



Burke Centre **Pickleball** Association

## October 2023 Newsletter

### **OCTOBER TOURNAMENT: Saturday, the 14th October at the Landings**

Food will be available for purchase from Glory Days Grill from 11 am - 1 pm. We'll also have the restrooms at the Pool Clubhouse available the day of the tournament.

### **Regular Saturday play will be available on courts 1 and 2**

*We need more women to register, especially in the Mixed Doubles category.*

Play for Mixed Doubles will begin at 8 am and will wrap up around 10:30 am. Men's and Women's Doubles will begin by 10 am and conclude around 2 pm.

The **last day to sign up** for the tournament is **October 9** and you must be current in your membership fees. Use this link to [register](#).

Play will be contested in 3 categories:

- Men's Doubles
- Women's Double and
- Mixed Doubles.

Depending on enrollment, there will be up to four divisions in each category:

1. All Ages All Skill levels
2. Ages 50 and over (or 50-60 and 60 and over if there are more than 8 teams)
3. Skill level below 3.5
4. Skill level 3.5 and above (or 3.5 and 4.0 if there are more than 8 teams)

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### **President's Comments - Jon Weber**



Everyone wants to know what is happening with the Court Conversion project. I have attended several Board of Trustees (BOT) meetings, answered their questions, and tried to state our case for conversion priorities. I just received budget numbers, so we have a good idea of what is available at this time. The BOT knows that there are insufficient funds to do the whole project at once. Consequently, they want to

proceed in stages. We have proposed getting perimeter lighting as our top priority while continuing to use our portable nets. With shorter days, we will be able to play on more courts with lighting. When I know more, I will share it.

After completion of the 14 Oct Tournament, we plan to start using PCKL Elite 40 balls at the Landings. They play similarly to the Franklin X-40 balls we currently have, but reviews suggest that they are more durable as well as resisting cracking better at temperatures below 40°F.

Please review the BCPA Rules for Waiting on the [Rules](#) page, item 11 under Local Rules. There has been some confusion about our stacking method of determining next on court. If your paddle is not in the stack, you are not in line. BCPA rules also require names on the paddles so we can quickly identify who is next. The idea of the stacking is to constantly mix players of different skill levels and allow you to partner with many different members. Always keep in mind Local Rule item 1 – Keep it Friendly and Fun while playing.

If there are about four paddles in the stack when you arrive, and there are courts without nets setup, please go to our locker, get out a net, and enlist waiting players to help you set up a net on that court. We don't have permanent nets, so we must set up our portable nets. There are also usually blowers available to use to blow off the courts.

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**Fall Festival September 9-10 – You made it a success!**

The annual Burke Centre Fall Festival was the weekend after Labor Day on September 9 -10. BCPA volunteers were everywhere in our new T-shirts providing support to the games, midway, and in the BCPA booth. As you can see, we got some high-level visibility for Burke Pickleball as Congressman Connolly was one of our first visitors. Burke Centre was very short of volunteers this year so they greatly appreciated BCPA pitching in to support our community. There were some weather challenges, and it was very humid at times, but BCPA made a terrific showing and helped make this event a success. Thanks to everyone who was

able to support this effort.

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**MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS:**

Spotlight on Andy Forsyth:

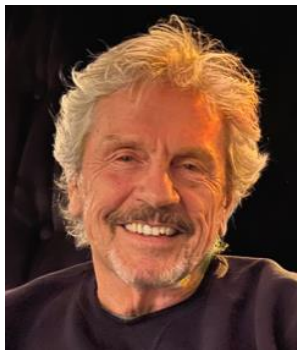


Who do you think of when you think of league play or tournaments or clinics at BCPA? Andy Forsyth has been with BCPA since 2018 and has generously donated his time to organize and teach both beginner and intermediate pickleball clinics and to organize and run competitive events like the spring and summer leagues and club tournaments. He does this as he divides his time between Virginia, his house in Florida, and visiting his grandchildren in Maryland and his father’s home in California. In his past life, Andy was a nationally ranked top 5 racquetball player and club pro in Maryland, a highly ranked state handball player, and a softball coach and player, but he has now shifted his focus to

pickleball which he pursues as he moves around the country. His pickleball accomplishments include two tournament gold medals in southern California and a silver in Naples, Florida. His enjoyment from teaching pickleball is seeing his students improve and enjoy the game even more. BCPA is grateful for what Andy does to make BCPA the premier pickleball club in our area.

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Spotlight On Constantine “Con” Milas:



Do you have one of the sought after BCPA tee-shirts? Have you seen the redesign of BCPA’s website? Did you know that the graphics design and significant consulting support was done by BCPA’s own Con Milas. Con has been an active BCPA member and supporter since 2022. Turns out that he is also a very talented graphic artist!

In Con’s words, “After expressing some mild interest in this thing called pickleball, my old friend John Simpson suggested we come and play and check it out. And that was it. I was hooked and since then I have not stopped playing except for a vacation.”

“It was a perfect transition from basketball, which was taking its physical toll, and I have not looked back since. My lovely wife is not always thrilled that I spend so much time playing, and I’ve been known to disappoint a few partners at times, but we play on.”

“I was very lucky to meet a great bunch of people at the Landings and have not regretted picking up a paddle since. Great people. Great game. And the competition is just so much fun.”

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## SUMMER LEAGUE RESULTS:

Watch our website for Summer League winners and photos. They will be posted soon.

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## Security Note! **Keep our Equipment Safe**



REMINDER: Please continue to lock up all BCPA equipment. If you are one of the final 8 players or if you are independently playing using BCPA equipment it is vital that you check with the other players before leaving and make sure everything is put away. When you open the two locks on an equipment box, as soon as the lock opens, spin all 4 dials on each lock. You can close these locks even after spinning the dials. If you lock up, spin the dials again to be sure. We haven't had any more recent security incidents reported but if you see an issue, please let one of the [Board Members](#) know.

## Playtime Scheduler and Court Access

BCPA uses Playtime Scheduler to invite members to play events and to get out quick updates on items of interest affecting our club. It works best when you use it. **Burke Centre Key Holders** are strongly encouraged to use Playtime Scheduler and sign up to arrive at (or slightly prior to) the scheduled start time. Also, the notes may include any late breaking changes or alerts about parking, location so a glance at those may prevent a surprise. We have a few regular openers but if they are not available people may wind up waiting at the gate until a key holder can arrive. Using Playtime Scheduler on a consistent basis really helps set expectations for the club. Instructions for signing up and using Scheduler can be downloaded from BCPA's [News](#) page.

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## Tennis DNA Lessons and Clinics

The Conservancy contracted company, Tennis DNA, is offering Pickleball and Tennis Lessons this Fall 2023 at the Landings in Burke Centre. Their [Signup Flyer](#) explains their offerings and costs. These classes are led by Tennis DNA's Director of Pickleball, BCPA member John Vaught, who is a PPR-certified pickleball coach.

## 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. The code to get the discount and donation is **CRBURKE** in case you have lost or never received the code. We saved a ton of \$s on our replacement nets and balls due to the credits we had built up, so please use the code if you order from Pickleball Central.