



NEWSLETTER



Welcome!

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

Hope you enjoy our Newsletter.

2024 Fall/Winter Edition

The 2024 Board of Directors is dedicated in keeping Tustin as a premier pickleball venue and to continue to grow our renown Tustin Pickleball program.

Below are the major highlights of our fall/winter season, covered in this edition of our newsletter.

- In September and October, we completed our second Team Challenge event with club members competing in an exciting mixed team format over 3 consecutive weeks.
- On October 26th, everyone enjoyed Saturday play with great food, friends, and fun costumes at our 3rd annual Halloween Potluck event.
- A new Board of Directors was elected for 2025.

As we approach the end of 2024, we give thanks to all our members, our partners at TUSD, and the greater pickleball community for their support.

We wish everyone happy holidays and a season of joy with family and friends and look forward to another great year of pickleball in 2025!

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.

Team Challenge II Event, September-October

Our second Team Challenge event of 2024 was a great success! Mixed teams battled for gold over 3 consecutive weekends with the finals held on October 6th. Thank you to all participants and congratulations to all the medalists!



Team Challenge II Results

Division I - Advanced Intermediate / Advanced Level



Champions (Gold Medalists) - Dinking Problem

Patty Spallone, Ryan Suzuki, Gene Forsythe, Daniel Corban



Silver Medalists - Pickle Peppers

Nick Mikami, Julie Cho, Sheri Cook, Andy Tang



Bronze Medalists - Chop Suey

Vivian Nguyen, Susan Pak, Dan Standish, Robert Cho, Eric Lee

Division II - Low Intermediate / Intermediate Level



Champions (Gold Medalists) - CGGS

Gene Samborsky, Gwen Beltran, Sreekar Pulijala, Cecilia Wu



Silver Medalists - Replacements

Li Xiao, Dorothy Dobson, Yoon Lee, Pat Welch



Bronze Medalists - Absolutely Random

Scott Park, Song Song, Nicole Garcia, John Musgrave

Halloween Pickleboo Potluck

Thank you, members, for coming in costume and bringing delicious goodies to share at our 3rd annual Halloween Pickleboo Potluck event in October!



Best Costume Winners!



Court Painting

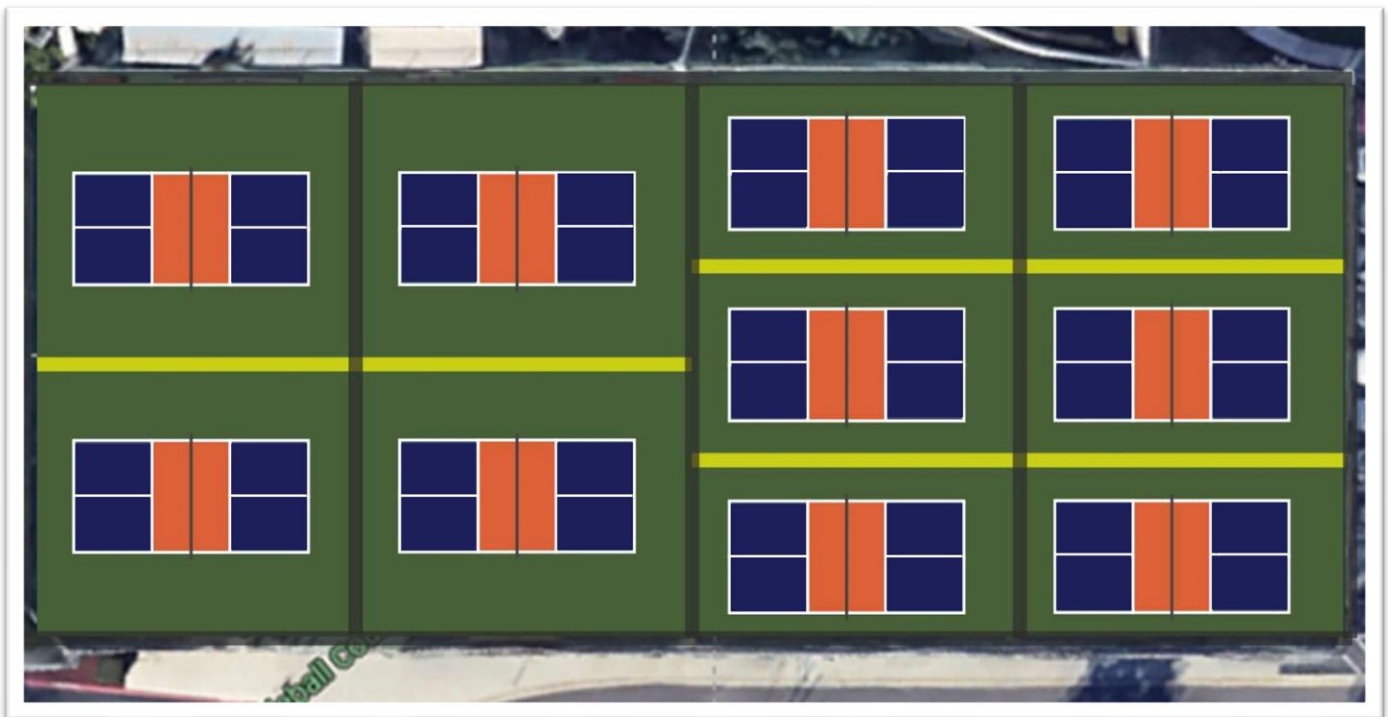
We are pleased to announce we have reached an agreement with TUSD to resurface and repaint the courts next year.

The project, which will require the courts to be closed for two weeks, is tentatively scheduled for March 2025 to coincide with the District's spring break.



The approved color scheme will be tournament purple for the service boxes, orange for the kitchen area, and light green around the periphery (see illustration below). Surface cracks and spalls will be repaired as part of the project scope.

More details about this project and the court closure will be provided as we get closer to the start date.



Tustin Pickleball Courts - 2025 Colors

Open Play Etiquette


A friendly reminder about our open play guidelines and rules. Following these rules moves the games along smoothly and helps everyone play as much pickleball as possible.

It is also important that all members play on the appropriate court for their skill level. We all want to have the best game possible and that usually requires that all players are close to the same level. Players are certainly going to want to play up occasionally to improve, but they should do it when the courts are less crowded and certainly when higher level players are more willing to accommodate. Conversely, higher level players may want to play down on occasion to work on a skill or partner with a friend. In both scenarios, there will be a mix of levels, so it's incumbent upon everyone to do their best to strike the right balance between competition, fairness and fun.

Keep in mind that there is always less friction with people playing down than there is with people playing up. And nobody wants to be the bad guy and tell someone they need to move down. Yes, we have the "2-7 rule" in which a player needs to move down if he/she loses two games by 7 or more points, but the rule in practice is subject to interpretation and not consistently followed by everyone.

If we can all follow the rules, be more aware of how our actions impact others, and make a concerted effort to play on the correct level courts, we can reduce the occurrence of "bad" games and create the best overall experience for everyone.

Guidelines & Rules for Open Play



Pickleball courts are grouped into rows that represent a range of skill and rating levels.

Court Number			Skill Level	Rating Level
10*	9*		Advanced / Expert	4.0 to 5.0
8	7		Advanced Intermediate / Advanced	3.5 to 4.0
6	5	4	Intermediate	3.0 to 3.5
3	2	1	Novice / Intermediate	2.5 to 3.0

- Players should play/challenge on to courts designated for their skill level.
- Warm-up is limited to 2 minutes whenever players are waiting.
- If you lose 2 games by 7 or more points, you need to move down a level.


PLAYER ROTATION RULES

- Games will be played to 11 points, win by 2.
- Winners stay on and losers exit and place their paddles at the end of the queue.
- Next 2 players in the queue play the winners.
- Rotation continues with 2 players off, 2 players on. If only 1 player is waiting, that player will team with 1 of the losing players.
- Winners can stay on and win 2 games in a row. After the second win, all 4 players exit and place their paddles at the end of the queue.
- Rotation changes to 3 or 4 players on, 2 players off. The 2 winners will stay on for the next game and the 2 losers will stay on for the next game ahead of the losing players.

* Courts 9 and 10 are Challenge courts. Above rotation rules do not apply. Winners can stay on and winners can play on.

NOTICE

To maintain balanced competition and fun for all, if you lose 2 games by 7 or more points, you need to move down a level



Tustin Pickleball



FAQs – Player Rotations

We get asked occasionally to clarify certain player rotation situations that may occur. Below are some frequently asked questions.



Timing for Rotation Change

Q: I am the third player in line, and when I put my paddle down, the rotation was 4 on, 4 off. However when the game on my court finished, there were only two paddles waiting on the court next to mine because two players left. Is the rotation for my game determined at the time I put my paddle down, or when the game on my court concludes?

A: The rotation for your game is based upon the rotation of the courts the moment your paddle goes down. Timing is not always clear so it would be unfair to lose your place in line based on what happens at another court or if the game you're waiting on takes longer than expected to finish. If the rotation is not clear, just let the players on your court know that it was 4 on, 4 off at the time you entered the queue. The players on your court should be courteous and allow you to rotate in.

Two (or Three) Wins in a Row

Q: I won two games in a row, but when I played my first game, there was nobody waiting. Shouldn't I be allowed to stay and play another game?

A: This rule applies regardless of how many players are waiting. Once you win two games in a row (three games in a row on challenge courts) you must exit the court and re-enter the queue.

3 or 4 on/off Rotation

Q: Why does rotation change to 3 or 4 on/off when 3 or more paddles are waiting on each court in a row. Wouldn't it be simpler to allow 3 or 4 on/off based on the number of paddles waiting on each individual court?

A: This purpose of this rule is to balance the wait times across all courts of a particular skill level. It also encourages players to mix in with others who they may not know, and discourages players from purposely avoiding certain people and forming their own foursomes during open play.

Given the complexities of managing open play, we acknowledge that there are no perfect solutions, and not everyone will agree in all instances. However if we are all respectful and courteous to each other, and consistent in how we apply the rules, we can minimize disagreements and avoid confrontations.

If you ever have any questions about rules during open play, please let one of our directors know, and we'll be happy to assist.

Friendsgiving 2024



Member Spotlight Giddeon Massie

We have a former Olympic cyclist in our midst. Say hello to Giddeon Massie. Formerly from the East Coast, Giddeon and his beautiful wife Meredith a San Diego native, reside in Cypress, CA. They have no children but are looking forward for that blessing one day. Years before they met each other they were both residing in Colorado Springs, CO. She was attending the United States Air Force Academy and he at the Olympic Training Center.



Currently a realtor for First Team Real Estate for the last eight years, he is also involved in several organizations. At Ready Set Gold (RSG!) he is a mentor athlete for SoCal area schools. The non-profit program pair Olympic and Paralympic athletes with middle school students to promote and model healthy and active lifestyles and develop social and emotional learning skills through in-person visits.

He is a board member for the West Coast Metro Region of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Koroibos Foundation which offers grants to qualified Southern California residents who are current or aspiring Olympic and Paralympic athletes.

During his cycling days, Giddeon spent 20 years traveling the world with the U.S. National Team and competing on two Summer Olympic Games teams. With 20 U.S. National Titles he also won Gold and Silver at the Pan American Games.

Seven years ago, through a group of professional tennis players he heard of pickleball. But that's where it stopped until 4 years later when his wife bought a starter set from Amazon. Sadly, it sat in the closet for two months. Then came the day when Meredith signed them up for lessons on Coronado Island. He was HOOKED!!

He's 2 1/2 years in playing consistently in 2024. He relates pickleball to the game of chess. Physical ability, skill & pattern recognition along with competitors with different psychological mindsets no one trait wins the day. He loves the competition and like most of us hates to lose but the thrill of the competition supersedes the fear of losing.

Member Spotlight

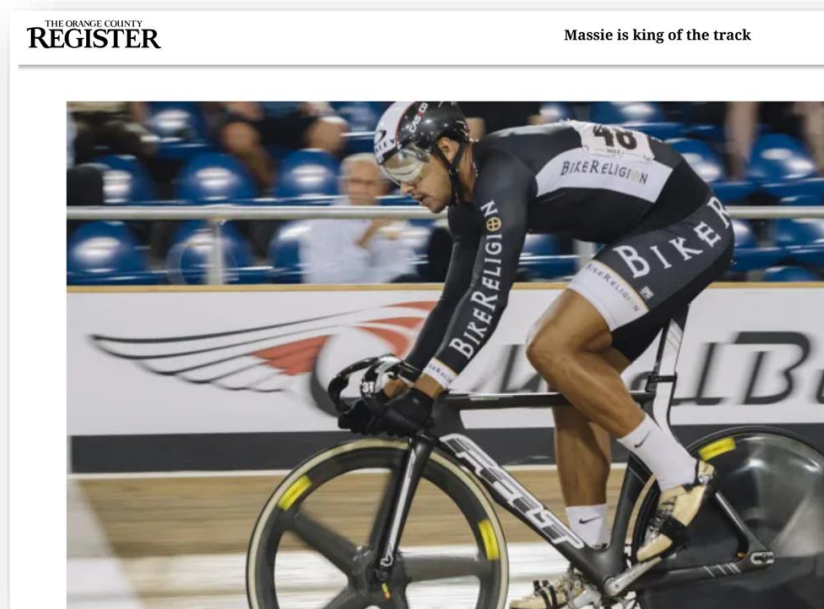
Giddeon Massie, continued

Giddeon also plays at Cypress College and iPickle. When traveling he makes sure he packs his paddle because you never know where you'll find a game. But it was Adam H. also a Tustin Pickleball member who he met at a Huntington Beach court who told him about Tustin Pickleball. He enjoys playing at our courts specifically Court 10 for two reasons. One, the competition and unlimited play. It affords him challenging games and worthy opponents who can take the game to the next level while keeping it fun and welcoming. Built like an NBA player his wing span sometimes works against him especially when the ball is clearly out. Lol. Second, he enjoys meeting the regulars and the "out of town" regulars. He's benefitted immensely during his time at the courts and hopes to help others along the way. Also, a compliment to our courts where there's plenty of room and a great surface to compete on.

"Happy work is best done by the man who take his long-term plans somewhat lightly and works from moment to moment "as to the Lord". It is only our daily bread we care encouraged to ask for. The present is the only time in which any duty can be done or grace received". C.S. Lewis

"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are". John Wooden

I truly believe these quotes best describes him. An athlete, a mentor and a man of God, he walks in with a smile on his face and kindness in his eyes. Giddeon Massie is a great asset to Tustin Pickleball.



2025 Tournament Event Schedule



Round Robins

\$10 per person

Men's and Women's divisions, 6 players per court, 1 winner each court.

- Winter Round Robin Feb 9, 2025
- Summer Round Robin July 20, 2025



LADDER
Tournament

Ladder Tournaments

\$40 per team

Fixed partner teams move up and down their ladder based on wins/losses. Prizes awarded to top 3 teams.

- Women's Ladder - Mar 16, 2025
- Men's Ladder - Jun 15, 2025
- Mixed Ladder - Sep 14, 2025

Team Challenges

\$20 per person

4 player teams (2 men, 2 women) battle over three consecutive weekends in an exciting team format.

- Team Challenge III
Matches May 3, 10, 17, playoffs May 18, 2025
- Team Challenge IV
Matches Oct 25, Nov 1, 8, playoffs Nov 9, 2025



- Tournament events are open to members only
- Dates are subject to change

2025 Board of Directors Election Results

A big thank you to all members for participating in the November election.

Congratulations to the newly elected Board of Directors!



Terry Wong
President



Carl Cheng
Director of Competition, Instruction & Events



Chiko Wong
Vice President



Jimmy Ogata
Director of Facilities & Equipment



Gerry Rowland
Treasurer



Bonnie Goodman
Director of Communications



Barbara Gerovac
Secretary



Julie Cho
Director of Membership

Code of Conduct



We would like to take a moment to remind everyone of our Code of Conduct, which exists to create a safe and respectful environment for all players. Our Code of Conduct is fundamental to our success as it serves as a framework for appropriate behavior and helps ensure that everyone who plays at Tustin Pickleball (members as well as drop ins) understands the expectations and consequences of their actions. Our Code of Conduct is available at the check in desk and on our website at www.tustinpickleball.org/code-of-conduct.

Tustin Pickleball Code of Conduct:

Tustin Pickleball was founded with a commitment to Respect, Integrity, Sportsmanship, and Accountability. In this spirit, we welcome all to these courts—regardless of gender, place of origin, ethnicity, religion, political belief, economic status, or ability.

To play here, it is expected that you:

1. Abide by the International Federation of Pickleball (IFP) rules and regulations.
2. Be a “Pickleball Ambassador.” Treat everyone with courtesy and respect. Be especially welcoming and helpful to newcomers and visitors.
3. Respect the Tustin Pickleball facilities and property. Keep them clean and in good working order.
4. Pitch in. Help to set up and tear down whenever possible.
5. Strive to positively reinforce and influence other players. Encourage their growth, promote teamwork, and emphasize fun.
6. Accept responsibility for any guests you bring to the courts. Make sure they abide by these rules.
7. Be respectful of players engaged in play and strive to avoid interfering with their play.
8. Promote good sportsmanship and fairness in all aspects of play—line calls, accommodating waiting players, playing with players of a lower or higher skill level.
9. Refrain from giving unsolicited coaching or advice, or criticizing another player’s skills.
10. Dress for safe and enjoyable play. Wear appropriate (for Pickleball), and non-offensive attire. Shirts and court shoes are a must.

Finally, anyone who engages in physical or verbal behavior that threatens the health, safety and/or physical and mental well-being of others, including the use of profanity, alcohol, tobacco and/or drugs, will not be tolerated.

Failure to abide by this Code may result in immediate removal from the courts and, possibly, disciplinary action by the Tustin Pickleball Board of Directors.

“Tustin Pickleball Drills” Program

Our Tustin Pickleball Drills program continues to grow and evolve. We now have over 190 participants and are conducting sessions 4 days a week, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 6:45 to 7:30am (Tuesdays are excluded due to street sweeping at 7am).

The objective of the program is to provide novice and intermediate players a chance to work on different aspects of their game. Through repetition, players can create muscle memory for each type of shot (similar to how golfers spend time at the driving range) and improve their overall skills set. A different shot is worked on each week, such as forehand and backhand groundstrokes, dinking, volleys, resets, lobs, and third shot drops. In addition to regular drill sessions, we are now offering live ball sessions on Wednesdays which offer a fast-paced, fun format for improving pickleball skills.

Tustin Pickleball Drills are available only to Tustin Pickleball members, and are free of charge. The number of participants is currently limited to 4 players for each drill session, and 8 players for live ball sessions. Sign-ups are managed using the TeamReach app. The TeamReach app allows us to create an event calendar, manage the sign-up process, and create a waitlist.

If you have any questions or would like to join the program, please text our program director Carl Cheng at 914-263-8226.



Carl Cheng



Bonnie Goodman



Greg Goodman



Terry Wong



Jimmy Cho



Danny Vu



Kurtis Eng

Tustin Pickleball Gear

Tustin Pickleball gear is available for purchase at the check-in desk at the courts.

We have an assortment of t-shirts, hats, embroidered patches, and water bottles for sale. Please inquire at the check in desk for available items, styles, sizes, and colors.

**A4 Cooling Performance Crew,
N3142 / NW3201 (\$20)**



**Bella + Canvas Unisex Heather CVC
V-Neck Tee, 3005CVC (\$20)**



**Port Authority Dry Zone
Cap, C838 (\$15)**



**OTTO UPF 50+ Cool Comfort Performance
Stretchable Knit Cap, 19-1256 (\$15)**



Tustin Unified School District (TUSD)

Our Tustin pickleball courts are owned by the Tustin Unified School District (TUSD). We have been privileged that the school district allowed us to continue to play pickleball on their school grounds for the past 13 years. We need to re-iterate some of the rules bestowed upon us as we have so many new members and some may be hearing this for the first time.

The court gates are unlocked by the school district's security team every morning and locked at night. The courts are available to the public daily and most holidays except when otherwise noted, such as special school events, or tournaments/round robins.

Our club obtains a use permit to reserve the courts for open play and special events. The permit also grants us access to the School District's restroom/water refill station.

To maintain our reputable relationship with the Tustin School District, please adhere to the following:

1. *Abide by the School District court rules. These rules are posted on the fences outside the courts.*
2. ***Do NOT park in the School District parking lot on the weekdays, Monday - Friday! Parking is only allowed on the street or the small lot on the east side of the courts. Cars will be towed. Membership may be revoked if parking ordinance is violated.***
3. *While in the School District building, remember we are guests. Keep the noise level down and the bathrooms clean.*
4. *No dogs allowed on school property unless approved by the School District.*
5. *No Smoking on the courts!*
6. ***Please contact a Board member, NOT the School District if you have any concerns about the courts.***



Tuesday Street Sweeping

Street sweeping no-parking hours on Service Road and School Lane is every Tuesday from 7:00am to 11:00am. The city was contacted regarding the impact to our drop-in play held every Tuesday during this time. Here is the city's response:

Street sweeping will begin on Service Road around 7:00am with a Tustin PD officer following to ticket any vehicles parked in the sweeper's path. Once the street has been swept, typically by 7:30am, players may park on the street. The city has assured us that the Tustin PD officer will not make a second pass on the street to write tickets once the street has been swept. Please note Carfax St by court 1 is also scheduled for street sweeping on Tuesdays. Street sweeping on Carfax St is later in the morning. We suggest that you do not park on Carfax St during their no-parking hours.

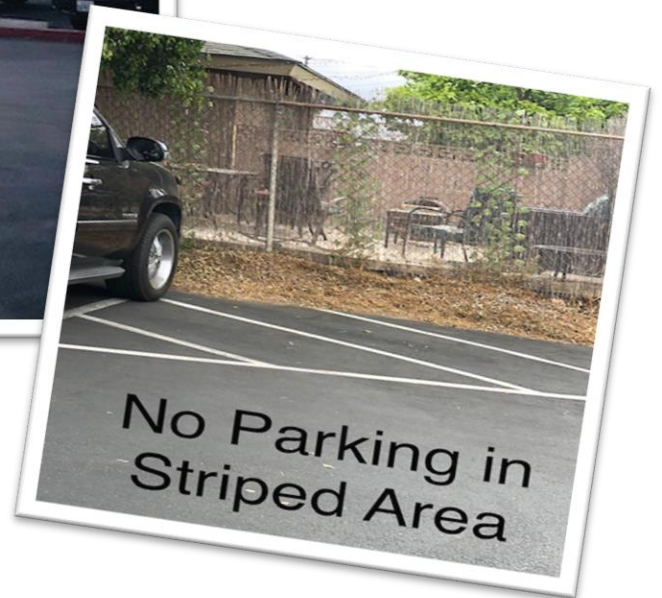
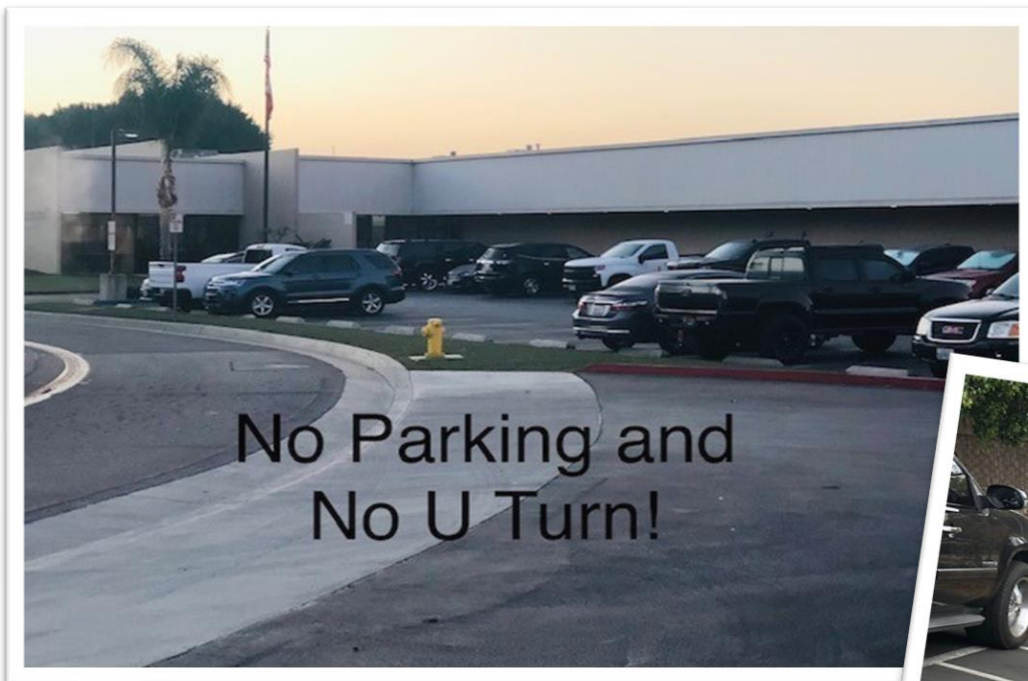
TUSD Maintenance Parking Lot and Restroom

There is NO PARKING ALLOWED in the TUSD Maintenance and Operations parking lot adjacent to the pickleball courts on Mondays thru Fridays, from 6:00am to 3:30pm. The Tustin school district will have your car towed.

TUSD maintenance requests that there is no drop off, U-turns, or drive throughs in the parking lot. Also, members should not drop off passengers along the right-side curve (marked as a red zone) going from Service Road to School Lane. This is a very dangerous blind spot for westbound vehicles. Also, there is no parking in the striped area in the parking lot behind the courts. Cars have been ticketed and may be towed.

The restrooms are available to Tustin Pickleball members from 7:00am to 10:00am only, on organized play days, Mondays – Saturdays. Members should not ask TUSD employees to open the restroom door outside of these hours.

We are fortunate to have a great partnership with the Tustin Unified School District. They have made several accommodations to work with Tustin Pickleball and not following their rules and guidelines can and will jeopardize our program's existence.



2025 Membership



Thank you!

Thank you for your support. Your membership fee helps pay for Tustin Pickleball's expenses such as court use permits, equipment, facilities improvements, Webster the webcam, restroom access and insurance.

Membership is \$120 for the calendar year, January - December.

The benefits of membership include club discounts on pickleball merchandise at select websites, voting privileges, qualifying to be a Board Member, and participation in club sponsored events such as round robins and ladder tournaments.

New memberships and renewals paid for between October 1 and December 31, 2024 will be valid through December 31, 2025.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to another great year in 2025.

Retail Member Discounts

Pickleball Central – 5% off plus 5% goes back to Tustin Pickleball! Go to www.pickleballcentral.com to shop for equipment. Use CRTUSTIN at checkout to receive the discount. Pickleball Central will donate 5% of the proceeds to our club!



Suggestion Box

Got a suggestion for making your Tustin Pickleball even better? Here are three ways to share your awesome ideas:

- Send an email to info@tustinpickleball.org
- Share your idea with any Board Member at the courts
- Drop your idea in the suggestion box on the check in table by court #8

Lost and Found

Items not claimed will be donated to Goodwill or The Salvation Army on a quarterly basis. Last chance to claim your items will be March 31st, June 30th, September 30th and December 31st.

Website

www.tustinpickleball.org

Email

info@tustinpickleball.org

Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/tustinpb

Instagram

www.instagram.com/tustinpickleball

Be safe, be courteous, and have fun!

Your 2024 Board of Directors, Tustin Pickleball

President - Terry Wong
Vice President - Chiko Wong
Treasurer - Gerry Rowland
Secretary - Stella Inta
Membership - Beth Arkin
Communications - Bonnie Goodman
Instruction & Events - Carl Cheng
Facilities - Greg Goodman
Member-at-Large - JoAnn Spiegel