

## ABQ Pickleball Managing Council November 2016 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m at the Jerry Cline Tennis Complex.

- Introductions:
  - Two new venue coordinators were introduced: Nancy Lesicka representing Raymond Sanchez and Ken Lloyd, Jr. representing Paradise Hills CC.
  - Attendees also included Bob Ashmore, President, Joyce Montoya, Vice President, Gary Rutherford, Community Outreach, Linda Martellaro, Secretary, Ruth Madrid representing Sandia Prep, Rosalie Perea, visitor, Virgie Henderson, visitor, Albert Chavez representing Hoover Middle School, Kathy Baca, visitor, Bill Burch, visitor, Evelyn Wheeler representing Los Duranes, Staci Towery representing Manzano Mesa & Van Buren Middle School, Joe Martellaro, visitor, Jim Forgham representing Eisenhower Middle School & Sandia Prep, and Roger Marston representing Wells Park.
- Opening Comments:
  - Approval of September 13 Managing Council Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Ruth Madrid to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded and carried. Bob advised that the minutes are posted on the ABQPickleball.com web site.
  - ABQPickleball web site and Facebook page:
    - Bob encouraged VC's to update their venue schedules on Shutterfly and to also encourage members to read changes on Shutterfly. Nancy Lesika requested update access into Shutterfly in order to make changes. Gary agreed to look into this.
    - The ABQ Pickleball club homepage now has a new spot for folks new to pickleball to request training (located at the top of the page). Folks are also encouraged to look at pickleball.com with regard to training.
  - Acknowledgements:
    - Bob announced that Gary Rutherford was recognized by The New Mexico Senior Sports Foundation (SSF) for his work in promoting pickleball and awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations Gary!
  - Update on the permanent PB courts at Manzano Mesa:
    - The official groundbreaking for the Manzano Mesa permanent pickleball courts is scheduled on Wednesday, November 9th at 2:30 PM. Everyone is encouraged to attend the event. Dignitaries speaking at the event will include Mayor Berry and Councilor Don Harris. It is requested that as many members of the PB community attend as well to show appreciation to the city for providing the permanent PB courts. The courts are scheduled for completion in April 2017.
    - Joyce Montoya announced that dedicated PB courts are not only for the club, but also for the community and tournaments will be easier to facilitate.

- Nancy Lesicka suggested that the club explore the cost of portable toilets. According to Gary, preliminary coordination has been done with the Little League and one of the portable toilet rental companies.
- o 2016 membership update - 445 members.
  - The drive to add additional members is an ongoing effort.
  - As mentioned in previous meetings, VC's are the key to expanding Club membership.
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  - Raymond Sanchez CC approached Bob with a request of supplying a food basket. Each venue is also encouraged to donate food. The players in the club have provided \$125 to Cesar Chavez for Halloween activities and donates to the Roosevelt Middle School disadvantaged student fund each year. Further participation in venue holiday programs will be looked into.
- o As the APC in a non-profit organization, year-end donations to the Club will be solicited via forms on the Club web site. Receipts will be provided to those wishing to donate.
- Financial Status – Gretchen submitted the Financial Report to the MC as follows:
  - o Treasurer's Report: >\$3500 and included year-end non-profit donations. All funds contributed to the PB club go thru the NMSSF as a tax-free donation.
  - o NMSSF approved a grant for \$490 (2 nets, 3 bags and balls). The club will use any remaining funds for the purchase of additional indoor balls.
  - Tournaments – Gary Rutherford:
    - o Questionnaires are being distributed to get player input on the types of tournaments people would like to see the Club conduct. The surveys will be on-hand at each tournament and on the ABQPickleball website. Each VC is encouraged to supply the questionnaires at their venue and request comments/suggestions from recent tournaments.
    - o The October 22 training/cleanup and timed tournament at Los Altos was well received by members. Steve Paul, John Kimbrough, Robert Hennessy, Penny Forgette, and Nancy Kane were acknowledged for their training efforts.
      - Comments received were that there should be assigned courts to get players started at the appropriate level.
      - A bullhorn would have been useful along with a more accurate timer.
    - o NM Games Pickleball Tournament:
      - The September NM Games, USAPA sanctioned, at Ventana Ranch had 90 players. In contrast, the 2015 NM Games, with sanctioning not required, had approximately 126 participants. Having the tournament USAPA sanctioned requires that all players be members of the USAPA with a membership fee of \$25/year. None of the other Club tournaments require the USAPA membership.

Gary is requesting input as to whether or not the club should keep this tournament sanctioned. This will be discussed at a later time depending on the outcome of the questionnaires.

- The NM Games tournament results were posted on the USAPA Pickleball Tournament web site as well as the Club web site.
- The NM Games tournament was run utilizing software from USAPA Pickleball tournaments. It proved to be beneficial in making the tournament run smoothly.
- Upcoming tournaments:
  - State Olympics (qualifying) – April 18-22 at Ventana Ranch
  - State Olympics (rated) – July 19-23 or 26-30 at the new Manzano Mesa complex.
  - In 2019, The City of Albuquerque will host the National Senior Olympic games.
- No tournaments are scheduled for November or December of 2016. Nancy Lesicka recommended that a dink tournament be scheduled in December.
- A future tournament schedule will be forthcoming according to the survey results.
- Notes:
  - Bob advised that volunteers are still needed at all tournaments to help organize, run and referee and for other aspects of Club operations.
  - Penny Forgette did a “terrific job” heading up the referees for the NM Games.
  - Joyce Montoya advised that the tournament volunteers made our last tournament a huge success.
- Discussion Topics with Venue Coordinators:
  - Fall season:
    - Venues and play times are listed on Shutterfly
    - City Liability Forms are required to be filled out for senior affairs (50 years and above) at the schools: Los Duranes, Wells Park, and Cesar Chavez.
    - Activity fees
      - The County now requires a \$12/year fee for use of Los Vecinos, Paradise, and Raymond Sanchez.
      - The City has required a \$13 annual fee for use of their centers and is required for entry into City sponsored tournaments.
    - Each month, monthly player counts are required at each venue. Rosalie Perea and Virgie requested that forms be submitted the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. PDF or email forms will be submitted for use by the VC's. Rosalie and Virgie volunteered to continue keeping the counts next year.
    - By-laws were included in a folder given out to each VC at the September MC meeting and are available on the Club web site.
  - Election of Executive Team for 2017 in December:
    - By-laws include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Community Outreach at-large positions. The Executive Team has appointed Advisory on Policy Issues, Gopal Rao, and Communications and Website, Dale Reynolds.

- To date, the following members have expressed their desire to be considered for Executive Team for 2017: Gary Rutherford, Joyce Montoya, John Cordova, Gretchen Denman, and Penny Forgette. Personal bios for each will be distributed to the Managing Council prior to the December meeting. The nominating process is open until November 15<sup>th</sup> and those who are interested in running should contact Gopal Roa.
  - The MC's will elect the ET's at the December Managing Council Meeting.
  - As per the Club Bylaws, the Managing Council can make changes to the Executive Team and also to the Bylaws at any time. New advisory positions can also be added as needed.
- o Open Discussion:
- Jim Forgham asked why the South Valley CC or Wells Park do not show up on the USAPA website. This will be further investigated.
  - At the Los Vecinos CC, JR contributed his help in repairing nets. A thank you will go out as a courtesy.
- New Business:
- o New balls for indoor/outdoor play. Which balls should the Club use? USAPA has adopted new regulations for tournament balls. The Club is looking into purchasing the required balls for future tournaments. In the mean time, we will purchase more of the Jugs balls (much cheaper) that seem to work fine but just can't be used in USAPA sanctioned tournaments. If we do not conduct sanctioned tournaments, this will not be a problem.

Rosalie Perea requested information regarding Corrales. Bob taped their court, but they have a restricted attendance and are not interested in joining a club.

The work that Jan Morris and Sally Scott-Mullins are doing with Mission Elementary and the work that John Kimbrough is doing with the homeschoolers at Los Vecinos was acknowledged. Nancy Lesicka suggested that our outreach be posted on the website.

- o Bob gave an update on Carlos Melendez' medical condition and announced that Suzie Bemis' memorial service is scheduled on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Next Meeting:

- Location: **Jerry Cline Tennis Complex** per vote at May 2016 MC meeting
- Date for next meeting will be December 6, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Linda Martellaro, Secretary