

The **COURT REPORTER**

JULY 2023



Family Picnic on July 9th

SVP will be holding a club family picnic at Hillcrest Park in Mount Vernon on Sunday, July 9th, from noon until 4pm. We have rented the Gazebo, which is just SW of the pickleball courts. We have also rented the pickleball courts from 12:30 until 3:30pm. The club will be providing hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and water. Family members are welcome! RSVP is requested (copy and paste this URL into your web browser - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DACAD28AAAFACF8-skagit>)

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Upcoming Events

On PlayTime Scheduler:

- Skills Clinics
- 1 on 1 lessons

July

Drop-in @ Hillcrest M/W/F 9-11

7 - Club Tourney Registration

9 - Club Family Picnic

17 - Pro Clinics

August

5-6 Club Tournament

Annual Meeting Review

The 2023 Annual Membership meeting was held on June 15th with just over 100 members attending. The attendees voted to approve the revised by-laws, which contain numerous important updates, including changing the board year to a calendar year basis, allowing the board to cap membership and to pay stipends to non-board volunteers, adding two new committees, and adding or updating language in numerous articles.

The board also presented the concepts for a new player rotation system at the Blackburn Pavilion. As many of you know, the board received a petition with 87 member signatures asking us to replace the current system with

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President's Message By Larry Otos

Contact: theotosgroup@comcast.net

Pickleball is a great way to meet people. I have been able to meet so many wonderful people playing pickleball. As many of you heard at the annual meeting, we have exceeded the 800 member mark. Our officers and committee members are working (volunteering) every day to make this club functional and sustainable.

A couple of "Shout Outs" must go to our outgoing committee chairs— Jeff Brandenburg (Communications) and JuLee Rudolf (Membership). These two individuals have worked over the last few years keeping our website and membership functioning. And with the influx of members over the last 18 months, it has not been an easy task. I want to publicly thank them for their work on behalf of the club. Thank you!

I'd also like to thank Janet Moore for procuring the used pickleball recycling bins and sending the collected balls to the recycler. Thanks Janet!

You will find additional details for some of these items in this newsletter but I wanted to give you a brief rundown on what we are working on:

- Club picnic at Hillcrest Park on July 9th, Noon to 4 pm. Don't forget to RSVP!
- Player rotation system for Blackburn Pavilion. Working with SVC to get approval.
- Getting authorization to install bike racks at Blackburn Pavilion.
- Negotiating a third iteration of the operating agreement with SVC and SVCF.
- Getting insurance for our club and possibly member coverage.
- Coordinating the Club Tournament in August and Harvest Festival Tournament in October.
- Enhancing our New Member Registration process and website utility and presentation.
- Setting up a sub-committee to look at different membership categories to offer next year.

These are just a few of the short term projects our team is working on.

We have been in discussions with member Sam LeBrun to coordinate our volunteer recruitment for a number of positions. We are looking for all levels of volunteers, so please consider volunteering your time and expertise.

Hope to see you on the courts soon. Enjoy the summer! Cheers.

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 7/8 1pm Men's 3.5-3.75

Sun 7/18 3pm Men's 4.0+

Sat 7/15 1pm Mixed 3.0-3.25

Sun 7/16 3pm Mixed 4.0+

Sun 7/16 1pm Mixed 3.5-3.75

Sat 7/22 3pm Women's 3.0-3.25

Sat 7/22 1pm Women's 2.5-2.75

Sun 7/23 3pm Women's 4.0+

Sun 7/23 1pm Women's 3.5-3.75

Sun 7/30 1pm Mixed 7.0



Mixed Doubles 7.0 Partner Challenge Participants

Recreational Play Committee (continued)

June Partner Challenge Winners (for events that had enough members register):

Women's 3.0-3.25	Erica Kulm/Amy Guess (1st)	Heather Carrigg/LaDawn Ramsey (2nd)
Women's 3.5-3.75	Lynne Koyamatsu/E Borbe (1st)	Debra Noonan/Mel Foley (2nd)
Mixed 3.0-3.25	Letty Alvarez/Nick Gubitosi (1st)	Stacy Halbakken/Mark McCann (2nd)
Mixed 3.5-3.75	Dana Good/Khoa Nguyen (1st)	Doug Shafer/Diane O'Neill (2nd)
Mixed 7.0	Theresa Fukushima/Derek Beaman 1st	Claude Blackburn/Brynn Rindal (2nd)
Men's 3.5-3.75	Fred Peterson/Khoa Nguyen (1st)	Sam LeBrun/Thomas Hixson (2nd)



Women's 3.0 & 3.25 Partner Challenge Participants

Summer Leagues

Summer leagues will be wrapping up on July 18th. We ended up with 3 very solid leagues, with 20 players in the Monday evening advanced league, 16 players in the Tuesday noon intermediate league, and another 16 players in the Tuesday evening upper intermediate league.

Fall Leagues

We anticipate starting fall leagues in early September this year. More information to come in August.

Competition Committee by Jay Kiesser

Contact: jkiesser@comcast.net

Club Tournament

Our annual "members only" club tournament will be held on August 5th and 6th at the Blackburn Pavilion. This will be a free event for our members to compete against fellow members for bragging rights. The format will be round robin with a playoff to determine the medal winners. The brackets are listed below. Members are allowed to enter one Mixed and one Men's or Women's event. Registration will open on July 7th at 8am. Each bracket will be listed individually on Play Time Scheduler. We are using the self-ratings that you entered into Play Time Scheduler as of July 1st to determine what bracket you are allowed to play in. Both partners must fall in the same range, or play up into a higher skill level range. Example: Mickey is a 3.25 and wants to play Mixed with Minnie, who is a 3.5. They would have to enter Mixed 3.5 since Minnie's 3.5 rating is too high to play in Mixed 3.0. Or Mickey could find another female partner who has a self-rating of 3.0 or 3.25.

When signing up on Play Time Scheduler, you must click the "Add Guest" button to add your partner. Please then leave a note with your partner's first and last name along with their PTS rating. If you don't state your partner's name within 48 hours of signing up, your entry will be deleted to ensure we have enough room for the members

Saturday 8/5	Skill Level		Sunday 8/6	Skill Level
Men's 2.5	2.5 & 2.75		Mixed 3.0	3.0 & 3.25
Men's 3.0	3.0 & 3.25		Mixed 3.5	3.5 & 3.75
Men's 3.5	3.5 & 3.75		Mixed 4.0	4.0+
Men's 4.0	4.0+		60+ Mixed 3.0	3.0 & 3.25
Women's 2.5	2.5 & 2.75		60+ Mixed 3.5	3.5 & 3.75
Women's 3.0	3.0 & 3.25			
Women's 3.5	3.5 & 3.75			
Women's 4.0	4.0+			

who do have a confirmed partner. Registration closes on July 29th. Please read the note in Play Time Scheduler for the bracket(s) you are interested in and if you still have questions, please contact Jay.

2023 Harvest Tournament

Following the great success of the Tulip Tussle Tournament, we are looking forward to our Fall Harvest Tournament. We have now secured the dates: October 5-8th. Similar to last year's Harvest tournament, we will only be using the Blackburn Pavilion for matches. We will also be hiring Pickleball Is Great to run the tournament for us. We anticipate registration to open on August 1st. Due to having only ten courts available, we will have less brackets than the Tulip Tussle, so we encourage interested members to sign-up as soon as registration becomes available.

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	Open
Competition	Jay Kiesser
Court & Grounds	Mike Thompson
Membership	Sara Rylaarsdam
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	

Announcements

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.

Annual Meeting (continued)

one that is more equitable and easier to understand. The board then set up a subcommittee consisting of 3 board members and 2 petitioners. This group studied what other clubs and areas use and made a recommendation to the board (which was approved) to use a single queue system using a whiteboard to keep track of who is up next. The board is now working with Skagit Valley College to gain approval for installing the whiteboard system. We anticipate this process to take a few months. Here is a photo of one such system:

