



# Santa Fe Pickleball Newsletter

September 2021

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## Message from the Board

A serious incident happened at Fort Marcy on Monday that needs everyone's attention. In preparation for Zozobra, the Kiwanis Club closed Fort Marcy on Monday. Part of closing the park was to put two padlocks on the court entrances. Some people came by and saw the gates to the courts padlocked, and cut the padlocks to enter! Police were called and mediation occurred. The Kiwanis club offered to have the park open until Wednesday at noon.

District 1 representative Signe Lindell's words in response to this incident was, "Not cool!" I think that's putting it mildly. I would call it illegal. I understand being disappointed at not being able to play pickleball, but no part of me can relate to deciding to illegally enter a city-owned property to play a game.

We have worked really hard over the last year or so developing a very positive relationship with the city. The city has responded by agreeing to pay for converting the two tennis courts to six pickleball courts in the near future. No small feat.

In my opinion, this illegal incident sets back the Santa Fe Pickleball Club's (SFPBC) relationship with the city as well as the reputation of pickleball players in general.

Outraged? You should be!

As president and on behalf of the SFPBC, I will be sending a letter to the Kiwanis Club and Rick Espinosa, the Park Superintendent, who was called to the scene and acted with integrity.

**Shifting the focus from behavior off the pickleball court to behavior on the court...**

Have you ever received unsolicited feedback about your pickleball play?  
Have you ever given unsolicited feedback to another player?  
How have you reacted when you disagreed with an opponent's call?  
How have you reacted when you disagreed with a partner's call?  
What do you say when you see your partner step in the kitchen?  
Whose responsibility is it to make these calls?  
What do you do when someone on the court reacts, in your view, unsportsmanlike?

These are just a few examples of the many occurrences that happen daily on pickleball courts everywhere. These examples and our reactions are known as **SPORTSMANSHIP**.

A committee of people across the state met to ferret out what constitutes good sportsmanship in pickleball. This committee included our own Christine Wantuck and Cindy Lawton. Thank you both for your hard work that resulted in a concise and readable document. As Christine wrote,

"While it is impossible to address every nuance of every situation which can arise, the committee worked to develop guidelines that are both broad enough and specific enough to provide guidance in the most common situations and can be extrapolated using common sense to situations that are not directly addressed."

Please read the complete guide below under the 'Coach's Corner', or click on this link to go to the USA Pickleball Sportsmanship Guide on line. Work on applying these recommendations to improve the feel and the play of the game!!!  
<https://usapickleball.org/member-news/usa-pickleball-sportsmanship-guide/>  
See you on the courts!  
Jeff

## AMBASSADORS' NEWS

By Cindy Lawton & Gaby Loy

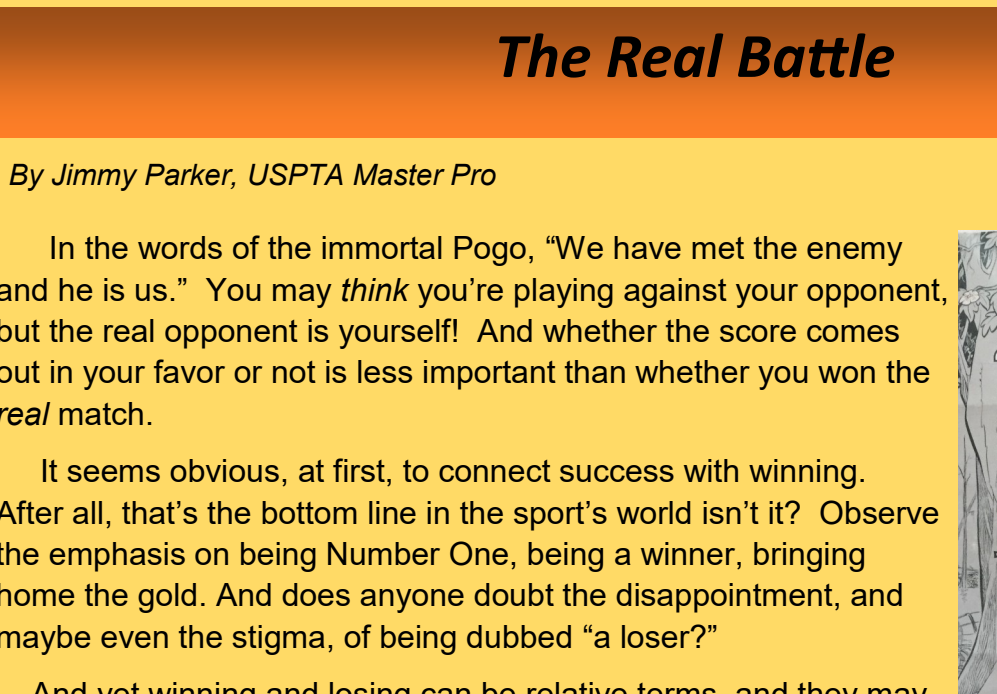
\*Arranged for Scott Moore to come in October. Great opportunity to improve skills, learn strategies, and have fun. There are two spots left in each session (see flyer below).

\* The city has appropriated funding for the conversion of tennis courts to pickleball courts. The future is looking very bright.

\* We had our final tournament for the year. Please contact Cindy/Gaby or members of the board for ideas for the future

\* Keep a watch out on team-reach this next month. There will be some opportunities for different structured play. Please make sure to respond if you plan on participating so we know how many players will be showing up.

### Pickleball Clinics with #1 senior Scott Moore



**WHAT:** Step up your game with intensive, semi-private training in strategy, technique, skill development, positioning, effective practice, and mental toughness with top pro and certified instructor, Scott Moore.

Moore. Together with a small group of other players, you will improve your mental game, shot making, shot selection, learn new strategies, drills, and a truly systematic approach to pickleball in order to become a more effective, better player!

**WHERE:** Fort Marcy Pickleball Center, Santa Fe

**WHEN:** Friday October 29th 8:30-11:30 for advanced 3.5+, and 1:00-4:00 for intermediate 3.0-3.49 level players. Saturday October 30th, 8:00-11:00 for intermediate and advanced players. All sessions are \$100 pp.

**HOW:** Spots are limited (approximately 12 per session); reserve your place by contacting Cindy at [clawts@gmail.com](mailto:clawts@gmail.com). Make sure to note which session you will be attending. Payment is needed to hold your spot:  
\*Send check payable to Paddles & Moore to Cindy Lawton at 408 Calle Kokopelli, Santa Fe, NM 87501 or  
\*Pay via PayPal at [scottjmore1@gmail.com](mailto:scottjmore1@gmail.com).

[highperformancepickleballacademy.com](http://highperformancepickleballacademy.com)  
[pickleballtrips.com](http://pickleballtrips.com)

## NEWS / UPDATES

### Upcoming Tournaments

By Cindy Lawton/Gaby Loy

- **New Mexico Open in Albuquerque; Sept 3 - Sept 6**
- **Albuquerque Pickleball Club Monster Mash: Oct 22-24**
  - This is a sanctioned event and players must be USAPA members
  - Registration— <https://pickleballtournaments.com>

### Beginner Classes at Ft. Marcy

By Kiki Hummel

We had overwhelming response to our inaugural beginner's class at Fort Marcy. I have close to 30 email addresses of participants. They learned about the class from TeamReach, or from seeing our website, or just walking their dog past the courts on the way to the dog park. Within 5 weeks, we had them up and running and playing games pretty much on their own. We are going to have another class in October so be on the lookout for that. There are 83 pickleball enthusiasts on Nextdoor.com, many of whom are beginners.

### Want to contribute to the newsletter?

Have you got something you'd like to share with the group either about pickleball or yourself? Would you like to contribute an article to the Newsletter or just submit some ideas? Contact Nancy Mroz at 505-660-4600 or [nancymroz@gmail.com](mailto:nancymroz@gmail.com)

## THE INNER GAME

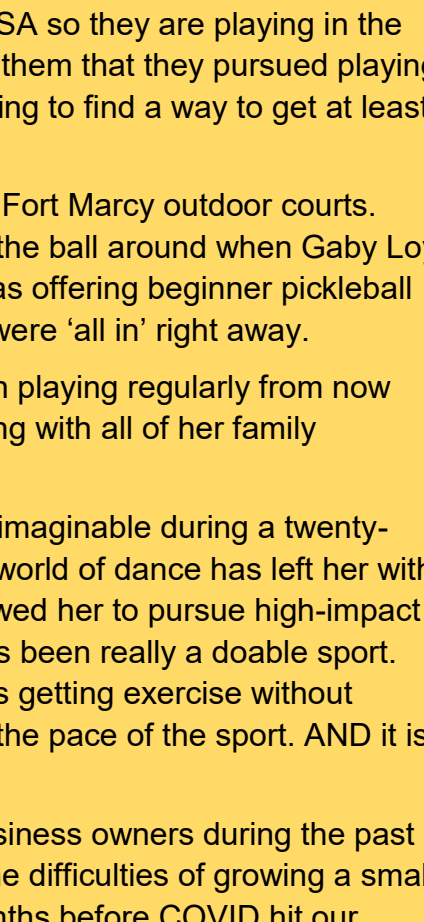
### The Real Battle

By Jimmy Parker, USPTA Master Pro

In the words of the immortal Pogo, "We have met the enemy and he is us." You may think you're playing against your opponent, but the real opponent is yourself! And whether the score comes out in your favor or not is less important than whether you won the real match.

It seems obvious, at first, to connect success with winning. After all, that's the bottom line in the sport's world isn't it? Observe the emphasis on being Number One, being a winner, bringing home the gold. And does anyone doubt the disappointment, and maybe even the stigma, of being dubbed "a loser?"

And yet winning and losing can be relative terms, and they may or may not give a true picture of what really happened. If you're a 4.5, you might play like a goober and still beat a 3.5. By contrast, you might play the match of your life against a player a few levels above your level, and still not win. Or maybe beat a better player who's injured. It soon becomes apparent that whether you won or lost is only a piece of the story.

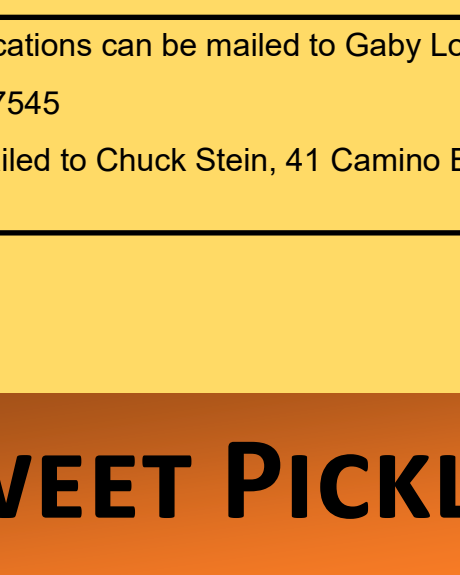


Competitive sports in general, and individual sports like pickleball and tennis in particular, bring us up against ourselves. It's always the self out there, to be dealt with and brought to terms. Our opponent is less a foe than in the dance - (s)he provides the excuse for meeting the self. In this encounter lies joy and frustration, struggle and exhilaration, and ultimately, learning. You are in effect striving to expand your own limits - chaotic maybe, but very much like life itself. In meeting this challenge, you confront yourself with all your warts, your doubts, your fears, and your conception of your own limitations.

It makes more sense, then, to set performance goals in evaluating how your game is developing and progressing. That, instead of measuring military in terms of wins and losses, ratings, rankings, etc. Success is moving toward becoming a better player, with all that entails.

For example, did you put out 100% effort, did you deal appropriately with your mistakes, were you patient yet aggressive, did you manage your tension level, did you have the courage to try a new shot you've been practicing? Questions like these provide a more nuanced view of your development - more so than just basing everything on whether you won or lost the outer game. You get the drift. What a great opportunity to challenge yourself, grow, and have fun in the process!

## COACH'S CORNER



Pickleball was created to be a fun, competitive, and highly social sport. Since its inception, it has embodied an ethic of good sportsmanship that includes respect, fair play, and graciousness in winning and losing. The purpose of this guide is to encourage behaviors that reflect these foundational values. The Official Rules of Pickleball take precedence over this guide in any and all situations.

1. **Treat all players, officials, volunteers, staff, and spectators with courtesy and respect.**
  - a. Introduce yourself to all players you do not know.
  - b. Never use foul language or obscene gestures. Never denigrate another person.
  - c. At the end of each game, meet the other players at the net to acknowledge them in a positive manner. In officiated matches, thank the referee.
  - d. Accommodate players with adaptive needs when possible.
2. **Know the Official Rules of Pickleball, apply them fairly and cooperate in any situation that is not expressly covered by the rules.**
3. **Practice good sportsmanship when making line calls.**
  - a. Respect your opponents' right to make all calls on their end of the court.
  - b. Call your own shot "out" if you see that it is out.
  - c. If you question an opponent's call, do so respectfully and do not argue.
  - d. Do not call a line call to your opponents, accept their call graciously.
  - e. Do not call a ball "out" unless you see it clearly and are certain it is out.
  - f. Promptly correct any wrong call your partner may make.
  - g. Resolve any uncertainty in favor of your opponents.
4. **Call a fault on yourself or your partner as soon as the fault occurs, regardless of whether your opponents are aware of the fault.**
  - a. Watch your own and your partner's feet for service or NVZ foot faults.
  - b. Accept your opponent's and your partner's fault calls graciously.
  - c. Admit if the ball hits you or your paddle on the way out of bounds.
5. **Claim a replay only if a hinder affects your team's ability to play the ball.**
6. **In social play, rotate on and off courts fairly, courteously, and in accordance with local practice.**
  - a. Don't jump ahead of others who are waiting to play.
  - b. Don't invite someone else forward in line or rearrange paddles so they can move up to play with you; move yourself back instead.
  - c. Don't call a lower score or start a second game to avoid leaving the court.
  - d. Be prepared to play when it is your turn.
  - e. If you must cross over to behind an active court, wait until play is stopped and cross quickly in a single group to minimize disruption of that game.
7. **Make safety a priority, while using common sense.**
  - a. If a ball strays onto your court, make eye contact with the correct person and roll or toss it back to them without disrupting play on other courts.
  - b. If your ball enters another court, immediately warn any players whose safety may be in jeopardy by loudly calling "ball" or some other warning. If the ball is rolling behind their court and does not present a danger to players, do not interrupt play but wait until play stops to retrieve it or ask for its return.
  - c. Never throw your paddle or strike the ball in anger or frustration.
8. **As a stronger player in social play, be kind to other players.**
  - a. Avoid hitting excessively to a weaker player.
  - b. Do not slam the ball directly at other players.
9. **Be considerate about playing up and playing down.**
  - a. Be willing to play sometimes with less-skilled players.
  - b. Do not demand to play with more skilled players; ask them nicely if you wish to play with them.
10. **Be a respectful and supportive partner.**
  - a. Avoid criticism and negative non-verbal communications.
  - b. Provide coaching and advice only when requested.

**Committee:**  
Jeff Conradi – District Ambassador  
Robert David – Ambassador  
Jean Dicesare – Ambassador  
Brent Hall – District Ambassador  
Linda Koetting – Ambassador  
Craig Laughlin – Pickleball Magazine Columnist  
Cindy Lawton – Ambassador  
Steve Loranger – Ambassador  
Scott Nicastro – Ambassador  
Dick Osman – District Ambassador, Certified Referee, Chairman  
Nancy Sutton – District Ambassador  
Christine Wantuck – District Ambassador, Level 2 Referee

## MEET THE MEMBERS

### Peña Pickleball

By Nancy Mroz

THREE GENERATIONS SANTA FE NATIVES LEARNING PICKLEBALL TOGETHER...How Cool Is This!

Recently I met up with Vi, Be & Chainé Peña at the outdoor pickleball courts at Fort Marcy to ask them how they all became interested in playing pickleball.

Last year Be (Bernadette), a PE teacher at New Mexico School for the Arts, was trying to research sports and outdoor activities that would be COVID safe for her high school students. She knew that her aunt in California was an avid pickleball player, so she started reading up on the sport of pickleball. Her research led to the school purchasing paddles, nets and balls.

As weather permitted early last Spring, the students started hitting balls over the nets, then volleys and finally learning to serve. They don't have courts at NMSA so they are playing in the parking lot. Many students decided pickleball was so much fun for them that they pursued playing over the summer. This Fall, it is 'game on' at the school! Be is hoping to find a way to get at least some lined courts at the school.

So, one day a couple of months ago, Vi, Be and Chainé headed to Fort Marcy outdoor courts. They were using the wooden paddles from Be's school and hitting the ball around when Gaby Loy approached them, telling them that the Santa Fe Pickleball Club was offering beginner pickleball clinics. Gaby also lent them a 'real' pickleball paddle to try. They were 'all in' right away.

Vi will be 80 in a few months and just loves the sport. She plans on playing regularly from now on. How many outdoor activities could she do competing and playing with all of her family members while feeling safe and controlled in her movements?



Be, Chainé, & Vi



Chainé at Chainé's on Water St.

Be taught every kind of dance imaginable during a twenty-year span. Unfortunately, the world of dance has left her with some injuries that had not allowed her to pursue high-impact activities. For Be pickleball has been really a doable sport. Pickleball works for her...she is getting exercise without straining her body. She loves the pace of the sport. AND it is so much fun!

Chainé, like so many small-business owners during the past 18 months, has experienced the difficulties of growing a small business that opened only months before COVID hit our world. Chainé Gourmet Cookies on Water Street has weathered the 'storm' by developing a successful online presence and COVID-safe delivery systems. After a busy workday, pickleball is becoming a fantastic way to unwind, have fun and get some exercise. Chainé has been a yoga instructor for 13 years and enjoys the balance between yoga and pickleball...both mutually beneficial. Chainé gets on Team Reach to schedule clinics for herself and her family, and to get updates from the courts.

Vi, Be and Chainé are joined by Michael, Chainé's husband and Nicholas, Be's son. They are all so excited about playing pickleball saying that everyone needs to play this sport! The other thing that struck them about pickleball is the inclusiveness of the sport, allowing them to meet so many new people, being outdoors in our beautiful New Mexico landscape, and learning a new sport. Another big benefit is shopping and finding cute pickleball outfits...more fun!

So, look for Vi, Be and Chainé Peña on the courts and introduce yourself to them!

## Welcome New Members!

Provided by Gaby Loy

Beth Roberts  
Danny Robinson  
Estelle Meskin  
Bernadette Ortiz Peña  
Chainé Peña  
Vi Ortiz  
Vicki Brown

Diane Tegmeyer  
Jeremy Mann  
Katherin Parsons  
Dennis Parsons  
Susan Roth  
Jennifer Boc  
Paul Mushen

**Reminder:** Membership applications can be mailed to Chuck Stein, 41 Camino Botanica, Santa Fe, NM 87507 or P.O. Box 408, Tesuque, NM 87545  
Monetary donations can be mailed to Chuck Stein, 41 Camino Botanica, Santa Fe, NM 87507

## SWEET PICKLES

### Member Recognition/Accomplishments

**NEW MEXICO GAMES August 20-22 WINNERS!**

3.5 Men's Doubles 50+  
GOLD  
Owen Perillo & Brian Waters (from Angel Fire) →

3.0 Men's Doubles 60+  
GOLD  
Steve Koch & Dennis Wilhoit

3.5 Men's Singles 50+  
BRONZE  
Owen Perillo →

3.5 Mixed Doubles 50+  
BRONZE  
Nancy Lesicka & Owen Perillo

4.0 Women's Doubles 16-49  
GOLD  
Cindy Lawton & Julie Bugg

3.0 Women's Doubles 60+  
BRONZE  
Linda Schaffer & Diana Trask  
(No photo available)

**COLORADO PICKLEBALL OPEN July 30**

3.5 Men's Doubles 75+  
BRONZE  
Mike Jackson & Wally Astor

3.5 Men's Singles 75+  
BRONZE  
MIKE JACKSON

## CAUGHT ON THE COURTS

On Thursday, August 19th Fort Marcy was abuzz with activity on the pickleball courts! Eight women's teams and eight men's teams competed in a double elimination fun tournament organized by our fearless pickleball leaders Cindy Lawton and Gaby Loy starting at 8:00 am. Wayne Stebert and Jeff Levine won the men's division with Fred Jacques and Ben Schoen coming in 2nd. The women's division ended in a split decision for 1st place between Andie Crosby & Kim Mancuso and Nancy Germand & Gaby Loy.

Thanks to all who participated and helped make it happen!



**Seems like a whole lot of sitting and standing around. Back to the courts!**

