



**SANTA FE PICKLEBALL CLUB
BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 23, 2023**

Cindy Lawton, Club President, called the meeting to order at 4:20 PM.

Present: Board Members: Cindy Lawton-President, Gaby Loy-Vice President, Chuck Stein-Treasurer, Sandy Arrighi-Secretary, and Bruce Panowski, Mike Jackson, Nancy Mroz, and Nic Blouin (via phone) – Members-at-Large

KRISPY CREAM DONUT FUNDRAISING: The SFPC Board voted unanimously to not to accept their fundraising offer which would have shared profits with the club during the months of June and July for members who came in and purchased donuts/beverages using a club code. One of the deciding factors was that we learned that the Santa Fe location has been permanently closed.

AWNINGS FOR FT. MARCY: The Board approved the purchase of two shade awnings for the Ft. Marcy pickleball courts at a previously quoted (2 years ago) cost of approximately \$1837 each. The City of Santa Fe requires that we use City-approved vendors for the purchase and installation. A motion was made and approved for a budget of \$5,000. Cindy to discuss this further with the city.

CITY UPDATES: Melissa (Santa Fe Parks and Open Space Division Director) said the SF City Council last week had pickleball on the agenda and the project is moving forward for the design of the six new courts at Ft. Marcy. The design is supposed to be completed by this September.

SANTA FE REPORTER ARTICLE ABOUT PICKLEBALL: A writer from the Santa Fe Reporter requested and obtained an interview with both Cindy and Melissa. He had indicated in an email to the club that the article would be about the growing popularity of pickleball in Santa Fe, however the intention of the article remains unclear. We also received an email from the Santa Fe New Mexican for an interview and subsequent article for the magazine.

CLUB CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- **Mixed-Doubles Play:** Requests have been made to include mixed doubles events in the club calendar. Beginning in July, a mixed-doubles ladder event will be scheduled every other Monday. Members must register with a partner for this event. This will take place of the

previous men's ladder since there was very little interest in the men's ladder when it was previously offered, The men's ladder will not be added to the calendar at this time.

- Chile 3 Drills: These drills have very low attendance so the number of registrants will be reduced from 16 to 12 for now. That will open up one additional court for open play on that day.
- Group Lessons: It was agreed that the bad weather in April interfered with the lessons, so next year we might consider waiting until May to start the lessons. Lessons have been very popular and will remain 2 times/week for a 4 week period.
- Round Robins Times: Members have said the 1 hour and 15 minute round robin events are too short. These round robin events will be increased to 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- Advanced Play Times: Due to limited registration, the advanced play event on Sunday will be removed from the calendar. The Wednesday advanced play event will remain.

PICKLEHEADS/FAT TIRE BEER EVENT: The Pickleheads event will take place some time in August. It will be a round robin event followed by a beer/food party. Pickleheads will use their software for registration and event scoring. More information about this event will be emailed to all SFPC members.

DINKO DE MAYO TOURNAMENT: The tournament was a success! We received lots of compliments and gained insight on how to improve on future tournaments. We brought in approximately \$9700 and after expenses, made approximately \$3700 in profits.

DO WE WANT TO HOST A FALL TOURNAMENT? The club is considering offering a fall (possibly late October) tournament similar to the Dinko De Mayo but with fewer registrants. We learned a lot from the Dinko De Mayo experience and feel confident we can host future tournaments using the USAPA software ourselves, which would save us money. Cindy and the SFPC Board are open to offering another tournament and will discuss it further at our next meeting.

STRETCH LAB: A local business has approached the SFPC to offer stretch sessions to our members at the Ft. Marcy pickleball courts. The club receives similar offers quite frequently from a variety of businesses. Board members agreed that promotions such as this be limited to organizations that are willing to donate \$5000 or more to the club. With this donation, they are mentioned in the club newsletter and allowed up to 2 sessions/year.

OPEN PLAY ISSUES: The Ft. Marcy courts are popular and crowded, thus we need to find ways to open up the courts as quickly as possible. We will post signs stating that if all courts are full, games will play to 11 but win by 1 point instead of 2 points. In addition, more paddle holders will be purchased and installed so that we won't have to place paddles on the ground.

JULY 4TH PARTY: We will have an afternoon 4th of July event, in lieu of our normal calendar events. This will be a mini-competition event where each of the 6 courts will be set up for a challenge. Participants will gain points for winning a challenge. Prizes will be given to the winners. We expect the competition might last about an hour or so with open play to follow. The event will be held from 1-3:30 pm with a pool party and BBQ to follow at a nearby clubhouse. More information about this fun event will be emailed to members this coming week.

ADDITIONAL CLUB PURCHASES:

- We will order 300 Franklin pickleballs for the club. Franklin balls can be bought at a discount than other brands and members seem to prefer them. We have a \$234 credit at Pickleball Central available which we will use for other items such as prizes for tournaments or other club needs.
- Two Roll dry squeegees to dry off wet courts will be purchased at approximately \$110 each and be chained to the fence.
- AED: A rechargeable AED will be purchased for the Ft. Marcy outdoor pickleball courts. Cindy will need to get permission from Melissa for this purchase. Our other option would be to attach AED on one of the buildings at the Ft. Marcy baseball field and use one of their electrical outlets. We felt this was too far away in an emergency situation.
- Benches: Two additional benches, similar to the ones already at the Ft. Marcy courts will be purchased and installed in the near future.

BUDGET: Dr. Mike Jackson and Chuck will meet to discuss the budget for the remainder of the year. They will present the budget to the Board when completed. Each year an annual budget will be submitted for Board approval.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: We have had requests for short-term membership fees. The SFPC Board unanimously voted to deny this request as it would be nearly impossible to meet everyone's requests for discounted rates and difficult to keep track of these memberships. The fees will remain at \$35/year for individuals or \$70/year for a family membership.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sandy Arrighi, SFPC Secretary