

In This Issue:

- Club Championships
- New Lifetime Member
- President's Message
- More New Members
- Bill Still Selling Balls
- Kitchen Line Work
- Pickle & Pastries
- Skills and Drills
- Pickleball 101 (LARP)
- WhatsApp Reminder
- DUPR Skill Ratings
- Getting Snubbed
- Upcoming Events

Club Championships

The board is planning to hold a Club Championship tournament for our members to play against fellow members (only). This double elimination tournament will give you a chance to put your skills to the test against other players at your skill level:

♦ **TVPC Doubles Championship:**

Men's & Women's Doubles: Saturday, Nov 5th

Mixed Doubles: Sunday, November 6th

Double Elimination Tournament by Skill Group

Entry Fee: \$20 / Team / Event

Start recruiting your partner now and registrations will open on the website soon ...

New Platinum (Lifetime) Member

Becky Ann Hughes recently became our third Platinum Member. She lives in Pleasanton and we are very thankful for her generous support. Please welcome her and all of our other new members when you see them.

President's Message

A warm hello and happy summer to everybody. Many of you have been missing from the courts and we miss you. I mean really, go on vacation and spend your summer away from the courts? You are sorely missed but the good news is that we continue to grow the membership and there are lots of new faces on the courts every day. Last night we surpassed the 200+ Member mark. That's correct, over 200 people have signed up to become a member of the TVPC. All of you make up a remarkable, fun and exciting group of people. Lots of diversity, talent, knowledge, wisdom and skills; and sometimes those traits show up on the courts lol.



As we continue to grow in membership, please take time out to greet the newest members to the club. It makes no difference if that person is a newbie or an experienced player. All of us are here to have fun, share some laughs, exercise, and to make new friends. After all, we are a "social" club in the eyes of the IRS. In addition, I think its important that everyone attempt to mix in a game or two with a lesser skilled player. We don't have the court capacity to designate courts by skill levels and it's inevitable that you may find yourself in a rotation that might not be up to your standards. What better way to introduce yourself and impart some of that pickleball knowledge? Just make sure that new player is open to suggestion and don't give them your bad habits either. (Wink-wink)

The TVPC Board has been very busy coordinating events and trying to bring you some fun activities. Please sign up for these events as soon as you see them appear. Some events fill up rather quickly and we hate to put anyone on a waitlist.

The 1st Annual Harvest Crush Tournament is right around the corner. October 8th-9th promises to bring some quality pickleball to the Tri-Valley and we encourage everyone to participate. Tournament play is a lot of fun, and it challenges you to sharpen your skills much more than recreational play. Many of our club members have done exceptionally well in past tournaments and we would like to see the TVPC well represented. The skill levels start at 2.5 so if you're tournament curious, this event is right up your alley.

Have a great remainder of the summer, be safe, health and play on,

— Kirby Wong

President's Message Amendment - To the Entire Club Membership:

On Saturday, Aug 6th, someone or something, posted an offensive and disrespectful pornographic image to our WhatsApp Beg/Int page. We sincerely apologize for this transgression and by the time you read this, the problem will have been dealt with and we will have moved on. We take immense pride in attempting to provide a safe a friendly way for all our members to communicate in a comfortable and non-threatening environment. The TVPC Board does not condone this type of activity and rest assured that if a Club member had been the responsible party, they would face expulsion without hesitation. This image came from an outside source from an Indonesian specific dialing code.



More New Members

Silver Level Members:

◇ Claudia Del Rosso ◇ Willy Lam

Bronze Level Members:

◇ Roland Chan	◇ Amanda Lillywhite	◇ Rich Ruhlen
◇ Farel Combs	◇ Venkat Mannana	◇ Kathy Scarbrough
◇ Dorothy Costa	◇ Judy Matthew	◇ Denise Shiffman
◇ Brandon Cordtz	◇ Barbara Mckewon	◇ Joanne Silva
◇ Ada Cowan	◇ Chris Orrey	◇ George Silva
◇ Wanda Dishman	◇ Bonnie Pastrnak	◇ Sunny Smits
◇ Patti Grantham	◇ Diane Rasch	◇ Katheleen Tereo
◇ Hal Keiner	◇ Joanne Revelli	◇ Michael Tereo
◇ Jerrilynn Krebs	◇ Tracie Rohm	◇ Lauren Zeid

Bill the Ball Dude is Still Selling Balls

Bill Benett Continues to Provide Balls to Members:

Besides volunteering at many of our events, Bill and his wife Linda continue to provide additional generosity by purchasing cases of '11 to Win' pickleballs at a volume discount, and then letting our members buy them in smaller quantities of 3 balls for \$10. Bill's time, effort and all proceeds all benefit the club. [Order Here](#)

Pay by Cash, Check, or Venmo (@TriValleyPickleballClub, Code: 8657)

When using Venmo with TVPC: Please DO NOT select the Purchase Protection



venmo

Kitchen Line Work (Written by Rich Hume)

As you get better at pickleball, you will be spending more time at the kitchen line.

There are a couple of techniques that become more important as this happens. The first is the need to dink more and to block more. There are important techniques for both of these shots. Let's explore them.

The dink is fairly straightforward and easily learned by trial and error. But there is a crucial component to all dinks. As you move your paddle into position to hit a ball, you need to continue that movement and give the ball a modest pop. Obviously you don't want to hit the ball too hard, too high, too low, okay, okay, you want to hit it just right. But you still need to hit it regardless of whether the dink is a short one that just clears the net, or a longer shot that heads cross court.

If you watch the pros, they glide smoothly into position and then there is always a bit of late hit in the stroke movement to give the ball its final pop. Short shots are more vertical and the longer, cross court shots, are more lateral. Your paddle should follow the expected trajectory. **Expert Tip:** if you want to change the direction of the dink, do it at the last moment with a change in wrist angle. This is not a flip of the wrist, but a movement to alter the wrist position and then the direction of the ball. Flipping the paddle, common with racquetball players, is not recommended as it's more difficult to control (I'm not saying you can't do it, it's just more of a challenge).

Let's think about blocks next. If you are getting to the kitchen line frequently, you are going to defend against drives from the opponents. This typically takes place as the serving side hits the third shot. The ball is coming quickly and it has to be pretty close to net height. If it's chest high (and coming fast), let it fly!

The block is a passive shot in that you don't want to increase the speed of the ball, you want to present your paddle to the ball and then not do too much with it. Let the ball hit and go back over the net. You don't need to push the paddle and you don't want to swing at the ball. **Let it hit**, have a reasonably firm grip, but wrist and arm should be relaxed. You want to absorb the speed of the ball. If you do it well, you can block the ball into the opponents' kitchen. Being a bit firmer and you can block all the way back to the baseline. But it's usually more effective to block it back short.

The frequent error with a block is to hit it into the net. A lot of drives have some top spin or cut spin on them and as mentioned can be net height or lower if it has top spin. To block properly you often have to present the paddle angled a bit towards the sky. This is common for many pickleball shots and you probably do it automatically if you've been playing for a while. The block shot is no different.

So we have two useful technical items this newsletter, the late pop with a dink and the soft block. As you play better they will become more useful to you. Try them!

— Rich Hume enjoys thinking about playing great pickleball

Pickle and Pastries Social

In mid-July, we held our second social event and had a sellout crowd of 32 people participating in a 'King of the Hill' competition. All 8 courts were in use for this event, and good times were had by all.

Many thanks to our great volunteers who helped out: **Fred Quarterman, Mike Montin, Mary Keller, Doreen Rosengarth, Christine Holsen, Diane Shord, and Roger Lee**



Skills / Drills Event

In early August, we held our second Skills and Drills event and introduced several drilling techniques and the game of Dinkles to over 24 members who worked and developed new skills to improve their game. We hope these events are the beginning of a new culture of drilling on a regular basis to hone new skills and improve our games.

Special thanks to our many volunteers who helped out: **Fred Quarterman, Jason Chan, and Diane Schord**



Pickleball 101 (Session 2)

As part of our relationship with LARPD, we host several introductory classes for people who sign up through the LARPD Summer Program Guide. These classes are very similar to our own Intro to Pickleball clinics. Our second Pickleball 101 class was held on July 30th at May Nissen Park in Livermore and we taught 24+ people the basics of scoring, serving, volleying, dinking, and ground strokes. Four more events are already on the Fall Activities Guide of LARPD for Sept - Dec.

Shout outs to the following for their time, equipment and effort that made this event such a great success: **Rich Hume, Christine Fred and Dan Ramirez**



WhatsApp Reminder

In an effort to keep the WhatsApp information timely and pertinent, please remember to use these chat groups for their intended purpose only:

- **TVPC Announcements:** Club information provided by our Board Members
- **TVPC Beginner / Intermediate:** Used for time and location of play
- **TVPC Intermediate / Advanced:** Used for time and location of play
- **Livermore Downs:** Member announcements, Questions, Tournament results, Social posts, Lost and found, Interesting articles, Other great stuff ...

Your Board Members:

President: Kirby Wong
Secretary: Lori Dorsey

VP: Robert Beanland
Merch & PR: Larry Bird

Treasurer: Paula Orrell
info@trivalleypickleballclub.com

Establish Your DUPR Skill Rating

DUPR is a skill rating system that we believe will be very beneficial for our club to help ensure a level playing field for tournaments and social events. There is no cost for you to sign up or for the club to use the system. What is unique for this rating system, is that you can enter any competitive or recreational matches in which you play. Whether it is your matches at the Downs, or May Nissen, or the Recreation Center, any and all of these entries will help establish your rating. Here is the [link](#) to sign up and we encourage you to check it out.

Thanks to Karl Smith for this suggestion.

Being Snubbed on the Courts (By Larry Bird)

I'd like to start off by thanking everyone for their support after my knee surgery. As I visited the courts during my recovery, I heard from a few members who were upset because they thought some of the more advanced players refused to play with them. They thought it was because they weren't at their level and this left them with a feeling of being unwelcomed.

This bothered me, as I know our board does not condone any member being rude to another. That's not what our club is all about. We're a social club that strives to enhance the game of pickleball for all of our members, regardless of their skill level.

After discussions with our board, several realizations arose. First, we recognized that there are members who only have a limited time to play, either before or after work, and want to play with others at their skill level. There are also players who are getting ready for tournaments, and prefer to play with their partners. Finally, there are a few members who will only play with others at their level.

As you can see, this is a complex issue and as a club, we can not dictate who has to play with whom. That wouldn't be fair to anyone. What we can advise, is that we all realize we were all new once, and if it wasn't for higher skilled players working with us, we wouldn't have been welcomed and improved to the next level.

In conclusion, we want to remind everyone to be respectful, kind, and open to newer players, or members who are at a level below yours. The Tri-Valley Pickleball Club will only be successful if we all work together to bring out the best in all of us.

Upcoming Events

Social Events ([Register](#))

- Stay tuned for more events which are in the planning stages ...

Player Development

Introduction to Pickleball: Saturday Sep 17th and Oct 15th ([Register](#))

- Limit of 20 people per session, held at May Nissen Park, 9 - 11 AM
- Tell any friends, family or co-workers who are interested in learning the basics
- Open to Members and Non-Members, Limit of 2 sessions per person

Pickleball 101: Sep 24th ([Reg](#)), Oct 29th ([Reg](#)), Nov 12th ([Reg](#)), Dec 10th ([Reg](#))

- Introduction to Pickleball through LARPD, held at May Nissen Park, 9 - 11 AM
- See LARPD summer events catalog under 'Adult Sports and Fitness'

Tournaments

Tri-Valley Harvest Crush Tournament: ([Register](#))

- Mens & Womens Doubles Oct 8th, Mixed Doubles Oct 9th
- Open to Members and Non-Members
- To be held at May Nissen Park in Livermore

Tri-Valley Pickleball Club Doubles Championship

- Men's & Women's Doubles: November 5th, 2022
- Mixed Doubles: November 6th, 2022
- Double Elimination Format with Skill Groups (2.5 - 4.0)
- Open to Members Only - Registration coming soon
- Entry Fee: \$20 / Team - To be held at May Nissen Park in Livermore

