

*Highlands Pickleball*  
**NEWSLETTER**

October 1, 2023

# Welcome to the First Edition of the HPA Newsletter!



## **First things first**

The point of this newsletter is to communicate whatever needs communicating about pickleball at the Highlands. Simple enough.

So what needs to be communicated right now? Here's some items, in no particular order.

The Fall schedule is out. You can find it on Court Reserve.

The new courts start construction in mid October, and should be done before the end of November.

Don't forget to check out our web page for HPA info at <https://www.highlandspickleball.com/index.html> A Leaders and Competition pages have been added in the last month, along with the new schedule and meeting minutes.

I don't know everything, so if there's any news that needs to get out, let me know or email me, Scott Lebow, at [newsletter@highlandspickleball.com](mailto:newsletter@highlandspickleball.com)

I could use some help. No one wants to read just what I have to say, and I'm too lazy to do it all.

Got some good pictures? Send those along too!

We need a better title for this pub other than "The Highlands Pickleball Association Newsletter".

There will be a valuable prize given to the member who comes up with a better title.

Hopefully, future editions of THPAN will get better. Think of this as a trial balloon.

This is a sparse first effort, so get involved, give me some ideas, and let's do better next time.

## **From The Committees**

### **Competition Committee - Completed 2023**

- Worked with Scheduling Committee on upcoming Fall Survey Questions
- Provided Information on Drop In Play at Oro Valley Community Center
- Provided Information on Local League Play with Team APPL - Arizona Pickleball Players League
- Worked with Webmaster who created our new Competition Committee page <https://www.highlandspickleball.com/competition.html>.

Next Year 2024 - Research and Develop what the Future of In House Pickleball Play would look like with Local Neighbors - Gallery, Oro Valley, Saddlebrook etc.

### **Scheduling Committee**

Although not available to produce an official post, they wanted to remind the membership that when the new courts become available, they will be rolled into Court Reserve as On-Demand availability.

Also, be on the lookout for the new HPA member survey. Your opportunity to help us understand how our members want our courts to be scheduled.

## **Literary Section**

Rome's in the news these days. Here's a few examples:

### **I Asked My Guy Friends How Often They Think About The Roman Empire**

This:

### **Men Who Think About The Roman Empire Are Basically Nazis, Journalist Claims**

And finally, this:

### **Why Rome?**

#### **Because, among other things, it's cool.**

As a casual student of Rome, I take the stance that there's no such thing as bad publicity. But I will dismiss the Nazi claim out of hand as the uninformed opinion of a pseudo-intellectual.

I've been writing about the intersection of Rome and pickleball for a couple of years now, with some side trips to, among others, the Hundred Year's War, Godzilla, Manchester City football, Dune, and the travels of Friar Thomas of Harris, Derbyshire. Side note: this list of topics is all anyone needs to realize this newsletter requires firm adult supervision. Think about providing some and sign up to help.

Anyway, the headlines above can provide so much content for these pages, but here's the lede: men's fascination with Rome can provide female pickleball players with a potential game advantage.



How so you ask? Well it's like this.

Let's say you're a women's team playing against a men's team. Things aren't going well. You're down 8-6-2, and the men are serving. So at the end of a point, maybe you could

casually say something like "what do you think about Hannibal's decision not to besiege Rome after the battle of Cannae"?

"Do you think Augustus could have become emperor without Marcus Agrippa?"

"How do you think the Antonine plague affected the Empire's long term viability"? That's plenty right there.

Not that you care about any of this, you're just looking for an edge. You've simultaneously appealed to a man's apparently inherent fascination with Rome as well as his vanity. What man isn't a slave to his own vanity?

It won't win you the game, but introducing just that little distraction could be the difference between winning 11-9 and losing 11-9.

Just think about it. You're welcome.

## Photo Section



**“Etta and Karen keeping their paddles up!”**



**“Rambo with his draft face on!”**



**“No Stress...Gail & Crew are Ready!”**



**“Happy Pickleballers!”**



**“Real Men Don’t Stretch!”**



**“There’s no such thing as too hot”**