



KEOWEE KEY PICKLEBALL CLUB WEEKLY UPDATE

President's Corner

In the past two weekly updates, I summarized our four goals for the year and talked about what we did to accomplish Goal 1: Increase exposure of the Pickleball Club within the Community and Goal 2: Promote interaction with other area clubs. This week, I'd like to speak to what we did to accomplish Goals 3 and 4.

Goal 3: Increase emphasis on player develop and intra-club competition

We have had a number of intra-club events: Winter Ladies League, a Spring Pickleball Tournament, a Summer Mixed Doubles Tournament and our Fall Club Championship. This year, we also had an inaugural 'Orange and White' intra-club event with the Keowee Key Tennis Association in June. The level of intra-club competition is higher with a significant increase in the number of different players competing in the final round of intra-club events. It's not a surprise that the level of play has increased so dramatically, with the tremendous opportunity for player development we have at Keowee Key. Our player development program has become an institution and we continue to grow the number of facilitators for our weekly player development sessions. The program is truly a Club member benefit and we hope you have taken the opportunity to participate, whether as teacher or student.

Goal 4: Maintain the social aspects of the club through organized events for club members

This year, the social committee did a great job planning a calendar of fun parties for our Club members. We had seven PB&B's, five parties for Club ladies and our annual holiday dinner. We also had a party, complete with band and dancing, after the 'Orange and White' event. Our socials continue to be our most popular and well attended events and we look forward to the 2017 parties. Hope to see you all at our annual Bloody Mary Mixer to 'Ring in the New Year' on Jan 1st.

And hope to see you on the courts soon!

Ann (Savoca)

Social Scene

Ring in the New Year!

Join us for pickleball and Bloody Marys **Sunday, January 1, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. We'll provide the orange juice and Bloody Mary mix. BYO vodka, champagne, or your beverage of choice. And snacks to share are always welcome.

Ladies Annual Re Gifting Party

Ladies mark your calendars for our annual re-gifting party - Jan 13 from 1:00-3:00. Wrap that "special" gift you received from the holidays that you are not sure of what it is or where to use it. Bring it to our party for some fun and some pickleball. Bring your drink and a snack to share. See you there.

The Social Team

Player Development

Thought for the day: **When should you hit the ball after it bounces off the court? When the ball is on its way up or on its way back down? What are the implications?** Let's talk about it out on the courts.

At last Wednesday's Self-Directed Player Development session there were three courts of action with helpers at each working with participants. The focus was on fundamentals: Minimal backswing...Hitting the ball in front of the body...Paddle face pushing the ball toward the target. For Dinks...staying at the NVL (Non-Volley Line); Keeping low in an athletic position, ready for quick movements; Firm Paddle Grip; quick ball bounce to paddle strike rhythm (bounce hit...quick quick). Participants remarked about the improvements they made.

The 3rd Wednesday of the month, 12/21 is our next Facilitator Led Player Development session. So we can customize the session to your needs, please let me know what specific things you feel will be of greatest benefit to you at jswalker5233d@gmail.com . We look forward to another productive session.

See you on the courts.

John (Walker)

[Click here to view calendar for pickleball block times and special events.](#) We encourage you to create your own schedule by going to the reservations column and reserving a court(s) up to 72 hours in advance when available.

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