

## **February 2021 PickleBlast**

### **What's in this PickleBlast?**

Committee / Work Area Reports 02-11-2021 Board Meeting

Board Meeting Update - 02-11-2021

GVR Update

2021 GVR Board of Directors Election

Nominations for Club Board Positions

New Members (December 2020 through February 2021)

New Ratings

Ratings Workgroup

Policy Manual

Website

Wellness / Outreach

Connect on Facebook

Nametags

Observations

### **Committee / Work Area Reports 02-11-2021 Board Meeting**

[Click here](#) to access agenda and committee / work area reports and meeting minutes.

### **Board Meeting Update - 02-11-2021**

Discussion items:

- Discussion from the prior month was heard about hitting walls and their cost. Additional research into other sources such as fabrication with help from club members who have that expertise.

### **GVR Update**

Scott Somers, GVR's new CEO, came out to the Kent J. Blumenthal Pickleball Complex for a meeting and to tour the facility. We discussed his transition back to his home state of Arizona, items relating to the facility including the shade structure reimbursement request, and issues remaining relating to COVID-19 restrictions specifically water fountains and ice machines remaining off when Pima County has always allowed the use of touchless dispensers. He indicated he is meeting with lots of folks getting oriented to various situations, groups, and needs and would respond as quickly as he could on each. The next day the water fountains and ice machines were reactivated at both the EC and KJB PBC. We are grateful! With respect to the donor recognition event the club is planning, he anticipated it would probably be the fall of 2021 before such a gathering would be possible given the current COVID-19 restrictions.

### **2021 GVR Board of Directors Election**

The GVR Pickleball Club Board of Directors has reached unanimous consent to encourage club members to participate in the 2021 Annual Election for the GVR Board of Directors. [Click here to review the candidates' bios and video interviews.](#)

Listed below is information showing independent candidates and those supported by local groups:

Independent candidates: Chuck Soukup, Eric Sullwold and David Valdez

Friends of GVR supports: Ted Boyett, Nina Campfield and Connie Griffin

GVR4us supports: Gary Austin, Carol Crothers, Marge Garneau and Bart Hillyer

### **Message sent from GVR on 02/19/2021:**

#### GVR 2021 Election Timeline

- Notices of the annual meeting and electronic voting instructions will be mailed via USPS (as mandated by GVR Bylaws) today and tomorrow. Included in the mailing are instructions for those who wish to request a paper ballot. Members who have registered their email address with the membership department will also receive an email with voting information and instructions.
- VOTING to fill four seats on the board will occur from February 19 to March 26, 2021
- On Thursday, February 25, 2021, 10:00am-Noon there will be a candidate Q&A forum via Zoom. Please submit your questions in advance to [hotline@gvrec.org](mailto:hotline@gvrec.org). Please include in the subject line: "Candidate Forum Question." On the day of the forum, find the Zoom link [HERE](#).
- Friday, March 5, 2021 4pm (MST) is the deadline to request paper ballots
- On Thursday, March 18, 2021, 2pm, there will be an in-person candidate forum at Santa Rita Springs on the Fiesta Deck – properly-worn, intact masks required
- Friday, March 26, 2021 4pm (MST) is the voting deadline for both paper and electronic ballots
- On March 31, 2021 9am (MST) via Zoom – During the Annual Meeting of the Corporation, election results will be announced

All member households that paid dues or submitted an application to the Member Assistance Program by 8pm on January 31, 2021, are eligible to vote in this year's election.

Please direct inquiries about ballots or other matters related to the election to [gvrmail@gvrec.org](mailto:gvrmail@gvrec.org).

Click [HERE](#) to learn about the 2021 candidates.

#### **Nominations for Club Board Positions**

Remember to consider yourself or nominate another member for one of the open positions which the club will vote on at our Annual Meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2021 at Desert Hills Auditorium. Nominations can be sent to anyone on the committee listed below. They need to be received by Monday, March 1, 2021.

<p>The 2021 vote will be for a two (2) year term for the following offices (April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023).</p>	<p>Vice President Treasurer Member at Large Member at Large</p>
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You may nominate more than one person to serve on the board, but you MUST BE SPECIFIC to which office you are nominating each person, or it will NOT be a valid nomination. Please contact the person you want to nominate, to be sure they will accept a nomination. You may also self nominate. However, it must be for a SPECIFIC position or it will NOT be valid. All valid nominations will be acknowledged by email. There will not be any nominations accepted from the floor during the annual meeting in March.

<p>Please submit your nominations by email to one of the following Nomination Committee members:</p>	<p>Becky Lupo: <a href="mailto:blupomx@gmail.com">blupomx@gmail.com</a> Jim Maxwell: <a href="mailto:jjlmaxwell@aol.com">jjlmaxwell@aol.com</a> Dianna Michels: <a href="mailto:dimichels272@gmail.com">dimichels272@gmail.com</a></p>
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**New Members (December 2020 through February 2021)**

Alice Adams, Cathy Baker, Tim Baker, Kathleen Barron, Carrie Bashaw, Marsha Beck, Philip Benton, Teresa Blattner, Richard Blumberg, Jody Bost, Thomas Britton, Becky Charboneau, Sandy Cooney, Tim Cooney, Peter Dedych, Charles Egender, Angela Elgee, John Elgee, Michael Goodknecht, Lisa Graham, Paul Hackbert, Joyce Hackbert, Sharon Hayes, Francis Herbes, Anna Herbes, Richard Holzwarth, Jeffrey Horton, Royce Jacob, William Jenkins, Harry Johnson, Joy Johnson, Vicki Johnston, Scott Johnston, Mary Keil, Terry Kelly, Jay Kenton, Edward Kirchoff, Allen Klus, Jane Korsberg, Linda Kruse, Robert Kuryvial, Kim LaBarre, Thomas LaBarre, Bev Lauby, Michael Lemke, Tom Lessar, DeEtta Lessar, Greg Lindahl, Steve Mann, Carol Martenson, Nancy McDonald, Carol McDowell, Robert McDowell, Gene Mertlick, Ann Montgomery, Michael Murt, Mary Ellen Nichols, Blaine Nisson, Jean Nistico, Rick Nistico, Karen O`Connor, Scott Persellin, Kristi Persellin, Roger Pollman, Leone Powers, Margaret Quinn, Tom Quinn, Steve Reynolds, Janet Reynolds, Jeff Ricciardi, Jan Schalla, Les Schalla, Harry Segal, Deborah Segal, Bernie Smyth, Rand Sortland, Timothy Sullivan, Hilda Trickey, Phil Vorwerk, Christina Vorwerk, Ray Wardlaw, Kathy Ware, Rocky Ware, Bobbi Watson, Danna Weber, Denise Wiley, Kathy Williams, L Wilson, Henry Wong

**New Ratings (December 2020)**

- 2.0 to 2.5: None
- 2.5 to 3.0: Barb Patterson, Kay Seela, Sandy Johnson, Karen Krumrine, Laura Broyles
- 3.0 to 3.5: None

## **Ratings Workgroup**

The workgroup has met weekly since the end of January 2021. At the 02/16/2021 meeting previous ratings volunteers were on hand to review and provide input on what has been developed thus far. The process has addressed concerns and complaints raised by club members as it relates to impressions of our ratings not holding up to other similarly situated clubs, subjectivity of the prior method of ratings testing which included an evaluation, and lack of emphasis of demonstration of specific skills in the most recent ratings process of obtaining a minimum of 21 points across three games. The goal is to create a reasonably objective system that aligns with the USA Pickleball and IPTPA skill rating information.

The overarching goals/philosophy for the Green Valley Recreation Pickleball Club ratings process are to provide players with a clear system to understand and opportunities to:

1. Demonstrate awareness of, ability to find, and basic understanding of the IFP/USA Pickleball Rules
2. Understand specific shots, court positioning, and strategy for requisite skill level
3. Demonstrate specific shots for requisite skill level
4. Provide players the opportunity to demonstrate execution of skills, court positioning and strategy in a game situation for requisite skill level
5. Clarify process and elements required for members requesting transfer of a rating from another organized club

The next phase of the process is to develop the system to identify and train the necessary volunteers that will be required for successful implementation of the ratings testing program. Patience of club members has been appreciated as ratings review sessions have been suspended as this work continues.

## **Policy Manual**

Also in the works will be a review of the club's Policy Manual. The goal is to improve content to definitions and clarity with respect to ratings policy, playing schedules, types of play and court allocation. The work that the Ratings Workgroup completes will inform this process and dictate the timeline.

## **Website**

Once the ratings and policy manual work is complete, an update to the club's website will begin to make sure that our information is up-to-date and navigation issues brought to the club's attention are addressed.

## Wellness / Outreach

Do you know someone who could use a pick me up or do you need to convey news about a member? Simply click on the Contact Us button at the top of our webpage <http://www.gvrpickleball.org> and select **Wellness/Outreach Committee** and complete the form.

If you want to become involved, have a suggestion, comment, or a question please use the Contact Us feature on the GVR Pickleball Club website <http://www.gvrpickleball.org>.

## Connect on Facebook!

If you have not joined our Facebook group page I encourage you to do so. Here is the link. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/252938121566884>

## Nametags

Need a club name tag or two or three or four? You know they come in some great colors. [Click here](#) to place your order...best deal in town at \$5.00! And, a very special thanks to Dean Barnes who handles this for the club.



## Observations

As we round out our club year with the GVR Pickleball Club Board election cycle arriving soon, I want to take a moment to thank EVERYONE (too many names to mention, we have wonderful volunteers!) who works so hard to make pickleball at Green Valley Recreation a great experience. And, to encourage those interested in serving to get involved. My thoughts and aspirations coming into my first year of club presidency centered on the elation realized with the building of the 24 court complex and the shifting of our attention to the building process of the club itself. This meant reviewing and

developing opportunities for people to build on their own potential as we implemented a new integrated system using Pickleball.Plus; crafting, monitoring and adjusting schedules to meet a variety of needs; developing new play opportunities including community league play and increased intra club competition opportunities with round robins and ladder leagues; recognizing and taking action as it relates to improving our ratings process; encouraging folks to take advantage of our educational and skill building opportunities; and advocating with GVR as it relates to facilities upkeep, court usage and management. Even with the cancellation of the 2020 and 2021 Southern Arizona Senior Games tournaments (we hope to host the 2021 Foundation Games in October) and several limitations and restrictions we faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic and GVR leadership challenges, there was growth in several areas for which we can be proud and move into this next year with a sense of accomplishment. One of the areas where our club has always excelled, but saw virtually no activity this past year as a result of the pandemic restrictions, is in our social events and gatherings. I know we all look forward to the time when these can be scheduled again. What we did see in this area, however, was an increase in our connecting with members about whom we learned could benefit from our Wellness / Outreach efforts that focus on those recovering from illness or injury or who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Many people have commented to me how much our club means to them and they feel like it's a family of sorts. What a wonderful testament! Again, thank you to those who have served and those who will in this upcoming year!

Carpe Dinkum!



Gina Rowsam, President  
GVR Pickleball Club