



Why Join the USAPA...

If you are reading this newsletter, you are probably one of the many people who have become enamored with the wonderful sport of Pickleball. It has given many of us our lives back as we have gone from sedentary non-exercisers to very active individuals who enjoy the health and vitality that frequent exercise gives us. And the edge that we get as we compete – either through recreational games or tournaments.

The USAPA (www.usapa.org) and its sister organization, the IFP (International Federation of Pickleball) are largely staffed by volunteer workers and board members. Naturally, there are several things that these organizations do in order to maintain our sport and, even though the workers are volunteers, it costs money to run an organization of this size and scope. And this money comes from the dues collected from the members.

Among other tasks which require funding, the USAPA supports and constantly updates its website which is full of valuable information including hints and tips for improving your game and a list of upcoming tournaments. USAPA members can access the partner search function on the website and the members also get rating points as tournaments report the progress of its members in various tournaments.

An exceptionally important function of the USAPA is to maintain the integrity of the sport. The sport was originally intended to be a sport that could be played equally well by women, men, and younger people. It is one of the few sports where people from all walks of life can compete well with a broad spectrum of opponents. Rules such as the NonVolley Zone rules, the two-bounce rule, and the underhand service rule help to maintain this playing equality. If you follow the sport, you may have seen that between 2016 and 2017 several strict rules governing balls and paddles were enforced. Again, the rules were updated so that balls would not get too lively and paddles would not allow users to put too much spin on the ball. This product testing is expensive, yet, a very important activity undertaken by the USAPA.

Also, as you increase in your skill levels, USAPA will keep up with the success in tournaments of its members so you are able to go into the USAPA database to get an idea of how you are ranked nationally.

And you get all this for just \$25 a year. I feel this is a very small price for all the wonderful things the organization does and the exceptional integrity it maintains through all its functions. Joining is easy. Support the sport that keeps giving back to you constantly.

Why Should your Pickleball Tournament be Sanctioned?

There are two main requirements that are necessary for sanctioning a tournament: (1) The tournament director must report the results of the tournament to the USAPA so the players can gain ratings points which are used to gauge the national ranking of the individual. (2) Each match must be refereed.

The most demanding of these two requirements is the referee aspect. It is definitely a lot of work, but I have found it to be extremely rewarding in many ways. I am in charge of finding, training and scheduling referees for our Pickled Peach tournament which will be held in Athens, GA on February 10, 11 and 12. In order to train referees, I was able to find leaders throughout Georgia who have asked their local players to get trained and to help us with our tournament. I have met a number of outstanding people during this experience and I have learned a great deal more about Pickleball. And the people who have been trained have learned a lot that they did not know before getting involved at this level. I believe that this extra knowledge will help all referees to become better players. So, the task of getting referees to our tournament has been very rewarding for me personally and also for the people who have graciously volunteered their time to help us run our tournament.

There are going to be a number of tournaments in Georgia over the next months. In fact, in Griffin Georgia, Peter Phelps is spearheading a project to put in 18 Pickleball only courts. There is already a huge buzz about this project and a major regional tournament is already being planned for these courts later this year. People from as far away as Texas are already making their plans to come to this major event.

As Georgia becomes a hotbed of tournaments, referees will be needed on a regular basis. Those of us who have been trained can easily fit in and help the tournament directors with their matches.

There are also some significant financial reasons for a sanctioned tournament:

All sanctioned tournaments will automatically be given a \$3 million liability insurance policy by the USAPA to cover the tournament's activities. Most venues require this insurance and it is a significant expense if the tournament director has to purchase the policy.

Pickleball on the High Seas

On January 29th the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line - Allure of the Seas (largest cruise ship) set sail for Nassau, St. Thomas, St. Maarten and 3 sea days with a Pickleball group ready to have a great cruise and try out Pickleball. Our group of Pickleball players from Georgia - Sun City Peachtree, Peachtree City and South Carolina met up with fellow passengers that were Pickleball players from Florida (The Villages and Delray Beach) and other players from Washington State (the Seattle area). We set up three courts on a full-size sports court that was reserved for 3 sea days from 8am-11am. Once our group got out on the court it was amazing how much attention we gathered from other passengers stopping by to ask where to get a paddle to join us, taking photos

or asking what is the name of that sport.

It was also amazing to see Royal Caribbean's sports staff pick up the game so quickly and joined us in playing as we taught them. After three days of play, Royal Caribbean's Sport Manager certainly saw the popularity of the sport! We are hoping that Royal Caribbean will add this as a new ship sports activity as they don't have a sport that appeals to age 50+ passengers.

If you have interest in joining us on a future cruise with the opportunity to play Pickleball on one of these dates – 11/26-12/03/17 Oasis of the Seas, Port Canaveral; 1/21-1/28/18 or 1/28-2/04/18 Allure of the Seas, Fort Lauderdale; feel free to contact us for more info – Sharon & Greg Conrad at sharonmconrad@gmail.com or 678-478-3390.

From the Kitchen

Checkout the tournament announcements in this month's issue. We have a very active 2017 schedule. While many are happy to play pickleball at their local venue, there are always those who enjoy playing in tournaments. If you have not played in a tournament I encourage you to think about trying the experience. Most tournaments will have age/skill classes to match most players. The experience goes beyond the actual play. You have the opportunity to meet and interact with fellow players from other parts of our state, and in many of the tournaments, players from other states. It will also give you an opportunity to watch and learn from some of our top level players as they compete. Give it a try.

THE GPB

The GPB is produced for all our Georgia pickleball players to enjoy hearing about tournaments, tidbits, photos and fellow players throughout the state. The information herein is provided by readers, ambassadors & players like you.

So, talk to us.

You have news, tidbits or photos to share in our next GPB bulletin?

Simply email your text and/or jpg files to the address below.

See our submission guidelines on the last page of this bulletin. To subscribe to our bulletin, use the email below.

Feel free to forward this pdf to any of your friends.

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To submit an article, please read the submission recommendations on the last page and email it and photos to:

b3779@hotmail.com

All USAPA members who participate in a sanctioned tournament will be covered by a supplemental accident insurance policy in case the player gets injured during the course of the tournament.

There is a significant reduction in the cost of running a sanctioned tournament as the website that supports the software often used to run a tournament (www.pickleballtournaments.com) allows for a discount on the cost of the software used to register players and to schedule matches.

Sanctioning tournaments seems as if it is far and away the most advantageous way to conduct a tournament. When have you ever seen a tennis tournament without a full complement of referees? And as our sport grows in popularity, maintaining the discipline inherent in the sanctioning process will just increase the quality of play at all levels.

Blairsville Prepares for Upcoming Tourney

The gym of the First United Methodist Church of Blairsville has been very full this winter with both new and experienced Pickleball players practicing for the 2nd annual tournament.

The competition will be held in the Methodist Activity Center (MAC) from 1-5 PM on March 9th for Intermediate players, and March 16th, 1-5 PM for Novice players. Dave and Marty Evans are the organizers of the event.

Fees collected from the players will be donated to the FUMC and to the Blairsville Pickleball Club for replacement of worn equipment. The Pickleball classes held through the FUMC OASIS program has produced dozens of new players, and the BPC now has over 100 members. Visitors are encouraged to attend the tournament, at no charge. Those interested in this fast growing sport may email the BPC Ambassadors Kathi and Bud Patrick, at kathipatrick3@gmail.com



Photo: l-r, front row: Kelly Woodham, Kathy Johnson, Angie Telenko, Patty Mondl, Sheila Garrison, Alex Dezayas, Mike Mekas, Vivienne Rizmoldi. Back row: Tony Lanza, Donnie Woodham, Karen Lanza, Marty Evans, Karen Rizzo-Richards, Lenda Mangham, Dottie Honea, Nancy Gillis, Sharon Knight, Charley McKorkle, Mary Scott, Jan Flegle

Pickleball has come to Dahlonega. The beautiful mountains of North Georgia has a group that meets at Lumpkin County Parks and Recreation Tuesday and Friday from 11 a.m. until 2:00. Please come join the new, fun group.



The Play: You and your partner are playing the non-volley zone line when a slam opportunity comes to your partner and he takes it with a hard overhead. Unfortunately he loses his balance and starts to fall into the NVZ; in an attempt to save him you step in front of him and push him back. He does not step into the NVZ, but the opposing team calls a fault.

Answer: They are correct because when he made contact with his partner who was in the NVZ that was a fault. If the partner had stepped behind him and pulled him back, it would not have been a fault.

Rule 9C: "It is a fault if the player's momentum cause the player to touch anything that is touching the non-volley zone, including the player's partner". It is a fault even if the ball is declared dead before the player touches the non-volley zone."

Winning Tips from Rodney Grubbs

Solving The Down The Middle Dilemma:

Have you ever had an opponent's shot go down the middle between you and your partner, and NOBODY tried to hit it. There is nothing worse than that deer in the headlights moment when a ball goes whizzing past and each player thought his partner was all over it.

That is a cardinal sin in doubles play and it has happened to everyone.

So how do you prevent it? Communication. Simple communication. And I'm not talking about yelling "mine" or "yours" as the shot is coming towards your side of the net.

No, I'm talking about having a discussion before the match starts.

This is one point that I talk over with my partner before the first ball of the match is ever struck. Who is going to take the balls down the middle?

We decide then and there who is going to be responsible for balls coming down the middle. In most cases it will be the player whose forehand is in the middle. But it doesn't have to be. If you have a player who has a great backhand and wants to cover those middle shots, it is fine to let them. But you have to both agree. Otherwise there will be continued confusion and hesitancy on those middle shots.

If you have a left handed partner, again you and the partner need to decide who is going to be responsible to cover the middle. The player covering the middle is taking on a big responsibility and their partner is committing to trusting that they will indeed do their job of covering it. But once the decision is made, you will quickly begin to gel as a team.

And keep in mind that it doesn't have to be the same player for the whole match. Most of the time, because I have a very strong forehand, I cover the middle when I'm standing on the left side (ad) of the court, and I'll have my partner (if he's right handed and has a strong forehand) cover the middle when we switch and he's on the left side (ad) of the court.

This can be done at any level of pickleball. It is just a decision that you and your partner have to make before the match begins. Decide then, and those down the middle shots will never hurt you.

Merry Month of May Tournaments

May has become a big tournament month for Georgia pickleball players. Tournament play will start with the “Yonah Play? Spring Tournament”, in White County on May 5, 6, and 7. Play will then shift to Peach Corners and the “Get Off Your... and Play” Pickleball Tournament on May 20, and 21. A new and exciting national tournament will be hosted at the LakePoint Sports Complex in Emerson on May 22, 23, and 24. This will be the “St. Jude National Indoor Classic”, with all proceeds going to the St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

You can find more information on these tournaments in this month’s issue of the Georgia Pickleball Bulletin, or by going to pickleballtournaments.com.

Cherokee County Senior Olympics

The Cherokee County Senior Olympics will again be held on April 1st, at the Pickleball/Tennis Complex in Lake Arrowhead, Waleska, GA. This fun event has grown each year, attracting players from all over the Southeast. Several years ago we even had players from Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

We will use a round robin changing partners format. You will not enter with a partner; you will be placed in a fleet of 6 or 8 players of similar age and skill level, and play one game with each of the players in that fleet. Winners will be decided by number of games won; tie breakers will be total points and head to head play. Medals will be given in each fleet and all players will receive a Cherokee County Senior Olympics T-shirt.

Registration forms are found at: <http://cherokeecountyseniorolympics.com/index.html>.

We will have two starting times: 8:30AM and 11:30AM. We will try to schedule husbands and wives in the same starting time, but in different fleets.

Our rain date will be April 7.

Yonah Play?

Spring Pickleball Tourney - May 5th - 7th



Yonah Mountain in the background of our courts . . .



Yonah Mountain Pickleball Club and White County Parks & Recreation are co-hosting our first "Yonah Play? Spring Pickleball Tournament" at 327 Asbestos Rd., Cleveland, GA, located just north of Gainesville and an hour+ northeast of Atlanta. Online registration available now on www.pickleballtournaments.com. A majority of proceeds will benefit nonprofit organizations in White County, Georgia.

Ages: 7 to 100+ **Skill Levels:** 2.5 to 5.0 (Novice to Advanced). **Specific Event Dates:** Friday May 5th: Men's Singles and Women's Doubles; Saturday May 6th: Women's Singles and Men's Doubles; and Sunday, May 7th: Mixed Doubles. Clinics on Mon, May 8th by ITPA certified Coach Rodney "Rocket" Grubbs, who is also a USAPA rated 5.0 player: check out pickleballrocks.com.

Round Robin format - - - winners determined by total points. Brackets will be by age *and* skill levels, but Tournament Director reserves the right to combine groups after final registration is complete. All singles and partner team categories guaranteed a *minimum* of four games per event entered. Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals awarded to 1st through 3rd place in all events.

QUESTIONS: Contact Tournament Director Laurie Lee on cell phone 770-317-1062 or email YonahMountainPickleball@gmail.com or sauteelodge@gmail.com.

Champion Pickleball

Round Robin Tournament

Saturday March 11, 2017

Start Time 1:00 PM

Brookstone Country Club

5705 Brookstone Dr NW, Acworth, GA 30101

✓ Fun & Competitive Match Play

✓ Great Prizes

✓ Free Giveaways

✓ Fun for all ages

✓ Round Robin Format

✓ Meet New Players



RELISH THE GAME

To reserve a guaranteed spot. Register now on www.championpickleball.com

Pre-Register \$10/player

Day of Event \$15/player. Walk-Ins Welcome



Battle Of The Paddles Pickleball Tournament
Rabun County Recreation Department
March 24 - 26, 2017

Skill Based Round Robin Tournament Featuring Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles & Mixed Doubles
 2.5 - 3.0 - 3.5 - 4.0 - 5.0 (The format of a skill level may change depending on number of participants registered)

Register online at Pickleballtournaments.com or click on the link on our Facebook page
For more information please call us at 706-782-4600



Atlanta Pickleball Association



5-LINE TEAM DOUBLES PICKLEBALL LEAGUE | SPRING-MIXED SEASON

Opening Day: Sunday March 12th @6:30PM
 Regular Season: Sundays @6:30PM | March 12th - April 30th
 Playoff & Championship: May 7th

What is 5-LINE Doubles Pickleball?

- *Register a Team of 10+ Players (Advanced Level, Intermediate and Beginners)
- *Have a "Home" Court to play Pickleball [Subdivision, Rec Centers, City Parks, etc]
- *Create a Team Name and play a 6-8 Week Schedule plus Playoffs against other Teams

How to Register a Team?

- 1) Assign a Team Captain and Home Location
- 2) Register @ <http://atlpba.org>
- 3) Invite your Players to register from Team Page
- 4) Receive Schedule on March 6th 2017

Format & Rules

- 1) Each Team will Play 5-LINES of Doubles
- 2) Format
 - Line 1 & 2 : Men's Doubles Teams
 - Line 3 thru 5 : Mixed or Women's Doubles
- 3) Each Line play best 3 out of 5 games

MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION: www.atlpba.org

REGISTRATION DATES: 12/15/2016 thru 03/1/2017



Atlanta Pickleball Association

presents...

and Play Pickleball tournament

SATURDAY MAY 20TH & SUNDAY MAY 21ST 2017

REGISTER @ <http://atlpba.org> - 1.2.17 thru 3.10.17

Doubles Event [2.5 thru 5.0]

- Men's Skills Doubles 19+ & 50+ [Skill Level 2.5—5.0]
- Women's Skills Doubles 19+ & 50+ [Skill Level 2.5—5.0]
- Mixed Skills Doubles 19+ & 50+ [Skill Level 2.5—5.0]

3-LINE (3 on 3) Team PICKLEBALL Event

TEAM ATLPBA	VS	TEAM PADDLETEK
LINE 1: CHAD C & DAVID S		LINE 1: KYLE Y & DAVE W
LINE 2: CHRIS W & KELLY T		LINE 2: OLIVER S & DANIEL M
LINE 3: MICHAEL W & JAMISON W		LINE 3: TYLER W & DAVID M

Men's & Women's Teams (Advanced [4.0-5.0] and Intermediate [2.5-3.5])

*What is the 3 on 3 Format? It's a team format. You need 6 players to form a team.

*You compete against other teams in your skill level.



Friday, August 18th through Sunday, August 20th, 2017

Odell Weeks Recreation Center
 1700 Whiskey Road, Aiken, South Carolina

Indoor Tournament

Skill Level / Age Combination
 Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles

We are pleased to announce that we will, again, bring you the Palmetto Pickleball Doubles Invitational in partnership with the beautiful City of Aiken, SC. This year's event will be held from Friday, August 18 – Sunday, August 20, with clinics, exhibition matches and practice time on Thursday, August 17. Thanks to a wonderful group of participants and volunteers, we had a great tournament in 2016. We look forward to you helping us make 2017 even better. Please let us know if we can do anything to assist you in making your arrangements to join us.

Tournament Format

- * Skill level within age group.
- * Categories to be used are: 2.5 (19+, 50+, 60+, 70+) 3.0 (19+, 50+, 60+, 70+) 3.5 (19+, 50+, 60+ and 70+) 4.0 (19+, 50+, 60+, 70+) 4.5 (19+, 50+, 60+, 70+) 5.0 (19+ 50+)
- * You must be 19 years of age by December 31, 2017 to participate.
- * Awards will be made to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers. There must be at least 3 teams in an age group, even if combined, to receive medals.
- * Referees will be used for all semifinal and final matches
- * Tournament Directors reserve the right to combine age groups within the skill level to ensure adequate playing time, or to adjust players into the correct skill level. We will not combine the skill levels without prior agreement of the players involved. We may also close registration of an event or multiple events, if the projected time of the number of matches exceeds the available court time for the day.

Scoring

- * Upper Bracket matches will be 2 out of 3 games to 11 points, win by two points. Back Draw matches will be one game to 15 points, win by 2 points.
- * If Back Draw players defeat the Upper Bracket players in the finals, then an additional game to 15 points, win by 2 points, will be played to determine 1st place.
- * In the event that there are 5 or fewer teams in a bracket, a Round Robin may be played in which each team will play each other team, one game to 15 or 21 points depending on the number of teams, win by one points. At the end, the number of matches won will determine 1st, 2nd and 3rd, place. In the event of a tie, head to head competition scores will be used to determine the winner.
- * This is a Double Elimination Tournament
- * Orange Onix Pure 2 balls will be used.

Upcoming Tournaments

Play with a Vet Pickleball Tournament

Come out Saturday morning, April 22nd, 2017 and watch a fun-filled Pickleball tournament at the Towns County Pickleball Complex across the highway from the GA Mt. Fair entrance.

The "Play with a Vet" tournament is a fundraiser for the local VFW in Hiawassee and will feature Vets and non-Vets teaming up in a Round Robin style tournament. The action begins at 10 AM. There will be plenty of food available with grilled hot dogs and hamburgers with all the fixings, as well as fruit and drinks. There will also be a silent auction, bake sale and several vendors.

A special treat will be Mr. Danny Stephens, Trumpeter for Bugles Across America, beginning the day's festivities by playing The National Anthem.

It will be a fun day, a patriotic day, and a day to give back to our Veterans. Donations will be accepted and all proceeds will go to the local Auxiliary branch of the VFW. Come out and watch some fun Pickleball and show your support for our Veterans.

Wear your special patriotic outfits for this event...I'm talking Red, White, and Blue!!

I'm attaching an application you may use to register. Let's support this cause!

Atlanta Pickleball Our new yearly Tournament

"Get Off Your ... and Play Pickleball" May 20th & 21st 2017

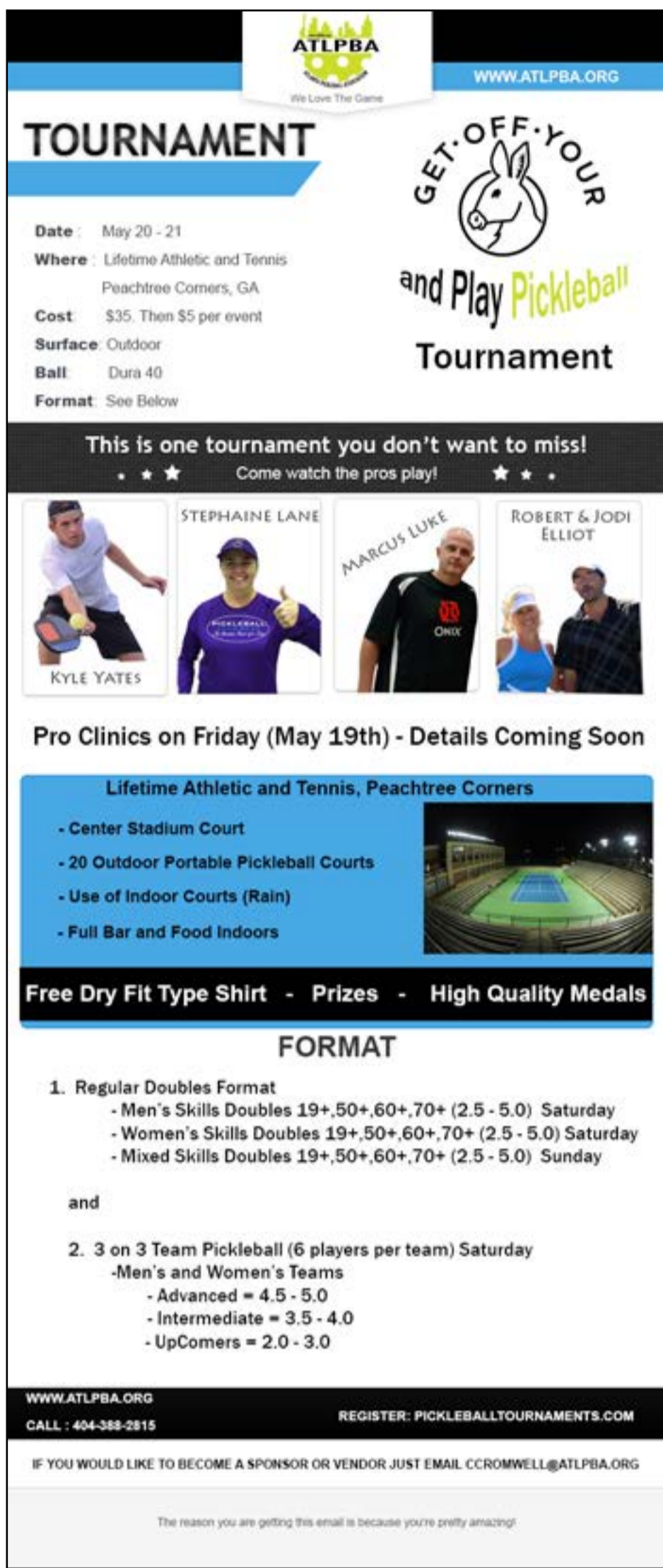
We love the game so much we want to bring the best players, to the best venue, with the best medals and just play a ton of Pickleball! We will have men's, women's and mixed doubles by skill.

What there is more you say? YES! Saturday Night we will also have a Team vs Team Event where three lines of doubles will compete for a special prize in each division. This will be a great opportunity to showcase your club, company or just a great group of people competing together and cheering each other on! Add your team name to the Registration Comments when registering on pickleballtournaments.com.

Come play Pickleball at one of the nicest venues in all of Atlanta! The folks at Lifetime Athletic and Tennis are strongly on board with what we are doing. They are also excited to see Pickleball grow in ATL. We will have 20 portable courts including access to a Stadium Center Court for some medal matches. We will also have use of the indoor facilities including club style bathrooms, a café that serves healthy food, and a full bar upstairs overlooking the Stadium Center Court.

We guarantee you will say "WOW" the minute you walk on the property. We did the same thing!!

This is just one of the great things we are launching in 2017. Please follow us on Facebook (<http://facebook.com/atlpba>) to keep up to date on our offerings and information on this tournament. You can register at pickleballtournaments.com and we look forward to seeing you all and showing how great Pickleball is in the Southeast!



ATLPBA
We Love The Game
WWW.ATLPBA.ORG

TOURNAMENT

GET OFF YOUR RABBIT and Play Pickleball Tournament

Date: May 20 - 21
Where: Lifetime Athletic and Tennis, Peachtree Corners, GA
Cost: \$35. Then \$5 per event
Surface: Outdoor
Ball: Dura 40
Format: See Below

This is one tournament you don't want to miss!
Come watch the pros play!

Pro Clinics on Friday (May 19th) - Details Coming Soon

Lifetime Athletic and Tennis, Peachtree Corners

- Center Stadium Court
- 20 Outdoor Portable Pickleball Courts
- Use of Indoor Courts (Rain)
- Full Bar and Food Indoors

Free Dry Fit Type Shirt - Prizes - High Quality Medals

FORMAT

1. Regular Doubles Format

- Men's Skills Doubles 19+, 50+, 60+, 70+ (2.5 - 5.0) Saturday
- Women's Skills Doubles 19+, 50+, 60+, 70+ (2.5 - 5.0) Saturday
- Mixed Skills Doubles 19+, 50+, 60+, 70+ (2.5 - 5.0) Sunday

and

2. 3 on 3 Team Pickleball (6 players per team) Saturday

- Men's and Women's Teams
- Advanced = 4.5 - 5.0
- Intermediate = 3.5 - 4.0
- UpComers = 2.0 - 3.0

WWW.ATLPBA.ORG
CALL : 404-382-2815
REGISTER: PICKLEBALLTOURNAMENTS.COM
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A SPONSOR OR VENDOR JUST EMAIL CCROMWELL@ATLPBA.ORG
The reason you are getting this email is because you're pretty amazing!

USAPA & St. Jude's • A Winning Combination St. Jude National Indoor Pickleball Classic & Challenge Team Event



LAKEPOINT SPORTS COMPLEX AND THE USA PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION
PROUDLY PRESENT THE FIRST ANNUAL

ST. JUDE NATIONAL INDOOR PICKLEBALL CLASSIC & CHALLENGE TEAM EVENT
MAY 22 - 24, 2017

Benefiting

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
ALSAC • Danny Thomas, Founder
Finding cures. Saving children.

ALL PROCEEDS AND DONATIONS BENEFIT THE ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL

AT ST. JUDE, FAMILIES NEVER RECEIVE A BILL FOR TREATMENT, TRAVEL, HOUSING OR FOOD – BECAUSE ALL A FAMILY SHOULD WORRY ABOUT IS HELPING THEIR CHILD LIVE.

LAKEPOINT AND THE USAPA ARE PROUD TO BE ABLE TO JOINTLY SPONSOR THE FIRST ANNUAL ST. JUDE NATIONAL PICKLEBALL CLASSIC

LAKEPOINT is conveniently located just off of I-75, Exit 283 in Emerson, GA. 40 minutes North of Atlanta, GA and 45 minutes south of Chattanooga, TN
www.lakepointsports.com

We encourage all to not only be part of this history making event for the benefit of a great organization but to also bring family and friends to be part of the fun filled experience.

Not able to attend the tournament? Donations are accepted through PT.com or directly on the St. Jude website (stjude.org)

Events include: Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles, Men's and Women's Singles Age/Skill Groups (when possible) – 19+, 50+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+ plus a special St. Jude challenge team event (one paddle, 2 women and 2 men, singles format). Tournament Director reserves the right to combine ages and/or skills

Format – Double Elimination – Round Robin for brackets with 4 or less teams

Registration opens February 17th at pickleballtournaments.com
For additional information go to pickleballtournaments.com or USAPA.org

International Tournaments

Join Us for a Grand Slam Pickleball Event

Two Pickleball Tournaments - One Location

Madrid, Spain

September 15 – 17

2017



1

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PICKLEBALL - COPA INTERNACIONAL 2017
September 15, 2017

Team North America

(All North Americans who register)



September 15, 2017

Team Europe

(All Europeans who register)



Date: Friday, Sept. 15, 2017 **Tournament:** Age/Skill-Based 19+, 50+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+

Format: Team Competition: North America vs Europe **Events:** Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles

N. American & European Teams: Teams will be formed by "ALL" players that register for the event

Matches: All participants will play multiple matches **Participants:** All ages and skill levels welcome

All Nationalities Welcome: A "Rest of the World Team" will also participate

Rules: IFP sanctioning rules will apply

Super Senior Circuit
Official Event



2

3RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT 2017
SPANISH PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION
September 16 and 17, 2017

Hosted by the
Spanish Pickleball
Association



**INTERNATIONAL
TOURNAMENT III**
September 16 - 17, 2017



Date: Sat. and Sun., Sept. 16 - 17, 2017 **Tournament:** Age/Skill-Based 19+, 50+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+

Events: Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles **Participants:** All Skill Levels Welcome

Format: Round Robin Pool Play followed by Double-Elimination Playoffs

Matches: All participants will play a minimum of 4 matches / event

Rules: IFP sanctioning rules will apply

Super Senior Circuit
Official Event

REGISTRATION, LODGING AND SIGHTSEEING

Finding Your Pickleball Skill Level

- 1.0**
- New and have only minimal knowledge of the game and the rules.
- 1.5**
- Limited to some rallies.
 - Learning how to serve.
 - Developing a forehand.
 - Fails to return easy balls frequently and occasionally misses the ball entirely.
 - Played a few games and is learning the court lines, scoring, and some basic rules of the game.
- 2.0**
- Sustains a short rally with players of equal ability.
 - Demonstrating the basic shot strokes – forehand, backhand, volley, overhead and the serve, but has obvious weaknesses in most strokes.
 - Familiar with court positioning in doubles play.
- 2.5**
- Makes longer lasting slow-paced rallies.
 - Makes most easy volleys and uses some backhands, but needs more work on developing shot strokes.
 - Beginning to approach the non-volley zone to hit volleys.
 - Aware of the “soft game.”
 - Knowledge of the rules has improved.
 - Court coverage is weak but improving.
- 3.0**
- More consistent on the serve and service return and when returning medium-paced balls.
 - Demonstrates improved skills with all the basic shot strokes and shot placement but lacks control when trying for direction, depth, or power on their shots.
- 3.5**
- Beginning to attempt lobs and dinks with little success and doesn’t fully understand when and why they should be used.
- 4.0**
- Demonstrates improved stroke dependability with directional control on most medium-paced balls and some faster-paced balls.
 - Demonstrates improved control when trying for direction, depth and power on their shots.
 - Needs to develop variety with their shots.
 - Exhibits some aggressive net play.
 - Beginning to anticipate opponent’s shots.
 - Learning about the importance of strategy and teamwork in doubles.
- 4.5**
- Consistent and dependable strokes, including directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand shots.
 - Reliable serves, lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys and can use spin shots with some success.
 - Occasionally can force errors when serving.
 - Rallies may be lost due to impatience.
 - Uses the dink shot and drop shots to slow down or change the pace of the game.
 - Demonstrates 3rd shot strategies – drop shots, lobs, and fast-paced ground strokes.
 - Aggressive net play and teamwork in doubles is evident.
 - Fully understands the rules of the game and can play by them.
- 5.0**
- Beginning to master the dink shots and drop shots and their importance to the game.
 - Beginning to master 3rd shot choices.
 - Displays sound footwork and moves well enough to get to the non-volley zone whenever required.
 - Understands strategy and can adjust style of play and game plan according to the opponent’s strengths and weaknesses and court position.
 - Serves with power and accuracy and can also vary the speed and spin of the serve.
 - Understands the importance of “keeping the ball in play” and the effect of making errors.
 - Making good choices in shot selection.
 - Anticipates the opponent’s shots resulting in good court positioning.
 - Mastered all the skills – all shot types, touch, spin, serves, with control and can use them as weapons.
 - Excellent shot anticipation, extremely accurate shot placement and regularly hit winning shots.
 - Forces opponents into making errors by “keeping the ball in play.”
 - Mastered the dink and drop shots.
 - Mastered the 3rd shot choices and strategies.
 - Uses soft shots, dinks and lobs to set up offensive situations.
 - Mastered pickleball strategies and can vary strategies and styles of play in competitive or tournament matches.
 - Dependable in stressful situations as in tournament match play.
 - Athletic ability, quickness, agility, and raw athleticism are also qualities that are sometimes what separates the top players from those near the top

2017 GEORGIA PICKLEBALL CALENDAR

As we continue to add new pickleball events in Georgia we want to have complete event calendar. Laurie Lee, Ambassador for White County, has volunteered to keep it updated. She will send event updates to Fran Conn, our designer, by the 10th of each month.

Please check the event calendar before setting an event date and send your info to Laurie: Sauteelodge@gmail.com

If you have a question feel free to contact us at B3779@hotmail.com

**CAN'T PLAY? JUST WANT TO WATCH? NO PROBLEM! TOO YOUNG? TOO OLD?
NO PROBLEM! EVERYONE'S INVITED!**

TOURNEY/EVENT	2017	LOCATION	CONTACT	AGE	URL / NOTES /
Spring Battle of the Paddles	Mar 24–26	Rabun County Rec Center, Tiger (near Clayton)	Amy Martin 706-782-4600 Amy.martin@rabuncounty.ga.gov	7+	Nine indoor courts. All round-robin format. Online registration: pickleballtournaments.com
Cherokee County Senior Olympics	April 1	Lake Arrowhead, Waleska	Bill Hess b3779@hotmail.com	50+	Round robin format on outdoor courts. Do not register with a partner. You change partners each game. Entry fee \$12 incl t-shirt and medals for 3 winners per flight. Limited registration opens mid-February at: cherokeecountyseiorolympics.com/index.html
Yonah Play? Spring Classic	May 5–7	White Co. Parks & Rec 327 Asbestos Rd, Cleveland 30528	Laurie Lee, 770.317.1062 sauteelodge@gmail.com	7+	Six outdoor & 3 indoor courts. One location. Online registration: pickleballtournaments.com
Get Off Your Butt & Play Pickleball	May 20–21	UTA Tennis Center, James Creek	Chad.cromwell@gmail.com	19+	Outdoor. 2.5 – 5.0 skill levels. Regular WD, MD, and Mixed events, plus "3 on 3" League competition. Registration opens 1/2/17 & closes 3/10/17. atlpba.org
St. Jude National Indoor Pickleball Classic	Sanctioned May 22–24	Lakepoint Sports Complex I-75, Exit 283, Emerson, GA	www.lakepointsports.com or www.usapa.org	19+	Phenomenal facility donated by Lakepoint Sports in Georgia for this national event with 100% of proceeds going to St. Jude's Hospital. Women's & men's & mixed doubles by age & skill level plus other special events. Online registration available on pickleballtournaments.com . Registration begins Feb 17.
Georgia State Games	June 9–11	Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park, 1301 Cowan Rd, Griffin, GA	Bill Hess b3779@hotmail.com	12+	Brand new 18-outdoor court complex, with four courts covered. Online registration information soon
Doc Holliday Shootout	Aug 12–13	Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park, 1301 Cowan Rd, Griffin	TBD	TBD	The Spalding County Pickleball Assoc. More information soon.
Georgia Mountain Pickleball Fall Classic	Sept. 15–17	Hwy 76, Hiwassee	TBD	TBD	14 outdoor pickleball courts. Ambassadors John Hall and Peggy Castorri in process of finalizing details.
North Georgia Pickleball Club Fall Invitational Tournament	Sept 22–24	Earley Farm, Canton	TBD	TBD	More information soon
Special Pops/Southern Motors Pickleball Tourney	Oct 13-15	Landings Club, 910 Franklin Creek Rd. N., Savannah (Skidaway Island)	Ted Copeland 216-406-6775 tcopelandusa@gmail.com		Friday night: Open Party. Saturday: M & W Doubles; Sunday: Mixed. Outdoor courts. Manual registration: send email address to Ted Copeland.
Super Seniors Pickleball Tourney	Tues/Wed Oct 17–18	Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park, 1301 Cowan Rd, Griffin	TBD.	TBD.	More info coming. Tourney held 2-days prior to the Atlantic South Regionals at the same location.
Atlantic South Regional Pickleball Tournament	Sanctioned Oct 19–22	Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park, 1301 Cowan Rd, Griffin	Karen Parrish 850.699.1692 karenparrish@usapa.org	TBD.	Singles, M & W Doubles, and Mixed at 18-court complex in Griffin, Ga. Possibly adding a junior division. Registration opens on pickleballtournaments.com April 1.
Yonah Play? Fall Classic	Nov 3–5	White County Parks & Rec 327 Asbestos Rd, Cleveland	Laurie Lee, 770.317.1062 sauteelodge@gmail.com	7+	6 outdoor & 3 indoor courts. One location. Online registration available soon: pickleballtournaments.com
Turkey Shootout Pickleball Tourney	Nov 17–19	Rabun County Rec Center, Tiger (near Clayton), GA	Amy Martin 706.782.4600 Amy.martin@rabuncounty.ga.gov	7+	Nine indoor courts. Probably all round-robin formats. Online registration available soon: pickleballtournaments.com

**Looking for a place to play pickleball ...
but were afraid to ask?
It's easy peasy.**

Go to usapa.org/places-to-play-pickleball/ and click on your state.

You will not only find places to play but who to email or call with questions as well.

Submission Guidelines Georgia Pickleball Bulletin

Feel free to submit your stories and photos to our bulletin.

Text: plain text format (.txt), or part of your email. **Please do not** format text: no tabs, centering, bullets, double spaces, etc. And a reminder: the word pickleball is all lower case, not capitalized.

Photos & images: jpg format (separate from the text file, i.e., do not paste or embed photos into your text or pdf file). The images should be renamed appropriate to your text (*j.smith.jpg; winner.jpg; new courts.jpg*, etc)

Calendar Events: Submit calendar events as a separate email with the information below. **Email all to:** Bill Hess • B3779@hotmail.com