

# Court Report

The Official Newsletter of the Golf Lakes Pickleball Club

Editor: Larry Van Deventer

Edition # 23 December 2020

Website: [www.GL-PC.org](http://www.GL-PC.org)

## Chairman's Message

It is clear that the Covid-19 pandemic has changed our lives forever! Today, we now live in this new normal, which is far from what was normal! The suffering of so many has taken its toll on every aspect of our lives. The loss of over 300,000 Americans is devastating. Millions are still out of work, most students are learning remotely and our daily life consists of social distancing and wearing masks. I am sure we have all asked the same question, "When will this nightmare end?"

We now must think outside the box as we go forward in this new normal. We at Golf Lakes are so fortunate to be able to play Pickleball at one of the finest courts around. Our courts have been resurfaced and our lighting issues have been resolved. We are now able to play at night. Thanks to Phil and the prior Committee members who made this all possible.

During these extreme times the Committee has had to come up with some temporary Covid-19 Guidelines for open play as well as upcoming ladder play in January.

I will continue to work with the Committee and members to provide the safest conditions to keep all of us safe. I ask for your support. I wish everyone and their families a Happy Holiday season. Hopefully in 2021 things will get back to some type of normalcy.

Bill Blake, Chairman



## GLPC – Board Members & Sub-Committees for 2020 / 2021

Chairman .....	Bill Blake
Secretary .....	Kevin Hogan
Treasurer .....	Bonnie Frye
Communications .	Larry Van Deventer
Equipment .....	Sandy Tiell
Socials .....	Debbie Atkinson
Socials .....	Sandy Tiell
Tournaments & League Ladders..	Mike Henderson Janis Hogan Larry Van Deventer

## Court Improvements

During this last summer additional lighting has been added to the west side of the court. Two new light poles with lights now provide the lighting we need for night play. (See photo above) Also, the courts were resurfaced and painted.

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## **Golf Lakes Pickleball Club Logo Design**

We conducted a logo contest at the end of last season. The winning design is shown above and is now on many shirts on the court this month.

## **Ladder Play this Season**

We will begin the Tuesday Ladder on January 12<sup>th</sup> and the Thursday Ladder on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Both Ladders will only be 10 weeks this year. We are still taking names for sign-up to play. Please contact Mike Henderson to add your name to the Ladder. Reminder: Dues are due before play begins. Contact Bonnie Frye to pay your annual \$20 dues. Monday and Wednesday night play is also still being evaluated.

## **New rules to take place in 2021**

There are a few new pickleball rules that will take place in 2021. The two main differences are:

1. No more LET serves. (play all serves)
2. Bounce before serves are permitted.

You can view all changes on the website.

## **Court Lockdown**

The park has locked down our courts with the key to the padlock given to Bill. In order to schedule play, you must call Bill to unlock the courts. This was initiated because of the park's no visitor rule. In addition, new Covid-19 rules were presented to and approved by the GL board. The Covid-19 Guidelines follow:

### **PICKLEBALL GUIDELINES – COVID 19 OPEN/LADDER PLAY**

Play at your own risk.

All participants should self-evaluate prior to playing.

Practice social distancing at all times.

For open and ladder play come at your scheduled time and leave as soon as you finish play so the next scheduled group can play.

Hands should be sanitized prior to and after play.

No guests or visitors are allowed to play.

All participants must sign common area waiver, provided in office.

## **Follow CDC Guidelines**

## **Court Windscreens**

We are still looking into and evaluating windscreens around the court fencing.

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## Six Tips for Better Play

### 1. Just get it over the net.

Sometimes, the best strategy in pickleball is to just get it over the net. Sounds easy, doesn't it? Obviously, it's not easy at all. But the mantra "get it over the net" really comes in handy when you're trying to make complicated shots that you don't need to be making. Instead of doing something fancy and risky, just dink it over!

### 2. If you're new, find someone to go with.

It can be nerve-wracking going to the pickleball courts for the first time. Don't worry, we've all been there. But if you're nervous, try to find someone that would be willing to go with you. It can really help, especially if that person is experienced. Once you go and play, you'll feel a lot better and you'll love it!

### 3. Stay at the kitchen line.

Beginners and intermediate players have a tendency to back off the kitchen line slowly as the point goes on. Don't do this! Backing off that line means that you're more likely to get a ball to your feet. And those shots are almost impossible to return. Instead, stay steadfast and stalwart at the kitchen line. It's your line! Don't back off!

### 4. When you're waiting for a game, watch advanced players.

If you're waiting for your game to start, you might as well make it worth the time. If there's an advanced game going on, watch it carefully. Stand away from the sitting area so that you're not distracted. Pay close attention to everything they do. Then, pick out a few things and try them out in your next game.

### 5. Try new shots.

It's true that pickleball has been around for over 50 years, but this doesn't mean that you can't try anything new. There's still plenty of room for experimentation and innovation. Needless to say, you shouldn't do this in a serious game, but if it's more casual, then try something new. Why not put some spin on your serve? Or try some passing shots?

### 6. Serve deep.

Out of all the things to be focused on with your serve, this is one of the most important concepts. Serving deep does two things: it keeps your opponent away from the kitchen (which is a good thing) and it makes their return serve shot harder since it's further away. Try not to worry about power, just focus on getting it as deep as you can.

By: BARRETT KINCHELOE  
*A Part of his 101 Pickleball Tips*

