



Meeting notes of the Lake City Pickleball Advisory Committee

February 18/2019

Attended by: Chip Lynch, Donna Lynch, Bob Hoffman, Al Royal, Tammy Magstadt, and Ken Lacey

AGENDA—Fine tuning play times and whiteboard policy

The meeting was called to address concerns surrounding fairness to all skill levels and player expectations. It was noted that the most serious problems exist on Sunday. It was predicated by an email that was written by Ken Lacey, who was made aware that some people felt slighted during the previous Sunday's play time. While the burgeoning attendance was generally regarded as a positive indication of the growth of the club, the surplus of players also aggravated the friction between higher-skilled players and everyone else. The higher skilled players rightly felt that they were entitled to some challenging play time amongst themselves, while some of the other players were unaware that these players had the right to dedicate courts to higher level play after 3:00 p.m.

Some of the points made were as follows:

- Higher skilled players deserve time to play with partners and opponents of equal skill levels
- Lower skilled players deserve as much play time as higher skilled players
- The fluctuating attendance from one Sunday to the next has contributed to a relaxation of the social/competitive play times
 - It's only the crowded days when these problems arise
- There was some concern expressed about manipulation of the sign-up squares to isolate certain players or to be "clique-ish" in repeatedly signing up the same foursome in the first available square

After a lively discussion that explored a variety of remedies, a consensus developed on the following points:

- Sticking to the rules already established were seen to be the best way forward and what was mainly needed was a re-commitment to those rules
- Certain rules were deemed to be important enough to be codified into written laws on the whiteboard. This would lend authority to any member seeking to transition from one play modality to the next. These were
 - Enhanced details regarding the whiteboard reservation system, most notably that a square with less than 4 players will play before the full square lined up after it. (the 4th player must be found somewhere before any new game can start)
 - Changing the language from Social vs. Competitive play to "Open Play vs. Players with higher skill levels (>3.0) have priority
- Certain rules would be advocated less formally due to the changing attendance levels, such as
 - Higher skilled level players modulate participation in Open Play to give more opportunity to everyone else if they are planning to play in the high skilled courts later in the

afternoon. (On days with lower attendance, they can participate more freely in open play)