

The COURT REPORTER

JUNE 2023



Annual Membership Meeting

The Skagit Valley Pickleball (SVP) annual membership meeting will be held on June 15th in the Northwest Career & Technical Academy building on the campus of Skagit Valley College (LaVenture entrance). The culinary program at the college will be providing light appetizers and beverages for the attendees. The highlights of the member-only meeting are:

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- * Review of club activities over the past 12 months
- * Preview of upcoming club events
- * Ball sale – 6 new balls for \$10 (exact cash preferred)
- * Raffle of Selkirk gift certificates
- * Voting on club By-Laws revisions
- * Roll-out of a new player rotation system at the Pavilion

Upcoming Events

On PlayTime Scheduler:

- Skills Clinics
- 1 on 1 lessons

June

- 2 - Start of Hosted Drop-In at Hillcrest Park (9-11am)
- 15 - Membership Meeting
- 18 - PPR Coaching Workshop

July

- 1 - Club Tourney Registration
- 17 - Pro Clinics

The meeting will start promptly at 6pm, and we plan on being wrapped up by 7:45pm. As mentioned, we have 600 new balls to sell to members at slightly below cost. We will sell them in lots of 6 balls, with each lot costing \$10. The first 100 members to show up will have first dibs, one lot per member. Please bring exact cash only.

The annual meeting is a great opportunity to meet other club members and the board members in a relaxed environment.. Please RSVP by June 7th at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DACAD28AAFACF8-annual>

President's Message By Larry Otos

Contact: theotosgroup@comcast.net

Greetings SVP Members.

As you will see in this newsletter, there is a lot to talk about and many activities going on. I just want to thank our board and committee chairs for all the work they do for the club and our membership. There are many hours behind the scenes to make SVP a great club. Our newest committee chairs, Jay Kiesser and Heather Carrigg, were instrumental in planning and running the Tulip Tussle.

I also want to thank the many volunteers that helped to make the Tulip Tussle a big success. Without the help and commitment of volunteers we would have had a much more difficult time giving the participants a great experience. Here are a few comments from the post-tournament player survey regarding volunteers, in which we received a score of 4.8 out of 5:

"Everyone I interacted with was exceptional! "

"Always had someone there ready to run the scores. Great job."

"Your people did a fantastic job in making everyone feel welcome and important."

"Too bad I can't give them 10 stars"

Again, many thanks to everyone that helped out!

At the last Board meeting the board discussed the petition that many of you signed about fair court rotation system at Blackburn Pavilion. We heard your concerns and realize the current system doesn't work at peak times. I have created a task force to make a recommendation to the board about a fair and equitable system that we can adopt. The task force is comprised of five members, three from the board and two from the petitioners list. Vice President Mark Dixon is the chair of this task force. The group will be working diligently in the next few weeks to discuss a number of different options. Stay tuned!

I won't take up time in this newsletter to talk about all the great things that we have accomplished in just a few months. I will save those updates for our annual meeting on June 15th. I hope to see you there. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me directly. Looking forward to seeing you on the courts!

Recreational Play Committee By Mark Dixon

Contact: RecPlay.svpball@gmail.com

Partner Challenge Events

Each Partner Challenge is a 2-3 hour event for 6 to 8 doubles teams at the Blackburn Pavilion. Interested SVP members will sign-up for the appropriate skill level Partner Challenge with a doubles partner (who must also be an SVP member and in the same skill level range). In order to make the event competitive, we are using narrow skill ranges.

How Do You Sign-up

The Partner Challenge events will be listed on PlayTime Scheduler (PTS) at the beginning of the month in which they are held. When you and a partner decide to sign-up for a particular Partner Challenge, one of you will add your name to the event in the same way that you sign-up for anything else on PTS. Follow the instructions in the event note on PTS to add your partner as a guest.

Sat 6/3 12-3pm Women's 2.5-2.75

Sat 6/3 3-6pm Women's 3.5-3.75

Sun 6/4 12-3pm Women's 3.0-3.25

Sun 6/4 3-6pm Women's 4.0+

Sat 6/10 12-3pm Mixed 3.0-3.25

Sat 6/10 3-6pm Mixed 3.5-3.75

Sun 6/11 12-3pm Mixed 2.5-2.75

Sun 6/11 3-6pm Mixed 4.0+

Sat 6/17 12-3pm Men's 2.5-2.75

Sat 6/17 3-6pm Men's 3.0-3.25

Sun 6/18 12-3pm Men's 3.5-3.75

Sun 6/18 3-6pm Men's 4.0+

Summer Leagues

SVP will begin leagues for club members starting the week of June 4th. Leagues are organized by skill level and are open to both women and men. There is no cost to play in SVP leagues. Sign up using on [PlayTime Scheduler.com](http://PlayTimeScheduler.com). Each league will show up on PTS on the starting date as listed below. If more than 20 members sign up for a league, we will draw 20 names from those that entered. Sign-up must be completed by 7pm on June 2nd. Any league that does not have at least 12 participants will be canceled.

You may only sign up for one league, but if a league is canceled due to not meeting the minimum participants, I'll contact those people and see if they'd like to sign-up for a different league.

Each league is scheduled on a specific day and time at the Blackburn Pavilion. Each league will run

Recreational Play Committee (continued)

for 6 weeks, with **no league play on the week of July 2nd**. Each league requires a minimum of 12 members with a maximum of 20. This is an individual league, so your results each week will determine if you move up or down within the league. The format will be round robin. Substitutes will be allowed but can't improve your position for the following week.

2.5-3.0 Tuesday Afternoon League 1-3pm (starts on June 13th; ends July 25th)

2.75-3.25 Thursday Evening League 6-8pm (starts on June 8th; ends July 20th)

3.0-3.25 Tuesday Noon League 11am-1pm (starts on June 6th; ends July 18th)

3.5-3.75 Tuesday Evening League 6-8pm (starts on June 6th; ends July 18th)

3.5-4.0 Monday Afternoon League 1-3pm (starts on June 5th; ends on July 17th)

4.0+ Monday Evening League 6-8pm (starts on June 5th; ends on July 17th)

If you have questions about any of the events discussed above, email RecPlay.svpball@gmail.com and try to be as specific as possible.

Skills Development

On June 18th, Skagit Valley College is hosting a one day workshop for players wanting to become certified coaches. This workshop is provided by Professional Pickleball Registry (PPR), which is the educational arm of USA Pickleball, the national governing body in the United States. To attend, you have to be a member of both USAP and PPR, and then register and pay for the workshop. More information can be found on the PPR website.

On July 17th, SVP will be hosting a top ranked pickleball professional from the APP tour. We can't release all of the details until June 1st, but we can say that there will be a 2 hour morning clinic for players in the 2.5-3.49 skill range and a 2 hour afternoon clinic for those at 3.5 and higher. Each clinic will be capped at 20 players. If interested, look for an email on June 1st!

The 1 on 1 drilling sessions that I have been holding are very popular, limited, and from what I am told, hard to sign up for, as they fill up quickly. Starting June 1st, I'm going to ask that members only sign up for a single 1 on 1 per month so that more people have an opportunity to participate.

Competition Committee by Jay Kiesser

Tulip Tussle Tournament

SVP and Skagit Valley College hosted the inaugural Tulip Tussle Tournament on April 27th-April 30th. In total, we welcomed 706 players from several states and British Columbia to participate in the largest pickleball tournament in Washington state. With the help of amazing volunteers, wonderful weather, and great competition, the Tulip Tussle was an extremely successful event and a great representation of the Skagit Valley Pickleball club. The proceeds from the tournament will go towards

maintenance and operations of the Pavilion, player development, and general operating expenses for the club. The SVP board is endlessly



thankful for those who volunteered and made it happen. We are also very proud of our club members who won medals in this very competitive tournament!

Competition Committee (continued)

SVP Club Tournament

We are currently assembling the details for our "Members-Only" club tournament to be hosted on August 5th and 6th at the Blackburn Pavilion. This will be a free event for our members to compete within our club in a tournament style format and play for bragging rights. The tournament will be held on Saturday and Sunday, comprised of 13 different doubles brackets.

Registration will be available in early July and open for 3 weeks, subject to brackets filling up. An announcement will be made prior to the registration launch in anticipation of a great turnout!

Saturday 8/5	Range
Men's 2.5	2.5-2.75
Men's 3.0	3.0-3.25
Men's 3.5	3.5-3.75
Men's 4.0	4.0+
Women's 2.5	2.5-2.75
Women's 3.0	3.0-3.25
Women's 3.5	3.5-3.75
Women's 4.0	4.0+

Sunday 8/6	Range
Mixed 3.0	3.0-3.25
Mixed 3.5	3.5-3.75
Mixed 4.0	4.0+
60+ Mixed 3.0	3.0-3.25
60+ Mixed 3.5	3.5-3.75

2023 Harvest Tournament

Following the great success of the Tulip Tussle Tournament, we are looking forward to our fall Harvest Tournament. As details are put together, the tournament is anticipated to be held either mid-September or in mid-October. More information to come shortly.



The Ref's Corner by Gary Danilson

Contact: gdanilson@hotmail.com

I want to mention a question that came up at our recent Tulip Tussle. A player came up to me after his non-officiated game and said that his opponent had called 2 non-volley zone (kitchen) foot faults on him during their game which resulted in his team losing both rallies. He didn't think he had foot-faulted but thought this was allowed by the rules and just wanted to check with me. What would your answer have been?

I told him that he was right in thinking that "Players may call non-volley zone and service foot faults on the opponent's end of the court". This is part of rule 13.D.1.c. What he didn't understand was the rest of that rule "If there is any disagreement among players about the called foot fault, a replay shall occur". Service foot faults and non-volley zone foot faults are the only 2 faults that a player can call on an opponent but they only result in a loss of rally if the opponent agrees with the call "In the spirit of good sportsmanship, players are expected to call any type of fault on themselves as soon as the fault is committed or detected" Rule 13.D.1.a. In this case the player did not agree with the fault call so the result should have been a replay instead of loss of the rally. This is a good rule to remember.

Service foot faults and non-volley zone foot faults are the only 2 faults that a player can call on an opponent

At most tournaments I referee, someone asks me about the process of becoming a referee. There's a lot of good information on this at the USA Pickleball website [Become a Pickleball Referee or Line Judge | USA Pickleball](#) . Hopefully this year, our club will be hosting some beginning referee classes. If this would be of interest to you or if you would like to discuss the referee training process, please contact me by email. Or if you just have a rules question, please feel free to contact me. Answering your questions always keeps me on my toes.

Board & Committees

Current Board

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

Committee Chairs

Communications	Jeff Brandenburg
Competition	Jay Kiesser
Court & Grounds	Mike Thompson
Membership	JuLee Rudolf
Outreach & Educ.	Kay Quall
Recreational Play	Mark Dixon (Interim)
Social	Heather Carrigg

Other

Newsletter Editor	Mark Dixon
Volunteer Recruiter	Sam LeBrun
Website	www.SVPball.com
Pickleball Central 5%	CRSkagit
Club Rewards Code	

Volunteers Needed

We can always use more help to run our club. Currently we can use help in these areas:

Website Content and Design
Newsletter Editor
Recreational Play Chair

Please contact any board member if you would like more information.

Announcements

Hillcrest Park Hosted Drop-in Play

Hosted Drop-in Play will commence at Hillcrest Park starting on June 2nd. As in past years, Hosted Drop-in will be on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9-11am. Butch Holmberg has graciously agreed to be a host, and we hope others will also volunteer. If the weather is nice, we often have 40-50 players show up for Drop-in play. When the courts are busy, the current player rotation system will be implemented using the white paddle holders. Attending Drop-in is a great way to play with members of various levels, meet new people, and share our wonderful sport in a social setting.

Blackburn Pavilion Lost & Found

As many of you know, we collected a large amount of clothing and personal belongings at the Pavilion over the winter and early spring months. So much of it was put into our storage box that it was hard to access the court maintenance tools. The college is now collecting lost items from the Pavilion and storing them with their own lost and found at the SVC gymnasium. Please do not put any lost and found items in our storage box unless you are sure that the item(s) belong to a member and you notify them that their stuff is in the box.