

*Gold: Ivano Gregoratto & Melissa McElfres
Silver: Ed Oncena & Cindy Tottle
Bronze: Tyler Langenbrunner & Angela Sundin*



Mixed Doubles 3.5 15-49

*Gold: Tristan Vincent & Minh-An Quinn
Silver: Nica Dennis & Kyle Neptune-Salisbury
Bronze: Kalia Chan & Antonio Wothe*



Mixed Doubles 3.5 50+

*Gold: Robert Beanland & Lori Dorsey
Silver: Melanie Coakley & Anand Ammundi
Bronze: Patrick Vaucheret & Kristin Lanham*



Mixed Doubles 3.0 15+

*Gold: Josh Anatalio & Caydie Tran
Silver: Frank (Franklin) Fernandez & Audrey Rose.
Bronze: Casey Landavazo & Leah Valencia*



USA Pickleball National Championships

Pickleball's most premier event, the USA Pickleball National Championships, will take place on November 10-17 at the Arizona Athletic Grounds in Mesa, Arizona. The country's top professional and amateur players will enter into this tournament having qualified by playing in a USAP sanctioned event. "Golden Ticket" winners were able to register first, followed by a lottery system for the remaining spots.

In our 2Q 2024 edition of *Around the Post* we published the names of club members who won Golden Tickets and medals. To those members that are moving on to Nationals, we wish you safe travels, good luck and much pickleball success in the tournament!

WCPC Annual Membership Meeting - November 8th

What:
Annual Membership Meeting

When:
9:00 a.m. Friday, November 8

Where:
Rudgear Courts



Join us for our club's Annual Membership meeting!

Tony Parisi will review our accomplishments for the year, update us on club news and activities, and discuss our goals for 2025.

It will also be your chance to cast your vote for a new 2025 Board of Directors, and revised club Bylaws. If you are unable to attend, you will still be able to vote on these items via email prior to the meeting.

Light snacks and drinks will be provided, followed by pickleball!



"...and I would also like to deny that I spend all my time on the pickleball courts."

New Club Activities: Challenge Court and Ladder League

We have some exciting news for our club members! Starting in October, the club will reinstate the "Challenge Court" on most weekdays and host a free mini-ladder league on Saturdays.

Challenge Court

Starting on Tuesday, October 1, Court 1 (nearest the large gate) will be designated as a "Challenge Court" on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11:00-1:00. A whiteboard will be posted outside of Court 1 with rules, signups, and past winners. Winners will stay on for a maximum of three games then rotate off. This is a self-monitored activity, so please abide by the rules and have fun!

Mini-Ladder League

Beginning Saturday, October 12, Dee Morris will host a members-only mini-ladder league. These events will take place twice a month on Saturdays between 1:00-3:00 for intermediate players, and 3:00-5:00 for advanced players.



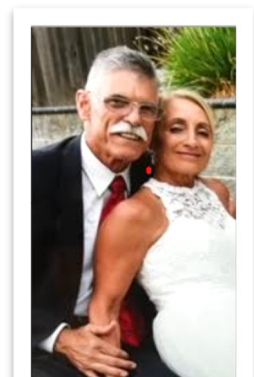
Ladder league registrations and court usage will be announced via the club's WhatsApp group: "Rudgear Park Pickleball," approximately one week prior to the event. If you haven't yet joined the group, register now at <https://chat.whatsapp.com/GoeUi94H3vgBro8JYk91s6> and turn on notifications.

At the end of October we will assess the popularity of these activities, and decide on their long-term future. Please contact Dee at 415.505.7774 if you have any questions.

Pickleball Etiquette

- A friendly reminder gentlemen, please use the restroom and not the bushes. (*Charlie is the exception!*)
- Please pick up your belongings and trash when you leave the courts
- Try and play at least one game with a lesser skilled person than you
- If a stray ball comes onto your court, send the ball back with kindness
- Allow only 1-2 minutes of warmup if there's a long queue
- Say "Sorry!" or raise a hand when your ball trickles over the net
- Make sure your opponent is ready to receive your serve before you say the score and serve the ball
- Wait until the point is over before crossing behind a neighboring court (pro tip: show a little hustle)
- Call "Ball!" or "Ball on!" if your ball enters a neighboring court as it puts other players at risk
- Apologize for unintentional head shots or any ball hit near head level. Aim for a players feet.
- Don't lob players with mobility issues. Know the skill levels of your opponents and play accordingly.
- Don't target the weaker players during rec play. Challenge and improve your own game, by hitting to better players.

In Memoriam - Tanya Duvauchelle



Tanya was born on November 29, 1954 and passed from peritoneal cancer on August 26th. She was an athletic person all her life and loved soccer, weightlifting and for the last six years was an avid pickleball player. She loved life and people and made so many friends. Now she is with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and in that we can rejoice. She is survived by her husband Paul Leimone, who is also a Rudgear regular.



Tanya's memorial service is Saturday, October 5th, 2:00 pm at the First Baptist Church of Benicia, 1055 Southampton Road, Benicia.

Rudgear Court Hours

Mon/Tue/Wed: 8:00 - 1:00
Thursday: Closed
Friday: 8:00 - Sunset
Sat/Sun: 10:00 - Sunset

Rudgear WhatsApp

Want to stay in the know?
Join the Rudgear Park Pickleball
WhatsApp chat group at
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GoeUi94H3vgBro8JYk91s6>

Pickleheads

Find a pickleball court near you or
anywhere else in the world!

Go to the Pickleheads site at
<https://www.pickleheads.com/>

Facebook



Check out our Facebook page for club news, photos, information and much more.



WC Pickleball Club

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