

JANUARY – MARCH 2021



# NEWSLETTER

## Welcome!

This is a quarterly newsletter to help keep members up to date on news and events related to the Tustin Pickleball Association.

Enjoy!



## President's Message

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The Tustin Pickleball Association is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It exists to provide a fun, healthy, recreational activity for community members, while promoting the exercise, development of skills, and the enjoyment of the game of Pickleball.

I most sincerely hope this March Newsletter finds all of you enjoying your time on our awesome Tustin Pickleball Courts. We are so appreciative of the dedicated efforts on everyone's behalf to follow the Covid-19 guidelines still in place, including the wearing of face masks and social distancing.

We are so thankful for the wonderful leadership of **Peggy Marcantel**, our Director of Facilities and Equipment, who has tirelessly spearheaded several important projects including,

- 1) Eliminating the cracks down the center of Courts 2 and 5;
- 2) Replacing the well-worn windscreen completely around the court;
- 3) Placing a restrictive screen barrier at the bottom of the fencing all around the courts to cut down significantly the leaves and debris from blowing onto the courts.

## President's Message (cont.)

Our membership is growing exponentially and approaching 1,400 members. This growth has begun to impact play at our courts as the waiting time is increasing and court availability is lessening. It is very important that all members follow our COURT SKILL-LEVEL designations and COURT ROTATION expectations, which are determined by the number of players and members waiting on the various skill-level courts. (See Pages 6 and 7 for an overview of those guidelines and expectations.) This information has also been posted on our website at [tustinpickleball.org/documents](http://tustinpickleball.org/documents). We will continue to explore ways to best accommodate our growing membership.

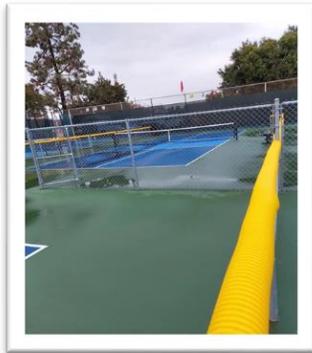
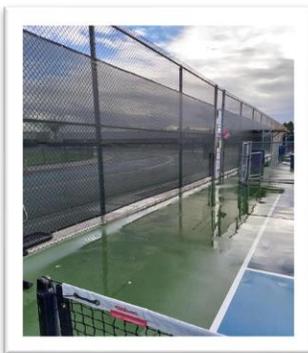
Although we do not have any projects planned for the remainder of this year, we do hope to plan monthly Round Robins for our members to be held on the first Monday and third Saturday of each month, hopefully starting in April. More news on this program to follow.

Your Board of Directors would love to hear from you. Please share any ideas or suggestions you may have relative to Tustin Pickleball with any of the Board Members. There is at least one Board member at the courts every day, Monday through Saturday. I hope to see you on the courts!

Phil Dunmeyer

President

Tustin Board of Directors

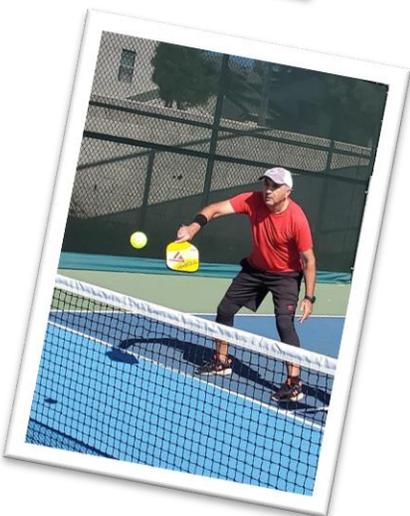


## Members in Action!



*Special thanks to professional photographer **Carey Schumacher** for these wonderful action shots!*

## More Members in Action!



*Thank you to Big Daddy and Carey Schumacher for the photos!*

# Member Spotlight

## Bryan Shoup

Bryan Shoup is retired from his 30-year career as a private mortgage banker. He has 5 children and 8 grandchildren and loves to play golf, tennis, pickleball, racquetball, and table tennis. He also loves going to car shows in his own built 427 Corvette.

Bryan has been playing pickleball for over 4 years. He enjoys the social and competitive aspects of the game. He enjoys playing the game with his two sons and his grandson, when schedules permit. Bryan plays at many locations throughout Southern California and travels all over the country to play tournaments. Bryan has played a number of times at Tres Palapas Baja resort, the best rated Pickleball resort in Mexico, and recently visited The Villages in Florida, a top-rated facility which boasts approximately 200 pickleball courts.

Bryan has had quite a career already playing pickleball. He has played in 30 tournaments and won 26 medals to date. His most notable medals include winning



Gold with his son, Kevin in the California State Games, Bronze in Mixed Doubles at the Western Regionals, Gold in Mixed Doubles at the Tustin tournament with Deb Lacombe, Gold at the Tres Palapas tournament in Mexico with Robbie Zeve, and Gold with Allan Galera in the Laguna Woods Village Games.

Bryan has some exciting things happening in his life outside of pickleball as well. In October 2020, Bryan received the surprise of his life! He learned that he had a daughter he never knew he had! Bryan was at home resting, after playing three hours of pickleball, when he received a text that would change his life forever. The text was from Bryan's newfound daughter, Kim (aged 52), informing Bryan that her years of searching for her biological father has led her to him. Needless to say, Bryan was in shock as he already has four children between the ages of 27 and 49. But soon, the pieces fell in place. Kim's mom met Bryan when he was 19 and attending Cerritos College on a wrestling scholarship.

Bryan is thrilled with this amazing surprise and his 4 kids have welcomed Kim into their family and communicate through Facebook. Next month, Bryan will get to meet his daughter and granddaughter in Phoenix, Arizona. We wish Bryan all the best!



## Court Rotation & Skill-Levels

A message from our Board President, Phil (Coach) Dunmeyer:

A few questions have arisen regarding our Court Skill-Levels and Court Rotations depending on the number of people waiting. There are a number of variables that impact court usage and court rotation which make it impossible to cover every contingency and provide members with a complete listing of the guidelines in a written or posted manner. Therefore, the below organizational guidelines should be understood and followed by all members of Tustin Pickleball.

### SKILL-LEVELS:

Your SKILL-LEVEL is the major criteria for deciding which of the ten courts you may play on. 70-75% of pickleball players are at levels 3.0-3.5.

Court assignments are as follows:

- 3.0 Skill-Level players may play on Courts 1,2,3.
- 3.5 Skill-Level players may play on Courts 1,2,3,5,6.
- 4.0 Skill-Level players may play on Courts 4,5,6,7,8.
- 4.5 Skill-Level players may play on Courts 4,7,8,9,10.
- 5.0 Skill-Level players may play on Courts 9,10.



If you have an official USAPA skill-level rating, then that will qualify you to play on the courts at that skill-level listed above. If you do not have or do not know your skill-level rating, then assume you are a 3.5 (or lower). You can ask me (Phil Dunmeyer) when you check in which courts you can play on and I'll let you know. If I'm not sure, I'll make a point to watch you play on a LOWER COURT and decide if you should move up.

NOTE: If you do not have consistent drop shot accuracy from the baseline into your opponents' Non-Volley Zone (NVZ) and cannot sustain a dink rally with your opponents, you are not a 4.0 or higher player, no matter how hard you hit the ball.

ALSO NOTE: You DO NOT GET BETTER by playing against players who are one full skill-level above you. You get better by practicing and drilling on the shots that you need to master to move up to the higher skill-levels. For more information about Player Skill Rating Definitions, go to <https://usapickleball.org/tournaments/tournament-playerratings/player-skill-rating-definitions/>

## COURT ROTATION GUIDELINES:

These are based on the number of people waiting on all of the specific Skill-Level Courts and not just on the number of people waiting on your court.

- [2 On 2 Off](#): If there are only one or two waiting on Courts 1,2,3, winners can stay on and win up to three games in a row. After their third win in a row, the winners must get off the court to allow the others in line to play. The same goes for Courts 5,6; Courts 4,7,8; and Courts 9,10.
- [4 On 4 Off](#): If there are four waiting on Court 5 and no one waiting on Court 6 then it is still 2 on and 2 off since two of the four waiting on Court 5 should move to Court 6. Once there are three or more waiting on all of the specific skill-level courts, then it becomes 3 or 4 on and 3 or 4 off.



If there is an excessive number of players at one particular skill-level and their courts are seriously impacted for waiting time, then we will assess the other courts and see if we need to reassign the court skill-level for that day and move players around.

**IMPORTANT:** The decision to reassign the court skill-levels for that day and move players around will be made by the Board of Directors' members present that day. Failure to follow the directions of the Board members present regarding moving players to courts more appropriate for the player's skill-level, or not following the reassigned skill-levels for the courts for that day can result in the loss of the player's membership in Tustin Pickleball. The major goals of our Board of Directors (in addition to SAFETY) are to make playing Pickleball fair and equitable for everyone, and to provide a smooth running and organized program.

**NOTE:** Players who play at the skill-level courts lower than their actual skill-level do not create nearly as much friction as those who play at the higher skill-levels where they do not belong. The higher skill-level players can obviously keep up with the lower skill-level players, but the reverse is not true.

## Special Thanks!



Sending a special thank you to **Richard Big Daddy Pappy** for sharing the true essence of what Tustin Pickleball is all about through the wonderful videos and pictures he posts on Tustin Pickleball Facebook! His generosity of time, love of the sport, and caring heart is loved and appreciated every day!

**Thank you Big Daddy!**



## Donations

Thank you to **Karl (KJ) Simon** for donating bottles of hand sanitizer and masks for our members. And, thank you to **Esther Woo** for donating a large rolling ball cart for members to use for drilling/practicing. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated! ❤️

## Important Reminders...

- **MASKS** – Masks are required at all times unless you are actively playing in a game. Masks are also required when in the parking lots and utilizing the restrooms in the District's Maintenance and Operations facility.
- **KEEP COURTS CLEAN** – Please help us keep our courts clean and safe. Please remember to take your belongings and trash with you when you leave. This includes empty water bottles and cracked balls.
- **BRING A BALL** – When you come to play, make sure you have a new ball to contribute. If you need to purchase balls, you can do so at the check-in desk for \$2 a ball.
- **CROSSING COURTS** – When passing through a court, please be courteous by waiting until the point has ended and then cross quickly.

**Thank you!**

Save the Date!

## **Memorial Day Pickleball Tournament**

Hosted by Jay Unantenne

**Saturday, May 29 – Monday, May 31**

Join the annual Memorial Day Tournament

Go to Pickleball Tournament website at  
[www.pickleballtournaments.com](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com) for details and registration.

Website:

[www.tustinpickleball.org](http://www.tustinpickleball.org)

Email:

[info@tustinpickleball.org](mailto:info@tustinpickleball.org)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/groups/tustinpickleball](https://www.facebook.com/groups/tustinpickleball)

### **Tustin Pickleball Board of Directors:**

President – Phil Dunmeyer

Vice President – Phil Wascher

Secretary – Gina Stivers

Treasurer – Albert Tjan

Director of Membership – Patti Blood

Director of Communications – Sheila Driscoll

Director of Facilities and Equipment – Peggy Marcantel

Member-at-Large – Wayne Simpson

Member-at-Large – Rick Giangeruso