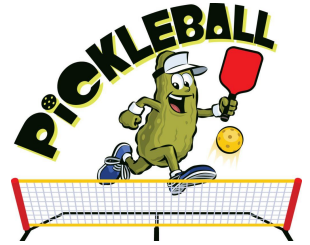




March 2023 Newsletter



In this Issue...

BCPA Elections... Clinics... Playtime Scheduler... Membership Renewals... Permanent Courts Update...Lost&Found...

Welcome New members!

BCPA has continued to grow both in membership and attendance. We are regularly seeing 20-30 players on weeknights enabling 4-5 courts being busy and 30-40+ players on weekends. If you are new to BCPA...Welcome! We hope you have a great time. If you are a veteran member...Remember to meet and greet all these new friends you have not met yet! A great strength of BCPA is that everyone tries to play with as many different players as they can. BCPA's number one rule is to keep play **Friendly and Fun!** If you are new, or it's been a while, BCPA local house rules are available at <http://burkepickleball.net/rules.html>.

President's Message

I am greatly heartened by the enthusiasm of our membership. So many players are coming out to play at our sessions that the need for improved facilities is becoming more and more evident. I am continuing to meet with the Conservancy staff regarding the conversion of the Landings into a valuable pickleball facility (see below) The Playtime Scheduler (see below) has made it so that invitees can clearly see that there will be enough players as well as keyholders attending. New players are signing up to join BCPA weekly. Those of us who have been playing for a while are pleased to share our facilities with the newcomers. We watch with excitement as the new players improve their pickleball skills every week. There is no substitute for playing, but there are things we all can do such as drills, practice, and clinics (in-person or YouTube videos). With the weather continuing to improve, and daylight savings time arriving I expect turnout at our sessions to continue to improve. If I don't remember your name when I see you on the court, I'll blame it on Old-timer's disease.


How Can I Improve My Pickleball? **Sign Up for a Beginner or Intermediate Clinic!**



BCPA is offering Beginner Clinics on **Saturdays, March 25, April 22 and May 20 at 10:30 am** at the Landings. This clinic is for players **new** to Pickleball and will cover basic rules, scoring, ball striking, and strategy. Please let us know if you have a paddle or need to borrow one for the clinic (we have several loaners).

BCPA is offering Intermediate Clinics on **Saturdays at 9:30 am** at the Landings. These clinics will cover:

- March 25 - Perfecting your Third Shot Drops, Strategies and Dinks.
- April 22 - How to Practice your Pickleball shots, ie Drills.
- May 20 - How to Defend the Attack and How to make your shots Unattackable

We now using  **SignUpGenius** [to register](#) for these clinics. Currently we are limiting clinics to eight (8) participants.

Future clinics are anticipated on a monthly basis on a TBD Saturday morning of the month.

BCPA Board News

The BCPA Board recently added two At-Large positions, Courts and Strategy. The At-Large Courts position will oversee our equipment inventory and management. The At-Large Strategy position will support the future direction of the club.

Election News

BCPA members were emailed a summary of Board position duties on March 6, along with the names of BCPA members who volunteered to perform in each of these positions. If you would like to add your name to the ballot, email burkepickleball@gmail.com by noon on March 12 and identify which position you're interested in. The final slate in the form of a ballot will be emailed to members in good standing on March 13 for the official vote.

Other Opportunities

Please remember that we are volunteer run so please consider running for a board position in this upcoming election or let us know if you would like to organize a social, or see undone tasks that you would be willing to do. This is your club. Contact any of the club officers if you want to help or need more information. They are listed at <http://burkepickleball.net/contact.html>.

Member Spotlight Did You Know, Pickleball Creates Opportunities?



Do what you love and never work a day in your life! Many of you probably know BCPA member and Burke Center Resident John Vaught who helped BCPA as Interim President after Founding President Gary Hill retired. John has continued to expand his love of Pickleball into his work life as a USPA Professional Pickleball Registry (PPR) certified pickleball coach and works part-time for [ProsToYou](#). The company is an ambassador for [Selkirk](#) so if you are looking for a great pickleball paddle or gear, feel free to find John on the court or email him at jcvaught@gmail.com.

Burke Permanent Courts Update

The Burke Conservancy is negotiating with several experienced contractors to select the design choices for improving the Landings facility and converting it into a First Class Pickleball & Tennis facility with 8 permanent lighted pickleball courts and 1 lighted tennis court. Current predictions for contracting and work beginning is late summer or early fall for the conversion of the Landings courts. This project will include improvements in the surface, permanent nets, and lighting for all the courts. Divider fences and an additional gate are in the plans as well. Installation of permanent shaded benches are desired but might have to wait. It should be a beautiful facility once its complete. When work begins BCPA plans to shift play to the Woods until the complex reopens. Although BCPA is not managing this effort the Conservancy has engaged our Board as partner/consultants in advising on the details to be included. The Board will try to keep you advised on the progress and schedule for this but please be patient.

When Does BCPA Play? Is Anyone Coming Tonight? Will I be able to Get on the Courts?

Playtime Scheduler has the answer to these questions. If you have not registered please go to the BCPA homepage and follow the instructions and links to register to use this helpful website. If you provide the email you use for that site you will



get an invitation each time BCPA plays. The site allows invited registrants to know who, and how many players expect to attend a particular play session. As soon as a minimum of four players have added their names to attendees, an additional email goes out to invitees that the session is on. Further, now that access to the courts has become more stringently dependent on key holders, participating registrants who have self-identified themselves as key holders will enable others who want to attend will be able to see that a key holder will be present. The invitations serve as a reminder of an upcoming play session and at which venue.

The bottom line is that while use of the Scheduler is not required, it is strongly recommended. The News tab on <http://burkepickleball.net/news.html> has downloadable instructions on how to register with Scheduler and become added to the invitee list, and how to use it.

(Please Note: Scheduler is not a court reservation system. To reserve courts you must be a member of Burke Conservancy and this requires TennisCall, a separate application only available to Burke Centre residents. Contact the Admin for TennisCall, currently, Jimmy Chu (jimmy@burkecentre.org) to get access. Of course, one needs a court key to play on the courts regardless. BCPA's regular play sessions have been permanently reserved by the Conservancy. If you are part of a group that wants to play at other times and want to reserve the courts for your group, TennisCall is the App for you.)

Are You Missing Your Favorite Fleece or Jacket or Water Bottle?

We find a steady stream of clothing and sometimes water bottles or even paddles on the courts after play. When found if the items are not marked, we stash them in the equipment box at whichever court they were found on. At present the Landings has a Blue and Black Checked Fleece Jacket, a Solid Blue microfiber jacket and a few other items. The Woods has a Microfiber/Fleece Black XL Lands End Jacket. (Contents may have already changed by now as folks pickup or leave articles). Please check the boxes for your missing items. Eventually we will have to dispose of these as box capacity is reached.

Get a Discount on Merchandise with Pickleball Central Club Rewards Program

BCPA's participation in [Pickleball Central's](#) Club Rewards program gives you a 5% discount and provides a donation to our "Club Fund " that can be used when we buy balls, nets, or loaner paddles for example. Ask anyone at one of the sessions for the code to get the discount and a donation from PC to our club. Please do not publish this code beyond our club as PC does not allow us to publish the code.