

# The COURT REPORTER



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### Renew or Join SVP!

It’s time to renew your Skagit Valley Pickleball Club membership. You can complete your renewal online [here](#) on the Club website. New this year, you will see two options: one for 2024 Membership Renewal and one for 2024 New Member registration. A few things to keep in mind:

- The renewal fee for January - December 2024 is \$35 if you renew by **February 15**.
- Renewals are available for members who had an active paid membership in 2023.
- After February 15, the option to renew will be removed and you will have to register as a new member.
- The New Membership fee for 2024 is \$45.



If you have any questions, click [HERE](#) to contact the Club.



# SKAGIT VALLEY PICKLEBALL



## Past President's Message

Greetings fellow SVP members, and a Happy New Year! I hope you have been staying warm during these very cold January games. I am Dan Budzynski, SVP Member at Large. I have been involved with our Club since 2018 when I was our first President. I am writing this message to bring you up to date as we currently have two critical vacancies on the Board: President and Vice President.

This past December, Mark Dixon, who had been Vice President and was slated to move into the President's role, opted to step down from the Board. We owe Mark a debt of gratitude for all his hard work and his many contributions to the Club. Mark, we are wishing you good health and looking forward to playing some PB when you are ready.

Additionally, in the recent election we were unable to recruit a new Vice President. This leaves us with our top two Board positions unfilled going into 2024. Those of us still on the Board are doing what we can to fulfill the duties of the President and Vice President while we look for members who would like to help out. Please have patience with us as we work through this issue. We do have a great group who gives of their time and talent as Board members. We also have an awesome pickleball community whose talents no doubt go well beyond their paddle skills. So let us know if you or another Club member might be a suitable candidate for one of these positions. Meanwhile, see you on the courts!

Sincerely,

Dan L. Budzynski, Member at Large

## ETIQUETTE CORNER

### Bowing out Gracefully on PlayTime Scheduler

*Thanks to Kellee List for this Etiquette Corner Idea*

Have you ever arrived at a pickleball game only to find that one of the players is a no show? Any one of us may have to withdraw from a session due to an illness, injury, or emergency. We all know that "life happens," but here are some ideas that may help your group if you have to bow out on PlayTime Scheduler:

- When dropping out with less than 24 hours notice, click the red "Email Players" button and let your group members know you won't be coming.

- If you're organizing a session, consider including this in the Description/Notes: If you have to cancel within 24 hours of play, please text me at 555-555-5555.

*Do you have an idea for a future Etiquette Corner topic? If so, please submit your idea or article [HERE](#).*



Photo credit: Massachusetts Pickleball <https://masspickleballguide.com>

# SKAGIT VALLEY PICKLEBALL



## 2024 Tulip Tussle Tournament!

April 26—April 28, 2024

Blackburn Pavilion and Onsite Tennis Facility

**FRIDAY, 4/26/24:** Women's Doubles  
**SATURDAY, 4/27/24:** Mixed Doubles  
**SUNDAY, 4/28/24:** Men's Doubles

All Round Robin with Playoffs for Gold/Silver/Bronze Medals.

- Skill Levels 3.0/3.5/4.0/4.5/5.0
- Age groups 19+/30+/40+/50+/60+/70+\*

\*Divisions maybe adjusted based upon player registrations (for example, ages 55-57, 58-62, 63-65, 66-69). We look forward to hosting over 500 players!

### REGISTRATION:

Before March 1: \$65.00 + \$15 per event  
Before April 15: \$80.00 + \$15 per event

(Check [HERE](#) after April 15 for late registration fee.)

Click [HERE](#) to register!



## Amateur League Pickleball Tournament

March 16—17, 2024

Blackburn Pickleball Pavilion

Our goal is 4 Divisions:

- 18.3 (4.5)
  - 16.3 (4.0)
  - 14.3 (3.5)
  - 12.3 (3.0)
- Sign up solo or as part of a team of Two women/Two men.
  - Be ready to play women's/men's /mixed doubles. Rally scoring, best of five games per match with a tie breaker (Skinny Singles/Ghost Doubles/Ghostbreaker)

For more information, click [HERE](#)

### REGISTRATION:

Early Registration (by Feb. 17): \$55.00  
After January: \$70.00

Click [HERE](#) to register!



Amateur League Pickleball is not affiliated with Skagit Valley Pickleball (SVP). This is not an SVP-sponsored event.



## SVP DECEMBER 2023 ELECTION RESULTS

Skagit Valley Pickleball (SVP) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization run by volunteers interested in the growth of pickleball in Skagit County and surrounding areas. The Club's By-Laws call for turnover of Board positions on a staggered, annual basis. Last December, we held a membership election in order to fill several open positions.

**Unfortunately, we were unable to fill the critical Vice President position, so we are asking interested members to volunteer for this and other open positions in the Club. Please click [HERE](#) (or see page 5) to learn about currently open Board Positions.**

Questions? Click [HERE](#) to contact us for more information.

Below are the results of the election:

- Anna Wright and Dan Budzynski became the new "Members at Large" as of January 1, 2024.

- Pam Barnes retained her seat as Treasurer.

The following initiatives were also passed:

- Reduced the Minimum Membership age to 16 years of age (approved by 76%).
- Changed the voting threshold at the Annual General Meeting to 50% + 1 of those in attendance (approved by 87%).
- Changed our business model going from a 100% volunteer organization to contracting some of our members' services (approved by 88%).

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to vote in our first-ever online election. The election, which closed on December 15, 2023, had over 370 votes cast. We used the website ElectionRunner.com to capture the votes by secret ballot.



*These pickleball enthusiasts weren't deterred by the cold weather in January 2024!*

Photos from Skagit Valley Pickleball Facebook page, January 12/13, 2024

# SKAGIT VALLEY PICKLEBALL



## VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

We have had some changes in the SVP Board and are calling for volunteers to fill the following key positions. If you are interested in filling any of these roles, or would like more information, click [HERE](#).

**President** – this is a two-year commitment. The first year is spent as President. The second year will be spent as Past President. This is a voting position.

Responsibilities:

- Presides over all meetings.
- Sets SVP goals and objectives with Board approval.
- Enforces/approves SVP policies and procedures.
- Appoints committee Chairmen with consultation and approval of two-thirds of the Board.
- Approves all SVP expenditures over \$200 as written by the Treasurer.
- Coordinates/interfaces with local governmental units and other clubs as needed.
- Performs other functions as may be necessary for the efficient and effective operation of SVP activities.

**Vice President** – this is a three-year commitment. The first year is spent as VP, the second year as President, and the third year as Past President. This is a voting position.

Responsibilities:

- Oversees Treasurer, Secretary, and SVP committees.
- Provides effective guidance to committees as needed.
- Ensures SVP assets and properties (real and virtual) are properly safeguarded.
- Ensures SVP records are maintained and effectively protected.
- Handles the disciplinary process if needed for SVP members.
- Assists and develops SVP playing policies as may be needed for training and regular play.
- Ensures SVP is in compliance with all applicable rules, policies, and other requirements when SVP uses public parks and other established playing areas.
- Ensures all necessary resources are available for SVP member play as may be needed.

**Social Committee Chair** – this is a two-year commitment, appointed by the Board. This is not a voting position.

Responsibilities:

- Provides opportunities for club members to socialize in recreational and/or competitive activities. Helps organize volunteers for events and functions of the club.
- Assists in planning the annual meeting for logistics, hospitality, food.
- Plans events that promote the club in the community. Example: festivals and parades, etc.

**Recreational Play Committee Chair** – Two-year commitment, appointed by Board. This is not a voting position.

- Plan and conduct recreational play opportunities for members including leagues, round robins, partner challenges and other structured play.
- Plan and conduct skill development opportunities for members including lessons, clinics, and training for future trainers.
- Works with President to identify play scheduling (open play, member play, etc.) systems if permissible at various venues.

**Communications Committee:** Two-year commitment, appointed by the Board.

- Maintains club website design and content, including both the front- and back-end configurations.
- Establishes and maintains club social media accounts such as Facebook and Instagram.
- Provides technology support to Board officers and committees as needed.
- Works with treasurer regarding payments made via website and other technological means (PayPal, Square, Wix, Stripe, etc).
- Works with Membership as they process new and existing members through website tools and databases.
- Responsible for club logos and look and feel of club communications and signage. Holds master logo images for print and online usage, and interfaces with other committees on their usage.
- Responsible for coordination of newsletter content and publication.



# SKAGIT VALLEY PICKLEBALL



## SVP WINTER LEAGUES

Our Winter Leagues are coming up quickly! Each of these competitive “Ladder” Leagues runs for seven weeks. Members may only sign up for one League per season.

If you sign up, we hope you can play at each scheduled session for the duration of the League. However, Rec Play will email you a Substitute List for your particular League. If you can't make a session, please use this list to find a replacement and email [Rec Play](#) with your substitute's name.

### How to Sign up

Sign up for the Leagues listed below on [PlayTime Scheduler.com](https://playtimescheduler.com) (PTS).

**Sign-ups end 24 hours before each league.**

*There is no cost. Read the note at the bottom of each League listed on PTS to learn more.*

If you'd like to be on a Substitute List, please email specific League name(s) and day(s) to [Recplay.svpball@gmail.com](mailto:Recplay.svpball@gmail.com). Thank you.

## WINTER LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Start Date	Day	Time	Level	Description
1/29/24	Monday	6:00 – 8:30 pm	3.5 – 3.75	Women's Intermediate League
1/29/24	Monday	6:00 – 8:30 pm	4.0 – 5.0	Women's Advanced League
1/30/24	Tuesday	1:00 – 3:30 pm	3.0 – 3.25	Intermediate League
1/30/24	Tuesday	6:00 – 8:30 pm	3.5 – 3.75	Intermediate League
1/31/24	Wednesday	6:00 – 8:30 pm	4.0 – 5.0	Advanced League
2/01/24	Thursday	6:00 – 8:30 pm	2.5 – 3.25	Beginner League

*Each League will run for 7 weeks.*



# SKAGIT VALLEY PICKLEBALL



## SVP CLUB INFORMATION

### CURRENT BOARD

President	Open
Vice President	Open
Treasurer	Pam Barnes
Secretary	LaDawn Ramsey
Member at Large 1	Anna Wright
Member at Large 2	James Sanders
Member at Large 3	Dan Budzynski
Past President	Larry Otos

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications	Open
Competition	Jay Kiesser
Court & Grounds	Mike Thompson
Outreach & Education	Kay Quall
Social	Open
Recreational Play	Sam LeBrun (interim)

### OTHER

Newsletter Editor	Kar Brunner
Membership	Sara Rylaarsdam
Volunteer Recruiter	Sam LeBrun
Website	www.SVPball.com

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*Special thanks to Suzanne Geller, Debbie Cole, and Kellee List for proofreading this issue of the newsletter.*

Pickleball Central 5%  
Club Rewards Code: CRSkagit

## Volunteers Needed

Currently we can use help in these areas:

- President
- Vice President
- Social Committee Chair
- Rec Play Committee Chair
- Communications Chair

For more information on these positions, click [HERE](#) (or see page 5).

## BLACKBURN PAVILION HOURS: OVERVIEW OF COURT RULES

**Hours: 6:00 am — 10:00 pm**

- From 8:00 - 11:00 am and 4:00 - 8:00 pm, SVP Club Members have priority on courts 4—10. This means that if courts 4—10 are full during these times, Non-Club players must move to Courts 1—3. Club Members may play on any of the 10 courts.
- All other times are open play. As always, use [Whiteboard](#) if all courts are occupied.

### IMPORTANT:

- If courts are full, please follow [Player Rotation System](#) (Whiteboard) rules.
- Skagit Valley College or SVP may reserve courts for special events.

