



KEOWEE KEY PICKLEBALL CLUB WEEKLY UPDATE

President's Corner

Hi everyone:

Now that the weather is warmer, we are seeing lots of pickleball action, both fun and competitive, on our own courts as well as area courts. We had our first interclub event in early April, hosting Chickasaw Point players at Keowee Key. A little more than a week ago, Greenville held the Upstate Senior Pickleball Games with Keowee Key players taking either first or a close second in all events (check out the great pictures from this event on our website: keoweekeypickleball.org > Photos/Videos > 2016 Greenville Senior Games). We just had our Keowee Key Spring Pickleball Tournament with ladies competing at the advanced and intermediate levels- congratulations to Nancy Lenkowski and Karen Daniels- 1st and second place at the advanced level; Leslie Walker- 1st place at the intermediate level and Jean Petersen/Deneen Bell/Linda Morgan tied for 2nd place at the intermediate level. This coming week, ladies will gather again on the courts on Friday afternoon, but this time for a fun Flower Power Party and on Saturday night our very own Sam Savoca and his band will be playing at Nightclub in the Event Center- I know, I know....Nightclub isn't a pickleball event but it should be loads of fun and you are bound to see fellow picklers there so call the Club to make your reservations asap. Returning to the subject of pickleball, we look forward to the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta on Thursday, May 5th. Later in May, several Keowee Key pickleballers are traveling to Hiawassee, GA for the Georgia Mountain Spring Pickleball Classic (there's still time to sign up for this event if you are interested). And mark your calendars on June 10th for the inaugural Orange and White tennis/pickleball tournament/social.....and remember that the Elliots will be here for a pickleball exhibition on June 24 and clinics on June 25th (registration form attached).

In addition to our special events, we are seeing lots of court action during our block times. **Remember, this is the last week for our winter block time schedule. Beginning next Sunday, May 1st block times will change as follows:**

Sunday: 4- 6 PM Social Play All Levels, 4 Courts

Monday: 9-11 AM, C Players, 4 Courts

Monday: 5-7 PM, A/B Players, Courts 1&2

Tuesday: 8-10 AM, Men's Play All Levels, Courts 1&2

Tuesday: 9-11 AM, A/B Players, Courts 3 & 4

Wednesday: 9-11 AM, Facilitated and Self Directed Player Development (alternating weeks), 4 Courts

Wednesday: 4-6 PM, Ladies Play All Levels, Courts 1,2 & 4

Thursday: 9-11 AM, C Players, 4 Courts

Thursday: 5-7 PM, A/B Players, Courts 1&2

Friday: 9-11 AM, Ladies Play All Levels, Courts 1,2 & 4

Saturday: 9-11 AM, Social Play All Levels, 4 Courts

A couple of weeks ago, I included a piece about court courtesy and safety that Richard Webster received from a friend in The Villages. There were some very good safety tips in the piece but I'd like to reiterate one. 'CONSIDER BUYING AND WEARING SAFETY GLASSES'. I mention this because I was hit in the eye last week by a ball shot out of the ball machine. While I didn't experience serious injury, it could have been far worse and it is a reminder to take court safety seriously. Needless to say, I have since been wearing safety glasses when playing pickleball.

And now for this week's quiz question: You didn't see the ball clearly enough to make an 'in' or 'out' call and feel that your opponent was in a better position to make the call. You ask for your opponent's opinion but you don't have to accept that opinion (True/False). The answer and associated rule can be found on our website. keoweekypickleball.org > Club Info > USAPA Rules Quiz.

Ann

Social Scene

LADIES FLOWER POWER PARTY Apr 29th

Ladies, mark your calendars for our **Flower Power gathering – Friday, April 29th, 1-3 PM**. We encourage pickleball ladies to wear something with a "flower Motif" be creative ! Music will be provided (thank you Ann) Bring your own snack if desired and remember Rule #1 "Have Fun!!"

CINCO DE MAYO May 5th

Grab your sombreros and come join us for salsa, chips, and pickleball – **Thursday, May 5, from 6:00-9:00 PM**. (Rain date: *Seis de Mayo*.) BYOB. And snacks to share are always welcome.

Kaleen (Dixon), Dorcas (Annett) and the Social Team

Inter-racquet Event - Orange and White

You are probably wondering what this event is. Save the date of Friday, June 10, for a social with the tennis folks. We are planning an event and there will be more info to come as we finalize the details. We will need lots of pickleball players (32) to be on two teams which used to be the old Tennis Black and White (for all you tennis players), which is now the Orange and White. We will be teamed with tennis players, but we will play pickleball and they will play tennis. Orange Players will play White Players and if you and your partner win a game, your team gets a point. Points are kept for both teams in the tennis and pickleball matches and at the end of the evening one team will emerge as the winner. Since it is a social, there will be wine, beer, and food, and maybe some entertainment. So, keep this date open!

Karen (Daniels)

Competition

KEOWEE KEY SPRING PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

The Keowee Key 2016 Spring Pickleball Tournament was held on Saturday, the 23rd with excellent weather – after the courts were dried. It is clear that the level of pickleball skill is increasing in both the intermediate and advanced levels with most players now coming to the net to play their shots – dinks, slams, recovery, more dinks, lobs, and final put aways - well done all around.

In the two round format, Leslie Walker won the Intermediate group contest with 81 total points followed closely by a 3 way tie for second place with Jean Petersen, Deneen Bell, and Linda Morgan all scoring 80 points – an extremely close and exciting set of matches. This closeness in scoring (1 point) emphasizes the importance of working for every point in a match - even if you don't win the game - your total score across all 6 games can make the difference.

In the Advanced group, Nancy Lenkowski won first place with a total of 88 points (out of a possible 90) followed by second place finisher Karen Daniels with 81 total points. Ann Savoca finished in third place with 78 points followed by Tricia Phillips (of Stillwater) with 75 points.

As in most pickleball tournaments, the level of competition is high as well as the level of fun – the concentration on shots is equally matched with the laughter and camaraderie on court.

Ladies – well done.

Jon Goyert

GEORGIA MOUNTAIN SPRING PICKLEBALL CLASSIC - Friday/Saturday, May 20-21

The tournament will be played at the Towns County Pickleball Complex in beautiful Hiawassee, GA which is home to 14 designated pickleball courts. This will be an age/skill level tournament and you do not have to be a USAPA member to participate. The tournament will kick off on Thursday, May 19 with a "Meet and Greet" social from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The social will have hot and cold appetizers, cash bar and plenty of nice door prizes. There will also be clinics held on Thursday, May 19 and Sunday, May 22. These clinics are available to the public and will be taught by well qualified instructors. You do not have to play in the tournament to take advantage of these clinics. To register on-line go to pickleballspecialties.com, tournament page, find the Georgia Mountain Spring Pickleball Classic announcement and click the Register Now button. You can also mail in your registration. Mail-in registration forms must be postmarked by May 2 and on-line registration closes on May 9.

Ann (Savoca)

Player Development

Last Wednesday's Self-Directed Player Development practice saw another substantial group of eager people who worked on various aspects of their skills and strategies. The ball machine went non-stop for the entire time. People got to work on whatever was of value to them. For those who are not certain, please let people know that you would like to work on something in particular and we'll make it happen.

In an effort to link our competition efforts with Player Development, observations of the Keowee Key Spring Pickleball Tournament play provided reinforcement that what we are attempting to provide in our Player Development sessions are on target. Participants clearly demonstrated skills and strategies that provided exciting games. Fundamentals such as, consistent Serves "in", controlled ground strokes, "keep the ball in play", "down the middle" shots, keep eyes on the ball as it hits the paddle provided evidence that participants

have been practicing and improving. We will be continuing to integrate the fundamentals of the game into our Facilitator led Player Development sessions.

The next Facilitator led Player Development session is Wednesday, April 27th at 10 AM. Please sign-up for one of the 16 spots at jswalker5233d@gmail.com and let me know specifically what skills, drills and/or strategies might be of greatest value to you. We will be showcasing a new training aid for ground stroke control. There are already 5 people registered, so don't miss out.

The Elliotts will be at Keowee Key again this year on the weekend of June 24th and will conduct clinics on June 25th. As a club member, you can sign up now at a discounted rate of \$25 for a 1.5 hour clinic. Similar to last year, each clinic can accommodate 16 participants. We will open clinic registration to the entire Keowee Key community and other local clubs after April 27th for \$35 and \$45 per clinic participant, respectively. If you wish to participate, please print the attached form, fill it out and send it to Randy Kamischke along with a check for \$25 (the check should be made out to The Pickleball Club at Keowee Key).

We look forward to seeing you on the courts enjoying the game we love!

John (Walker)

[Click here to view calendar for pickleball block times and special events.](#) We encourage you to create your own schedule by going to the reservations column and reserving a court(s) up to 72 hours in advance when available.

04 24 2016