

KEOWEE KEY PICKLEBALL CLUB UPDATE

President's Corner

I would like to welcome some new Club members: **Carolyn and John Andersen, Tina Karol, Ally Thompson, Kris and Tim Tompkins, and Nancy Bolen**. Our membership is now at 229 for this year.

Please give a special thanks to **Leslie and John Walker** for organizing our Holiday Party and getting the DJ, John Mark. He was excellent - dancing with everyone and having as much fun as we did. It was great to see everyone dressed up and not all hot and sweaty in their pickleball clothing. Traditionally, we recognize a man and woman who have improved their pickleball skills during this past year. It is always a difficult decision as many people come to mind. This year, our Most Improved Players are Pam Shealy and Gary Grizard. Congratulations to you both, and keep up the good work!

Thanks also to **JJ** for organizing the Club Championship. For those of us who missed it, I heard the weather was good but the competition was better! For results, see the Competition section below.

As our year comes to an end, I want to thank the board members for the work they have done all year on the various committees. It has been a pleasure to work with such an energetic and dedicated group of people. I am excited about the new board and want to welcome them: **Nicole Andrews** will be our new vice president and will assume the presidency in 2019; **Robert Lewis** will be co-chair with **John Walker** for Player Development; **Jennifer and Jim Rowe** will be our social co-chairpersons; **Scott Lincoln** will be co-chair with **JJ** for Competition; and **Leslie Walker** will be the Pickleball Club Liaison to the Pickleball Committee.

As a reminder, don't forget to reserve the hard tennis courts for pickleball when our block times are crowded. We are trying to demonstrate the need for more courts in a few years and our use is being tracked. The nets are located in the Fitness and Racquet Center for checkout with your keys or ID. Let me know if you have any questions on how to set up the nets (which takes only a few minutes).

Karen (Daniels)

Social Scene

What a fun party with 100 of our Pickleball friends...good food, music, and Holiday touches makes for a successful event! **Jean MacGuffie** put together a slide show that was creative and entertaining.....she skillfully captures the best moments on the court!

Many thanks to **Aimee Fountain, Darla Cady, and Mary Overman** for their creativity and decorating skills with the table centerpieces. Who knew old pickleballs could be repurposed as Christmas ornaments?!

Jim and Jennifer Rowe will do a wonderful job as Social co-chairs in 2018. Please contact them if you have an idea for a social event, or would like to help in any way.

Leslie and John (Walker)

Player Development

The level of play at Keowee Key continues to improve, seemingly by leaps and bounds! Skill and strategy advancement were on display at the 12/2 Keowee Key Pickleball Club Tournament. Congratulations to all!

Upcoming opportunities:

- **Wednesdays, 12/13; 12/27** from **10:00 - 12:00** are upcoming **Self-Directed Player Development sessions**.
- The next **Facilitator led Player Development session - 12/20** from **10:00 - 12:00**. Stations will include all aspects of the game. **Please sign-up** at jswalker5233d@gmail.com to help us organize groupings in advance. **NOTE: Limited to the first 16 who sign up.**
- **Intermediate and Advanced level players "drills for skills" practice Friday mornings 9:00 - 11:00** is producing positive results.

John (Walker)

Competition

We had a great 2017 Pickleball club championship on Saturday. Just want to say thanks to all 32 participants, the weather was good and the play was even better. Also thanks to all the volunteers that helped set up nets and clean up after the matches. A very special thanks to Leslie and John Walker who helped to insure the tournament ran smoothly.

The tournament was a whist round robin played each player played 7 games with every player one game and against every player twice.

The top two players from each group played 3 additional games to determine the overall women's and men's club champion. The four finalists in the women's division were Caroline Foster, Dorcas Annett, Nicole Andrews, and Nancy Lenkowski. Nicole Andrews won silver and Nancy Lenkowski won gold.

The four finalists in the men's division were Al Fosha, Geoff Chambers, Joe Ferrara, and Jeff Williams. Joe Ferrara won silver and Jeff Williams won gold.

Thanks again for a great year and looking forward to a better 2018.

(JJ) Jim Jacobs

[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.

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