



## August, 2015 Newsletter

*Sorry to abandon the slightly more colorful and appealing format, but I don't have the time or talent to wrestle with formatting this month. -Bear*

### TUCKY TIME TOURNAMENT

Your Palatine Pickleball Club is hosting a charity tournament on **Sunday, September 20** to honor Emily "Tucky" Marchica. Tucky **LOVED** pickleball and was active in both our Palatine and Hoffman Estates clubs. Up until she died this April, whenever she wasn't getting chemo, it seemed she was on a pickleball court or telling anyone who would listen about all the friends she made through our sport. She died at the age of 80, just three weeks after her last game.



The tournament will be held at **Fabbrini Park in Hoffman Estates, beginning at 1:00 p.m.** This is a round robin event so you won't need to find a partner. It will be by age groups which will be determined only after we know the ages of participants. Your group's start time will be e-mailed to you a few days before the tournament.

Thanks to the generosity of the Hoffman Estates Park District, your **\$25 registration** fee will go entirely to the **Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation**. This was Tucky's favorite charity. The Park District is also keeping the Prairie Stone courts reserved for us, in the event weather forces us indoors.

Registration will be **cash only** at Fabbrini Park prior to your start of play. However, to reserve your spot in the tournament **you must e-mail Tim Saunders**, Palatine Pickleball Club's Tournament Director, at [daniel\\_saunders@att.net](mailto:daniel_saunders@att.net) with your intent to play birthdate.

Playing in this event is limited to those who play with either the Palatine Pickleball Club or the Hoffman's Prairie State Pickleball Club. We knew Tucky best, and she loved playing with us.

Tucky was an inspiration to all of us who came to know her. That nickname stuck with her, ever since she won the Miss Kentucky pageant. She was an incredibly dedicated teacher. After retiring, she went back to earn a Masters and served as a math consultant who was in demand across the country for her workshops and teacher training. She was an accomplished tennis player, before falling in love with pickleball. It seemed once she met one of us, she never forgot any personal or family tidbit we shared. She really loved all people, even those she'd never met...just heard about through us.

**We welcome and encourage your additional donations.** At the tournament we'll be glad to accept either your cash donation or your check made out to the charity.

To assure our efforts maximize our benefit to the charity, we are not spending on prizes. We will create framed acknowledgements of your victorious performances ... such as Tucky is holding in the photo. These will be created by personal effort and investment.

Please e-mail Tim right away. Whether to honor Tucky, to feel good about helping a charity that meant a lot to a wonderful and loving lady, or just to have a fun afternoon, please do join us on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEW SHIRTS FIT SOME PICKLERS TO A 'T'**

A few of you asked, and we listened. We can now offer ladies style T-shirts for only one dollar more than our traditional shirt.



Design Studio Gildan - Ladies' Heavy Cotton V-Neck T-Shirt with Tearaway Label - 5V00L 5.3 oz., pre-shrunk 100% cotton Missy contoured silhouette with side seams 1/2" mitered V-neck collar Taped neck and shoulders Double-needle stitched cap sleeves and bottom hem Tearaway label

These ladies Ts are available in five colors ... **Cornsilk yellow** (picture) ... **Lime** ... **Azelea pink** ... **Sapphire** ... and **Sport Grey**.

Order yours by getting \$11 to Bear, along with your preferred size and color. When at least a dozen have been selected (total of ladies and traditional), the order will be placed with the vendor.

Of course, the traditional PPC shirts are still available for \$10. Just give Bear your color and size preference, along with your \$10.



### **SEYMOUR WORKSHOP IS WORK BUT DOES WORK**

You've surely heard/read of this drilling drilling drilling event Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings in Lincolnshire. Being sure that our own Sycamore event would have plenty of players, I finally got over there. It was easily worth the \$10 fee for the 90 minute instruction and drilling time. Seymour doesn't just tell players what to do; he explains why. It gave me insight into why better athletes lose to lesser physical specimens. Contrary to the "typical," Palatine mentality, dinking can be kind of fun. I won't say I'm a convert, but I like the idea of adding insightful dinking to my whacking-banging-bad lobbing style. On the day I went, more than one-third of those present were Palatine Picklers. If you haven't tried it yet, I hope you do. It will help elevate the level of play of our entire club. Beginners and those who feel they struggle on the court should go to the 8:00 a.m. session. Most of us Picklers belong in the 9:30 session that runs to 11:00. If we drill a lot and practice what Seymour preaches, one day we'll feel comfortable in the advanced session that starts at 11:00.

Sessions are held in the racket club by the Marriott Hotel & Theater in Lincolnshire. From Marriott Drive just go around the left side of the building toward the hotel's front door. Then follow the signs.

### **\$30/MONTH MAY LESSEN THE FALCON CROWD**

A new program in Lake Barrington could be ideal for many of us, but it has restrictions. Indoor play will be available to the newly formed "Barrington Pickle-Ball Club" Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to noon. Members of this group will pay \$30 per month for unlimited play at Canlan Sports Complex, 28156 W Northpointe Parkway, Lake Barrington. (Take 14 NW of Barrington to Pepper Road. Go right. At the stop sign, turn right. The giant building on the left is it.)

However, this monthly rate is not available to everyone. If not on the Barrington roster, you must get permission from Ann & Joe Tuszynski (also in our club). You can show up at Canlan, and Jim who runs the courts will call/ask Ann for an OK for you to play with their group. I don't know if such permission is given on a daily or forever basis. For info call Ann at 847-382-8144 or send her an e-mail at [joeann10@comcast.net](mailto:joeann10@comcast.net).

This seems to provide a lot of bang (or dink) for the buck so you may want to check it out, particularly as Falcon continues to grow in popularity and court time diminishes.

## **SEYMOUR INVITES YOU TO SEE MORE AT FREE CLINIC WITH BEST OF BEST**

Mark your calendars and send your r.s.v.p. today. From noon 'til 5:00 on Sunday, September 30th, current national champions and elite players (including Dave Weinbach, Corrine Carr, Dan O'Toole, Bill Ritchie, Dave Sabino, & Rick Schworck) will be on hand at the Lincolnshire courts (see Seymour Workshop article two above). There will be 18 courts. See if you can win a point against a national champion. Win merchandise from sponsors, including Pickleball Central and Athletico.

Register by September 24th, by e-mailing Seymour Rifkinds of Peak Performance Pickleball at rifkinds@gmail.com. Let him know who he should add to the list of those attending.

## **FALL AT FALCON FAST APPROACHES**

Monday, September 21st is the opening of Palatine's indoor season. As it was last year, Dana Joseph will assign our games and partners on Monday and Friday mornings. Unlike last year the fee is \$5 per day for all 50+ players, or you can buy a 10-visit pass (no expiration) for \$30/resident or \$40/non-resident. Wednesday mornings play is open to all ages, and the fee is \$3/day for everyone.

On September 14 from 9:00 to noon, there will be a free event at Falcon sponsored by PPD. Play some pickleball and, I think, even enjoy a refreshment or two. This event may be before our September newsletter goes out so call the Palatine Park District, if you'd like more information.

## **HOMELESS IPHONE**

It's been a month or more since an iphone in a black case was found at Sycamore after one of our evening sessions. It is locked so we can't find an owner from what's on it. It doesn't hold a charge long. That's all we know. When/if time allows one day I'll take it to the at&t store and see if they can open it. Last month I reported to the Palatine Park District that I had it, but I've heard nothing. If this is your long lost baby, please contact me at aokbarry@yahoo.com.

## **LADDER LOSING RUNGS**

The half court singles ladder tournament will still welcome newcomers. There's been a lot of matches played and a lot of fun had. Currently, Stan Jones sits atop the ladder.

Through out-of-state assignments, injuries (not during ladder play), and illness, we've lost a few players. We'd really welcome more of you to jump on this. Games are scheduled at the convenience of the two involved...anywhere, anytime.

This is a normal game to 15 win by two, but the court is half as wide as normal so players defend only a 10' wide area 22' long. Mobility is even less important in this game than in doubles. It relies on, and helps develop, the dink, the lob, accuracy, and court positioning.

Once you join and hop onto that bottom rung, you may challenge the person on the rung above you or two rungs above you.

**NEW RULES ...** A player who loses his rung may not replay his victorious opponent for 7 days. Also, the challenger in any match should have the first serve, and regardless of sun and weather, change sides when one player reaches 8 points.

To join the ladder which will run right up to the indoor season, e-mail Darrell Rutter. He's at drutter997@aol.com.

## **ARLINGTON INDOOR PLAY**

Elizabeth Berry has shared that Pioneer Park has indoor play Monday and Friday from 9:00 to noon.

## **MORE ON ELIZABETH ... AND SEYMOUR**

On a more personal note, she was a couple years behind Seymour at Michigan State, but they shared the gymnastics team experience there. She, as have about a dozen Picklers, have become regulars at the Seymour clinic. Why am I even mentioning this? I think it's because we've been the welcoming organization in the suburbs. We learned the game here and "grew up" in an environment of banging the ball, only to get beaten badly by players who play a different, softer game. I want Palatine to be home of all levels of play. Right now, IMHO, PPC is wonderful for the 1.0 to 3.0 players, but we need to learn the close to net control play to compete at the next level. Once someone replaces me as Prez in December, I'll spend more time learning from Seymour. Until then, I feel compelled to make sure all our Palatine times are rewarding for participants. I hope everyone will take advantage of this relatively inexpensive learning tool in Lincolnshire so Palatine can be home of a club for all levels.

## **PICKLERS PROLIFERATE**

If I hadn't lost the paper with names and demographics of two more recruits at Sycamore Friday, we'd now have 187 members. This sport is so wonderfully addictive, and our Palatine group is full of such really nice people, that our numbers just keep growing. We're six months old and are approaching 200 strong. Thanks to all who have spread the word. We all get asked several times a week, "What's pickleball?" I think it's the enthusiasm in our responses that is growing the club. That's great. Sure numbers can be a problem. No one wants to sit 20 minutes between games, but I believe the more members we have, the more pull we have with the park district. We'll add new times. We'll make court times level-appropriate. We'll find a way to make it work for all of us.

## **SIX COUNTY SENIOR OLYMPICS**

Bill Graba and company did a fantastic job of hosting and running all three (mens, womens, mixed) events. The Palatine Pickleball Club was well represented. Forgive me, if I am omitting you, but I know the following Picklers competed ... in womens: Barreca, Berry, Carlson, Goldsmith, Marra, Myers, Pihl, Robinson, & Woodsum. In mens: Cook, Degner, Johnson, Jones, Myers, Robinson, Saunders, Shatwell, Simmons, Warner, & Zamin. And in mixed: Degner, Feinstein, Johnson, Johnson, Joseph, Labellarte, Lindberg, Paneral, Shatwell, Stubig, Zamin. For fear of omitting someone, I'll just say several medals were earned.

# PALATINE PICKLERS WERE PLENTIFUL AT OLYMPICS



See you on the courts,  
Bear Shatwell, President PPC