

Highlands Pickleball Association
Board Meeting Minutes
November 27,2023

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Cook at 5:00 p.m. All board members were present as well as the past president. Including the Board members and past president, 54 members were in attendance.

Agenda:

- (1). WELCOME NEW MEMBERS....Sue Faulk and Randi Littman introduced themselves, however Randi Littman had previously been introduced in a prior meeting.
- (2) TREASURER'S REPORT...Lonnie reported that the current balance as of this date was \$6,046.00. The member number as of this date is 328. Lonnie estimated that 21 previous members will not be renewing. He also announced that membership dues are being renewed in the near future.
- (3) PRESIDENT'S REPORT...The old ball machine (used in the upper courts) has to be replaced. New machine cost \$1,451.00. Mike also recommended that classes should be given on how to operate the new one...motion entered by Mike on the purchase of new ball machine, and in addition recommended classes be given on how to operate the new machine. Dave Epperson, Member at Large, seconded the motion, motion carried. Lonnie also volunteered to provide a learning tutorial for use of the new ball machine.

Mike also discussed the sand grit on the new lower courts (residual from the old tennis courts) and recommended the HPA consider buying a blower vac to help in keeping the new courts clean. This item was approved by the Board.

Tom Harris brought up the HPA's yearly donation to the HOA personnel Christmas bonus account and suggested we increase our donation from our past contribution of \$300.00 to \$500.00. This suggestion was presented to the voting board and approved.

Dave Epperson has been working with Mark Oswald, Community Manager, and Mark has decided on behalf of the HOA that everything be completed before the grand opening. As of this date, the grand opening has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 2:00. The HOA will provide refreshments and will have a couple of guest speakers. We will have a ribbon cutting ceremony and a special recognition to the HTA for making this transformation from tennis court 1 to the 4 new pickleball courts possible.

The HOA is considering a new software system for scheduling all the community's activities, excluding golf course. This system would replace our current Court Reserve system. This transition would be by mid July, 2024.

New courts are up and running!!!! Mike informed us there are "block out" dates and encouraged all members be aware as these days are closed for usage. Drill people will be able to use at least one court.

Jim Widdows asked about the new courts' numbering. These courts are numbered 5,6,7, and 8
5 and 6 are south, 7 and 8 are north. Odd courts are East, even courts are West. Southeast court is

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number 5, next to southwest court number 6; northeast corner is number 7 and northwest corner is number 8.

New Courts in the morning are OPEN PLAY. Open play is one game then a player off the court. Anyone who shows up must be allowed to play. The open play time is scheduled from 7:00 am to 11:30 am this week, anyone can play and no sign up is required.

Next week, starting 12/4, 8:30 to 10:00 mixed open play for intermediate and above; 10:00 to 11:30 intermediate and below. No registration required just show up and play. It was discussed that the paddle racks from the upper courts could be moved to the new courts or possibly try for the same method as used by the Oro Valley Community Center.

Mike also advised everyone to be aware of the HOA guest policies.

New courts' lights are available until 8:00 p.m. (lights will shut off at 8:00 p.m.). The lights are on timers. Timer is only 1 hour so players will have to change the timers to accommodate the 1-1/2 hours of play.

Electronic voting will be available for this coming election. Mike advised there are three positions available. Please submit to the Secretary if you would like to run for any of these positions.... President, Vice President and Member at Large.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SCHEDULING COMMITTEE Committee chair, Gail Epperson....The new ladder play will start Tuesday of next week, 12/5. Mixed open play will also start next week. Two categories have been established ..mixed open play-intermediate and above, 8:30-10:00; intermediate and below, 10:00-11:30.

Currently, open play is not available on Saturdays or Sundays. This committee would recommend all 7 days have time slots for open play; at least 6 days a week is their recommendation.

The new schedule doesn't start until January 15, 2024. Open play will continue thru this period.

Regarding the recent survey sent out by the Scheduling Committee; response with respect to gender base or open play, 65 out of the 114 who responded to the survey prefer to keep women's and men's as is currently. The new open play time was also given a positive response. The existing group plays were more or less agreed upon and to keep these groups "as is". The open play time was resoundingly given a thumbs up, with indications of wanting more. Time of sessions was also agreed to; to keep the sessions at the current 1.5 hours play time.

Ball machine usage...survey indicated no opinion. The current guidelines for reserving the ball machine remain in effect.

Gail informed us that the next season schedule for top 4 courts only will be out between 12/21-12/28. The preliminary schedule will be published by 1/1/24. The lottery for the next session

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will be held 1/10/24*, with the final schedule published 1/11/2024.

*it was brought to Gail's attention, that this date is conflicted at this time, as the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new courts is scheduled for this date.

Regarding Mixed Doubles 1,11 and Ill; Mixed Doubles Ill needs someone to step up and host this group for the coming season.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE Vice President, Tom Harris, provided the update, as committee chair, JoAnn Smith and co-chair, Nicolette Smith were not available to attend. Tom reported that this committee had met just prior to the Board Meeting and approved the following events and dates: New Members' Party...January 17, 2024, at 3:00; Annual Meeting ...February 17, 2024, at 5:00 pm; Farewell Party for Snowbirds, April 10, 2024; July 4th breakfast potluck; and Welcome Back Party, November 6, 2024.

COMPETITION COMMITTEE De Hamann reported for committee chair, Gary Thalman. A new ladder league will start next week and thru early January, 2024. This will be a trial period for 4 weeks or so. This type play will probably need about 40 players initially, and will be established with two categories...recreational and competition.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE Committee Chair, Scott Lebow, had no input at this time.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS...

Helen Yarmoska reminded us that the Golf Cart Holiday Parade would be held again this year in December. More info to follow.

Dave Epperson, Member at Large, reiterated that we need to put our manners back on the courts. Losing one's temper on the court is not acceptable behavior, nor is it the time or place to scold our fellow players for their mistakes. Dave also asked, that inasmuch as we now have new tubes for ball pickup, to please not slam the tube on the courts when fetching the balls. Also, please put loaner paddles and other equipment back where we found them.

Mike graciously thanked the membership for being a part of the HPA's incredible success this year and appreciation for our members stepping up and giving of their time and energy to continue our success and amazing growth.

There being no further discussions or actions, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Daphne Hetherington Secretary