



# Mesa Regal Pickleball Club

## WEEKLY NEWS

### March 14, 2021



**WEBSITE:** [www.mrpickleballclub.com](http://www.mrpickleballclub.com)

**FACEBOOK:** [facebook.com/groups/696462040860449](https://facebook.com/groups/696462040860449)

(Mesa Regal Pickleball Friends and Players).

**SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS:** Email - [suggestion@mrpickleballclub.com](mailto:suggestion@mrpickleballclub.com)

**HOLD MY COURT:** access through website - [www.mrpickleballclub.com](http://www.mrpickleballclub.com)

Newsletter Editor: Nancy Stern [newsletter@mrpickleballclub.com](mailto:newsletter@mrpickleballclub.com)

**Thank you for wearing your mask at the courts when you are not playing and for using the supplied hand sanitizer.**

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SIGN UP ON THE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP FORM.**

**EVERYONE** needs to sign up for the 2020-21 season. As of today, **293** MRPBClub members!!

Mesa Regal Pickleball Court Schedule 2020-2021							
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7:30	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play
8:00	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play
8:30	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play	Open Play
9:00	Open Play	Open Play	Ladders Group 1	Open Play	2.5-3.0 Training	Open Play	Open Play
9:30	Open Play	Open Play	All Courts	Open Play	Courts 1-2, 9-11am	Open Play	Open Play
10:00	Open Play	Open Play	9:00 - 10:30am	Open Play	(Mike Pecot)	Shoot out	3.5 Training
10:30	Beginner 1 Lessons	Ladies Social	(Marilyn Kehl)	Ladies Social	4.0 mixed		Courts 4-7
11:00	Courts 1 - 2	All Courts	Ladders Group 2	All Courts	Courts 5-7	All Courts	10:00 - 12:00
11:30	10:30 - 12:30	10:30 - 12:30	All Courts 10:30 - 12:00	10:30 - 12:30	10:30 - 12:30	10:00 - 1:00	(Clarence Lindblom & Lionel Fauchoux)
12:00	(Craig Carlton)	(Shirley Seely)	(Marilyn Kehl)	(Shirley Seely)	(Dale Hartman)	(Craig Carlton)	
12:30	3.5 mixed Courts 3-7	Ladies 3.5	Ladies 3.5	Challenge Court, 3.5+	Men's 4.0	3.5+ Round Robin	Shoot out
1:00	12:00 - 2:00pm	Courts 4-7	Courts 4-7	Courts 1-2	12:30 - 3:00	Courts 2 - 7	4.5
1:30	(Larry Cloud)	12:30 - 2:30	12:30 - 2:30	12:30 - 2:30	Courts 3-7	12:30 - 2:30	Competitive
2:00	Lorne's Men's League	(Connie C/Judy K)	(Connie C/Judy K)	(Colleen Janus)	(Dale Hartman)	(Larry Cloud)	Courts 4-7 1:00 - 3:00
2:30	Courts 3-7						12:30 - 2:30
3:00	2:00 - 4:00					2.5 - 3.0 Round Robin	
3:30	(Lionel Fauchoux/Dale Hartman)	3.75+ mixed				Courts 2-7	
4:00	Ladies 3.5	Courts 3-7		Couples Play, 2.5 - 3.5			
4:30	Courts 3-7	3:30 - 5:30		Courts 3-7		3:00 - 5:00	
5:00	4:00 - 6:00			5:00 - 7:00		(Clarence Lindblom)	
5:30	(Barb Benedetti)	(Ken Smith)		Mary Alai / Donnie Torres			
6:00	Social Play	2.5-3.0 Round Robin	Social Play				
6:30	All Courts	All Courts	All Courts				
7:00	6:00 - 8:00	6:00 - 8:00	6:00 - 8:00				
7:30	(Cindy & Gary St John)	(JoAnn Miller)	(Cindy & Gary St John)				
8:00							

1-29-21

### AGM NEWS

The AGM last Friday saw Clarence introduce our new Board members, Marci Herle and Calvin Jolly. He also thanked outgoing Board members, Shelly Athmann for her leadership this year and Tim Aylward for this contribution from afar. A special thanks to

Harold for starting up programs in the fall and getting the club moving. As well, a thanks to Colleen Janus for taking on the role of secretary and extra role as treasurer this season. Clarence also thanked all the coordinators again for the wonderful year and the 'behind the scenes' people - Sandy Radermacher (first aid), Mike Baril (recycling), Lawrence Green (technology) and Nancy Stern (newsletter) - that help keep the club together.

Clarence announced that Cindy St. Johns would be taking on the role of Social Chair and Lionel Fauchoux Training Chair. Training next year will continue with the same plan for all levels from pickleball mechanics to strategy.

The members felt that everyone wants to come and play at Mesa Regal and our club should host the Cal Am Resort Tournament in 2022. He also announced we will be hosting the annual Steve Judy Mesa Regal Pickleball tournament in late November/early December this fall.

Clarence said the club is expecting an increase in membership next year with hopefully the end of Covid and the need for everyone to travel. Discussion of additional league teams of ladies, mens and mixed may help clear the court schedule. He is anticipating our program calendar will be stretched and the Board will work over the summer to accommodate all the club's needs.

Colleen presented Chic with the Inspirational award. At 87 and a USAPA 3.5 rated player, Chic is seen every day on the courts playing shootout, ladders and open play.

## INSPIRATIONAL PLAYERS

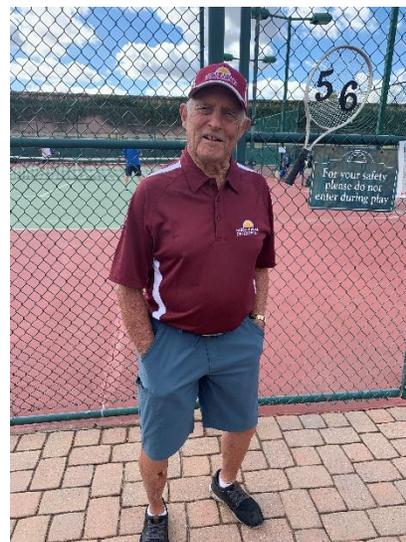
We all know those people who we love to get on court with and share their love of the game. Inspirational players love the game, love to get on the courts and love to play with anyone at any level. They bring a positive attitude and make everyone feel welcome. MRPClub has decided to honour one of our own with our first ever 'Inspirational Player' recognition.

We all love and hate (in a nice way 😊) playing with this person. If we said it was the 'LOBBER' who always causes us so many problems with this shot, you will know our Inspirational Player this year is **Chic Koenig**. Chic started playing pickleball 25 years ago and at the age of 87 is still playing an awesome game. Without a doubt, I think we can say Chic is the most experienced pickleball player in our club! The club presented Chic with a MRPC shirt and hat and when Colleen said she wanted to be like him at 87, Chic responded, "just keep playing pickleball"!

**CONGRATULATIONS, CHIC, YOU TRULY ARE AN INSPIRATION TO US ALL!**



**Chic Koenig**  
Looking good in your new 'duds', Chic!  
Thanks, for being an  
INSPIRATIONAL  
PLAYER for all of us to  
look up to on our courts!



## **VOLUNTEERS MAKE MRPClub A GREAT PLACE TO BE**

This week we are featuring a few more of our club volunteers who we have not previously mentioned. These fine volunteers coordinate activities on our court schedule and/or around our club. Let's meet some of your MRPClub volunteers - Mike Pecot, Donnie Torres & Mary Alei, Paul & Jill Cook, Shirley Seely and Marilyn Kehl.

**Mike Pecot** - Another newbie to pickleball, Mike only picked up a paddle last September. Wow, we have a lot of first timers in our club that are loving the game and already giving back. You 'newbies' are amazing!

Mike is a hugely energetic person and currently leads the 2.5-3.0 training session on Fridays from 9-11 am.

### **What was your first impression of the MR pickleball courts?**

The facilities were really good but I have no experience playing anywhere else. Seems like in a normal year the facilities would be a bunch busier and that would probably be unfortunate.

### **What are the one or two things you enjoy about the MRPC?**

The two best parts have been the people and the people!!!

### **What is the best/worst thing to happen since you started volunteering?**

The pickleball court is where I met all of the friends that I have associated with these last 6 months.

**THANKS, MIKE**, for your service to the club, we are glad you 'landed' at Mesa Regal !!



#### **Mike Pecot...**

You may be a 'newbie', Mike, but from these pictures we can tell you are having a blast on the courts. That is what we all at MRPC love to see!



**Donnie Torres & Mary Alei** - Donnie & Mary both started playing pickleball just under 3 years ago when we retired and moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico. They still summer in Santa Fe and Albuquerque and play there but are looking forward to new adventures. They have sold their home and will be looking to land somewhere new this summer. *Editor's note....Remember, Craig Carlton is a good resource for good pickleball spots to try throughout the summers!*

Donnie & Mary started a very successful 'couples' play this season and can be found on the courts coordinating this activity on Thursdays from 5-7:00 pm.

### **What was your first impression of the MR pickleball courts?**

We loved the courts and it was a big reason we chose Mesa Regal.

### **What are the one or two things you enjoy about the MRPC?**

The level of play and how well games are organized. We also enjoy meeting lots of friendly people.

### **What is the best/worst thing to happen since you started volunteering?**

The best was filling up all the couples spaces on the first night and getting to know people afterwards. Nothing bad has happened. *Editor's note.....We are glad about that!*

**What do you wish other people knew about MRPC and volunteering?**

How grateful players are that you are stepping up and we have found the players to be very flexible.

**THANKS, MARY & DONNIE**, for your service to the club, we are glad you 'landed' at MRegal !!



**Mary & Donnie...**

Well, it is a great 'date night' for Mary and Donnie. Couples play not only gives you some good matches but great opportunities to meet other couples in our club.



**Paul & Jill Cook** - Paul and Jill call home Santa Fe, New Mexico and only ordered and received their first pickleball paddles last October. Well, we all know what happened then, New Mexico state mandated a lockdown on all tennis/pickleball courts. Their travels brought them to Mesa Regal in December and they really started playing then. More 'newbies' who have caught the addiction.....pickleball which is a 'good addiction!' They hope to continue their pickleball play back home in Santa Fe and Los Alamos this summer.

Jill and Paul have been participating in 'couples' play Thursday nights and are helping coordinate with Mary and Don. It is great to partner up and share the load of coordinating an event!

**What was your first impression of the MR pickleball courts?**

The courts have all the amenities. We were very impressed with the condition of the courts and the organization of the MRPC.

**What are the one or two things you enjoy about the MRPC?**

We enjoy the variety of pickleball opportunities. From different types of formats to playing with new people. It has been a great experience.

**What is the best/worst thing to happen since you started volunteering?**

Volunteering with Donnie Torres and Mary Alei to run and organize the couples league has been an enjoyable forum for us to play together and get to know other couples who enjoy pickleball.

**What do you wish other people knew about MRPC and volunteering?**

It is easy, fun and a great way to meet tother pickleball players.

**THANKS, JILL & PAUL**, for your service to the club, we are glad you 'landed' at Mesa Regal !!



**Jill & Paul Cook...**

Well, your picture tells the whole story about 'couples' play night....it is a night full of fun and good times. We may have to add another 'couples' session next season.....lol

**Shirley Seely** - Shirley calls Payson, Arizona her home town and can be seen playing pickleball there in the summers. I also know she spends lots of time with family in beautiful Utah!! You can see Shirley most days down on our courts with a huge smile on her face, enjoying her 12<sup>th</sup> year of playing pickleball!

Shirley has been a long time MRPClub volunteer at our annual tournament, social functions and coordinating scheduled play. Currently, Shirley coordinates the ever popular Ladies Social on Tuesday and Thursdays from 10:30-12:30.

**What was your first impression of the MR pickleball courts?**

Seeing 7 pickleball courts and the multitude of fun people around my age that I would make new friendships with.

**What are the one or two things you enjoy about the MRPC?**

The special ladies in Ladies Social and how they pass on what a social really is, friendships and playing with others

**What is the best/worst thing to happen since you started volunteering?**

My only complaint is the many players on our courts that have forgotten their age and how to be courteous to those that they think don't play up to their standards. *Editor's note: we have links in the email that have great suggestions of how to play with those of higher or lesser skill levels. After all, we are here to have some fun and get some exercise so we all should be nice on court!*

**What do you wish other people knew about MRPC and volunteering?**

Volunteering can be fun if you don't take others too seriously.

**THANKS, SHIRLEY**, for your service to the club, we are glad you 'landed' at Mesa Regal!!



**Shirley Seely...**

Whether Shirley is coordinating ladies social or volunteering at our December tourney (reindeer in the center) or travelling with the gals (bottom left)....she is always having fun and has a smile on her face!!



**Marilyn Kehl** - Marilyn is new to MRPClub and has only been playing pickleball for 6 months!!! She calls Bountiful, Utah home and is sure hoping to play some pickleball there this summer.

It is so awesome to have yet again, another new club member step up to volunteer their time as a coordinator. Marilyn coordinates both groups of the very popular ladders on Wednesday mornings. Marilyn also posts all the ladder results weekly on the Mesa Regal Pickleball and Friends website. She is a very keen volunteer and is looking forward to continue helping out next season!

**What was your first impression of the MR pickleball courts?**

I thought they were great.....I hope we can get more!

**What are the one or two things you enjoy about the MRPC?**

The leaders have been great. I love the people. Being single in this park can be challenging to feel included but not with pickleball. I have met so many new friends.

**What is the best/worst thing to happen since you started volunteering?**

Getting to know everyone has been a blessing. The worst are NO SHOWS! *Editor's note: Yes, it is always so much more work for our coordinators when people neglect to show up when they sign up!*

**What do you wish other people knew about MRPC and volunteering?**

It is a great opportunity to learn the game and meet fantastic people.

**THANKS, MARILYN**, for your service to the club, we are glad you 'landed' at Mesa Regal!!



**Marilyn Kehl...**  
You can tell Marilyn loves being on the courts..... and we love having you as a MRPC volunteer!!



**VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON**

A shout out to Cal Am for recognizing all our pickleball volunteers this year with a luncheon last Wednesday. This has never happened in the past for our club, so it was a welcome surprise which we hope they continue in 'non-Covid' years. Clarence thanked all those volunteers who could make it to the luncheon for their dedication and hard work this year.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS - NEAR AND FAR - FROM MRPClub!!**



**That's all for this week folks....keep safe, keep positive, keep smiling, and happy playing!!!!**

