

Court Report

The Official Newsletter of the Golf Lakes Pickleball Club

Editor: Larry Van Deventer

Edition # 34 February 2023

Website: www.GL-PC.org

President's Message

February has been a busy month with the Ladders and Tournaments. The last Tournament will be March 18th so please see Mike to sign-up. It is hard to believe that our season is almost over. I am so pleased with the turnout of players this season.

The Committee has been working on the bylaws, some minor changes have been made and you can review on the website.

Lessons have been going extremely well, we have approximately 8 people every week. The Men's Intermediate League has been also well attended. Special thanks to Janis and Kevin for helping out. This is our last week. We have purchased 4 new Paddles for lessons.

We will be going before the Board on March 9th to request a new bike rack. The new metal rack will hold 20 bikes.

Elections of Officers – we have three openings on the Committee for next year; President, Treasurer and Statistician. If you would like to make a difference and are interested please let Kevin know by March 7th.

I am looking for help with the Pickleball Coffee Hour on Saturday, March 18th. I need 10 volunteers, contact Bill. In addition we need volunteers for the Annual Sports Mixer on March 17th, contact Janis. The Sports Mixer is a great opportunity for us to promote Pickleball in the Park.

We are looking at March 21st as our end of year Pickleball Social. Details to follow.

As many of you know that Sam Nappi will be leaving the park in a couple of weeks. He is a legend in the park with his Pickleball, biking and

golf. I always told Sammy he was one of my favorite people to play with. He would say, "No Willy you are kidding." That was one of the few times I wasn't kidding. He is an inspiration to all and will be missed. We hope to present Sammy with a Pickleball plaque before he leaves. With your generous contributions as well as purchasing a new Flag each year In Sam's name. Sam has always provided us with the Pickleball flag every season.

Bill Blake,
President



GLPC – Board Members & Sub-Committees for 2022 / 2023

President	Bill Blake
Vice-President	Janis Hogan
Secretary	Kevin Hogan
Treasurer/Membership	Bonnie Frye
League/Tournaments	Mike Henderson
Statistician/Newsletter	Larry Van Deventer

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March Scheduled Events

March 14 – Voting closes for new Pickleball Board Members for next year. (3 year term)

March 17 – GL-Sports Mixer – Pickleball is one of the events. See Janis to signup to help that morning.

March 18 – Pickleball Club is serving during 9:00 am coffee hour at the clubhouse. (let Bill know if you can help!)

March 18 – Saturday Pickleball Tournament

March 21 – 4:00 pm pickleball final awards and picnic in Bonnie & Bill's back yards.

Thirteen (More) Tips for Better Play

1. Support your partner. Pickleball is hard. It's even harder when you're the only one on the court making all the mistakes. If this is happening to your partner, make sure you support them with encouraging words. Some common ones you hear are "You got this!" or "Nice try!" or even "Hey, that was the right idea!". It will help them to feel a bit more confident.

2. Try stacking. Stacking is where throughout a game of pickleball, each player will always stay on one side of the court. There are a few reasons for this, but the big one is when you're playing in a competitive mixed doubles game. Men have more upper body strength than women do. In order to exploit this, mixed doubles teams will "stack" the man on the left side of the court (assuming he's right-handed). This makes it to where every

shot up the middle will be met by a forehand smash by the man.

3. Remember how to keep track of the score. Everyone loves that one pickleball player that [knows the score](#) at all times. It can be confusing, which is why I wrote an entire article about it. But the general idea is that whichever player starts on the right side at the beginner of the game, will always have an even score when they're on that side.

4. Have someone count your mistakes. There's nothing more humbling than [figuring out how terrible you are at something](#). It really tests how stubborn the ego is. But can also be very enlightening. For clarification, I don't mean to count every mistake and come up with a final number, but instead count categories of mistakes and come up with those numbers. For example, you could have a serving mistake category and third shot drop categories and count how many mistakes happened in each. Or you can video yourself and review it later for reflection!

5. Remember to split step. This is another common mistake that I see beginners make. [Split stepping](#) simply means spreading out your feet and planting your stance. We do this in racket sports because it gets our entire body planted and ready for the ball. It's also very difficult hitting a ball and moving forward at the same time. Split stepping solves this problem.

6. Be patient. This is how a lot of mistakes are made in pickleball. Sometimes we want to act quickly and not think about it. But that

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can get us into trouble. For example, if you attempt to smash the ball that's too low, you'll hit it into the net. However, if you wait for it to bounce, then you'll not make that mistake. Be patient, and wait for the next opportunity that's even better than that one.

7. Don't worry about powerful serves. If you see someone ripping their serves at mach speed while your serves look more like tossing a piece of gum to a co-worker, try not to worry about it. Power plays a role in pickleball, but it's not everything. Especially for serving. You're better off focusing on serving deep than serving powerfully.

8. But do get more topspin. If you can't get more power on your serves, that's fine. But try to get more topspin. It can be just as brutal as serving with force. A topspin serve will have a steeper drop to the backcourt and will make it awkward for your opponent to return.

9. Only poach if your partner is fine with it. I [wrote a detailed article](#) about poaching and whether you should do it or not. One of the things I talk about is to only do it in recreational play if your partner is fine with it. Poaching can be extremely annoying. If your partner is just playing for fun, it could infuriate them.

10. Remember your etiquette. Pickleball isn't like golf in terms of etiquette, but it's not like the stone age either. There are certain etiquette principles in pickleball that you should be aware of. Some examples are not lobbing behind

immobile players and not getting angry on the court. [You can go here for more details.](#)

11. Take center shots as the forehand player. This is huge. One of the most important things to communicate on the court is who will take shots in the middle. Having two players attack a floater in the middle will almost always lead to disaster. To make it easy, decide on one person to take the shots in the middle. To make it even easier than that, assign the forehand player to be the one.

12. Sprint to the kitchen. Or at least get there as quickly as possible. Whoever controls the kitchen, controls the game. So once the [double bounce rule](#) as been cleared, get up there! Keep in mind that this won't always be the case as sometimes you'll hit third shot drops too high and so on. But you get the idea.

13. Don't be afraid to play defensively. So much of pickleball is about survival and letting your opponent make the mistakes. It's typically advised to play defensively in pickleball so that you're not the one making the mistakes. The longer you last on the court, the more likely it is that your opponent will make a mistake.

By: BARRETT KINCHELOE
A Part of his 101 Pickleball Tips
(And that only takes us to his 79th)



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FEBRUARY TOURNAMENT



MORNING GROUP



AFTERNOON GROUP

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WINNERS OF MORNING GROUP

First – Mike Bonham

Second – Bugs Caskey



WINNERS OF AFTERNOON GROUP

First – Joe Beffery

Second – Dave Harris

Third – Janis Hogan



First – Kevin Hogan

Second – Joel Pinker

Third – Larry Van Deventer