

# The COURT REPORTER



## *Pavilion Player Rotation System*

The SVP board is in the process of implementing the new “Whiteboard” player rotation system at the Blackburn Pickleball Pavilion. This is in response to the petition that the board received requesting a more equitable rotation system. We are currently requesting members to volunteer as “court hosts” to help facilitate the transition to the new system. Once our court hosts are trained and ready to go, we will install the Whiteboard and commence with the new system. It is important to note that the Whiteboard only comes into play when all courts at the Pavilion are in use and players are waiting. When less than 10 groups are present, the Whiteboard is not used and you can play as many games in a row as you’d like. We will send out a detailed email with all of the Whiteboard guidelines several days prior to starting the new system so that everyone has the same information. Until then, please continue to use the old system of rotating out when a group of paddles are on the paddle rack of the court that you are using.

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### Upcoming Events

*On PlayTime Scheduler:*  
 - Skills Clinics  
 - Fall League Sign-ups

#### September

*Drop-in @ Hillcrest M/W/F 9-11*  
 9 *Women’s Partner Challenges*  
 10 *Men’s Partner Challenges*  
 11 *Leagues start*  
 17 *Mixed Partner Challenges*

#### October

*5-8th Harvest Tournament*

## **2023 Harvest Tournament**

Following the great success of the Tulip Tussle Tournament, we are looking forward to our Fall Harvest Tournament on October 5-8th. See page 5 for more information.

# President's Message

By Larry Otos

Contact: [theotosgroup@comcast.net](mailto:theotosgroup@comcast.net)

SVP Members,

I hope everyone has been able to enjoy the great weather we have had this summer. Although a bit hot, we have had wonderful playing temperatures in the morning and early evening. Now that the weather is changing, there will be more use of the Blackburn Pickleball Pavilion. SVP will be implementing a "Whiteboard" system that will allow players to rotate on and off the courts fairly. Please keep in mind that when the "Whiteboard" is in use, all groups play one game and rotate off. If everyone cooperates the wait time will be minimal. We hope to have a number of volunteer court hosts to help with the transition.

SVP is always looking for volunteers to help support our club. We have court hosts, Communications Committee chair, Recreational Play chair, and Newsletter Editor positions that need to be filled. If you have time and would like to be involved, please reach out to me and we will get you plugged in. There is a lot of great energy within our membership and we would like to tap into that by having more of our members guide the future direction of SVP.

## Member Opinion

So how do you know if your "self rating" on PlayTime Scheduler is correct? If you play with a group of players that self-rate at a particular level and you lose almost EVERY match, then you are probably not quite at that level. When this happens, it takes some of the fun from the game from everyone. Many players agree that winning isn't everything and I agree; I play for the exercise and for the social aspects and hardly play in tournaments because those people REALLY want to win. Pickleball club members are kind and generous so they rarely, if ever, confront the overrated player. Instead, players often use complicated strategies to not play with over-rated players. One result is that players rate themselves higher, not necessarily because they deserve it, but to avoid playing with substantially weaker and over-rated players. Another strategy is to use the "invite only" option, inviting only those players that demonstrate the skills to play at

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# Recreational Play Committee

By Mark Dixon

Contact: RecPlay.svpball@gmail.com

## Fall Leagues

SVP will begin leagues for club members starting the week of September 11th. Leagues are organized by skill level and are open to both women and men (except 4.0+ Women's League). There is no cost to play in SVP leagues. Sign up using [PlayTime Scheduler.com](http://PlayTimeScheduler.com). Each league will show up on PTS on the starting date as listed below. Sign up is on a first come basis and must be completed by 7pm on September 9th. 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. The specific details of each league are listed in the note on PTS for that league. 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.

<b>2.5/2.75/3.0</b>	Tuesday Afternoon League 1pm	starts on 9/12; ends on 10/17
<b>2.75/3.0/3.25</b>	Thursday Evening League 6pm	starts 9/14, ends on 10/26 (no league 10/5)
<b>3.0/3.25</b>	Tuesday Noon League 11am	starts 9/12, ends on 10/17
<b>3.5/3.75</b>	Tuesday Evening League 6pm	starts 9/12, ends on 11/7 (no league on 10/31)
<b>3.5/3.75/4.0</b>	Monday Afternoon League 1pm	starts 9/11, ends on 11/6 (no league on 10/9)
<b>4.0+</b>	Monday Evening League 6pm	starts 9/11, ends on 11/6 (no league on 10/9)
<b>4.0+ Women</b>	Wednesday Evening League 6pm	starts 9/13, ends on 11/6 (no league on 10/4)

## Partner Challenges

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



# Recreational Play Committee (continued)

else on PTS. Follow the instructions in the event note on PTS to add your partner as a guest. The September Partner Challenges are as follows:

**Sat 9/9** 1pm Women's 3.0/3.25

**Sat 9/9** 3:30pm Women's 3.5/3.75

**Sun 9/10** 1pm Men's 3.5/3.75

**Sun 9/10** 3:30pm Men's 4.0+

**Sat 9/16** 1pm Women's 2.5/2.75

**Sun 9/17** 1pm Mixed 3.5/3.75

**Sun 9/17** 3:30pm Mixed 4.0+

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

## Club Tournament Photos



**Mixed 3.5/3.75:**

Sam & Stacy Carlos & Maddy Teri & Todd



**Senior Mixed 3.5/3.75:**

Fred & Lainey Tod & Barb Joani & Bob



**Mixed 4.0+:**

Michael & Dani Tony & Laura Aimee & Jay



**Senior Mixed 3.0/3.25:**

Keith & Marilyn Nick & Letty Ron & Bobbette

# Competition Committee by Jay Kiesser

Contact: [jkiesser@comcast.net](mailto:jkiesser@comcast.net)

## Club Tournament

In August, we held our annual Member's only club tournament at the Blackburn Pavilion, exclusively hosted for our Skagit Valley Pickleball members. With over 100 members participating, there was fierce competition and many matches going down to the wire. Going forward, we are looking towards hosting multiple member's-only tournaments as a member benefit to provide a no-cost tournament experience. Thank you to all of our members for participating in this year's tournament!

## 2023 Harvest Tournament

This October we will be hosting our annual Harvest tournament exclusively at Blackburn Pavilion. This open tournament will be hosted over 4 days, October 5th through October 8th. We are looking forward to players coming from all over the Pacific Northwest to compete for the medals and to meet new pickleball friends. The format will be round robin with playoff rounds. There are many age and skill level divisions, so everyone from novices to 5.0 players have the opportunity to compete with others at their level. Registration is at [www.pickleballbrackets.com](http://www.pickleballbrackets.com) (search on "Harvest").



This year, we will be hosting 8 Special Olympics teams to be a part of our Harvest Tournament on Thursday, October 5th. They have been practicing over the last few weeks and will showcase their skills at the tournament!

We will soon send out a sign-up email requesting volunteers to help us in running the tournament. Thank you to our members for helping make this a wonderful event!



# Competition Committee (continued)



## Men's 3.5/3.75:

Sam & Derek

Greg & Joel

Tom & Lemuel

## Men's 4.0:

Michael & Dustin

Sam & Tony

Paul & Grant



## Women's 3.0/3.25:

Kris & Vicki

Kar & Jill

Debbie & Barbara

## Women's 3.5/3.75:

E & Kathy

Kathee & Mel

Joani & Cindy



## Board & Committees

### Current Board

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

### Committee Chairs

<b>Communications</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Competition</b>	Jay Kiesser
<b>Court &amp; Grounds</b>	Mike Thompson
<b>Outreach &amp; Educ.</b>	Kay Quall
<b>Recreational Play</b>	Mark Dixon (Interim)
<b>Social</b>	Heather Carrigg

### Other

<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Mark Dixon
<b>Membership</b>	Sara Rylaarsdam
<b>Volunteer Recruiter</b>	Sam LeBrun
<b>Website</b>	www.SVPball.com
<b>Pickleball Central 5%</b>	CRSkagit
<b>Club Rewards Code</b>	



## Announcements

### **Volunteers Needed**

Currently we can use help in these areas:

- Communications Committee Chair**
- Website Content and Design**
- Newsletter Editor**
- Recreational Play Chair**

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

### **Member Opinion (continued)**

a certain level. Lastly, there is the "Block Individual Players" on PlayTime. While all three of these "avoidance" methods work to some degree, they create other issues. Instead, I would like to see members who are generally the least skilled player in a round robin of like rated players be honest and reduce their rating by .25. No one likes to be the worst in a group but we're all getting older and some of us age differently than others. Just because you were a hotshot 4.0 four years ago doesn't mean that rating lasts forever. Age, accidents, and health issues take their toll on all of us. Join others with a somewhat lower rating - you'll have more fun and so will everyone else.

*Name Withheld By Request*