



Letters from the Editors

Joanne Griesser and Dorothy Bolton

This is the first edition of the Howard County Pickleball Association (HCPA) Newsletter. Our board is trying to use as many methods of communication as possible. We hope to publish 4-6 times per year.

This Newsletter is for our members. If you have a story, a helpful tip, pictures, travel information, an event or you just want to have your voice heard, send us your article.

The Newsletter Staff is hosting a contest for this first edition. "Name our Newsletter." There is only one rule. Keep the entry 30 characters or less, including spaces. The HCPA Board Members will make the final decision and the winner will be announced in the next newsletter. Submissions should be sent to Joanne.Griesser@verizon.net. Please put the subject as Newsletter Naming Contest.

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From the President's Desk

Rain, rain go away...come back some other day! I'm sure you are feeling the same as me, we have had enough rain. It certainly has diminished our ability to play pickleball. Which just makes us appreciate the indoor opportunities that we do have, such as the YMCA, the North Laurel Community Center, the Meadowbrook Athletic Center and Glenwood Community Center. During the grand opening of the CA Owen Brown pickleball courts, I spoke to someone from CA who said she was working on setting up lines in the Supreme Sports Club Arena. Our association plans to meet with CA to promote more pickleball venues and we will be pushing for those lines in the arena as well. It is tough competing with basketball, considering the number of programs and how well established they are in using almost all the indoor facilities available. However, HCPA will continue to search for new indoor venues as best as we can. The association is working with Howard County Community College to once again use their gymnasium for winter. Like last year, we will likely establish a time on Sunday's starting in January and going till March. We will also explore the use of the smaller school gyms to see if any won't be used for basketball. Although small they do offer indoor capabilities. Finally, there are the CA racquetball courts at Supreme Sports Club. CA has nets and members can reserve the courts. These work very well for drills as well as games, provided you are flexible with the rules. I often go there for drills and end with a game that allows each player to call a hindrance on the serve if the ball is too close to the walls. So, there are options, although limited. But if that dang on rain would just stop, we can get back to playing outside again.

I would like to thank Rob Schimdt, our Vice President, for taking on the job of Organized Play. He is doing great at coordinating the use of the PB equipment along with the setup and takedown of the nets. Please consider volunteering to help with the organized play sessions. We need members to volunteer to take one or more sessions to decide if playing if possible, bring the nets to the site, clear off the courts of debris and put up and take down the nets. It works so much better if we have several people we can work with to take this responsibility.

Duane's Court

If you get a chance "like" our Facebook page "Howard County Pickleball Association." I have been posting information of interest to Association members. I also use the page to post tips to play better pickleball.

I have started doing intermediate lessons using the Pickleball Trainer machine at the Locust Park courts on Saturday. I am not sure how often I will do these lessons but if the weather holds I may try to do more in November.

The Board has been advocating with the Columbia Association for more Winter play opportunities and getting one of our Saturday play courts converted to permanent pickleball courts. We may have an opportunity to try using the arena at the Supreme Sports Club for play this winter. Stay tuned. Our efforts to get CA to convert either Locust Park or the Ice Rink courts converted to pickleball courts is still

an ongoing effort. I think one of these two will be converted at some point but I don't know exactly when.

The Board will also be discussing with Howard County Recreation and Parks how they can expand the pickleball playing opportunities at their facilities. We will discuss their plans for dual use courts at the fields behind the East Columbia Library that they will be building next summer. The 6 courts will be lined for both youth tennis (quick start) and pickleball. We will also discuss having pickleball lines on more tennis courts and long-range goals for pickleball at Blandair Park.

Webmaster Tidbits

If you haven't been on the website lately, you missed seeing the new addition of the picture slider added to the Home page. This allows me to periodically post pictures of our members. It helps if pictures are submitted to me so please take a moment and take a picture of your group and send it my way via our association email address (hocopball@gmail.com) so we can post it to our website. Let's show others who are exploring this addictive game who our members are.

Our Members Directory now can add where you are a member of and your rating. Please use the profile update to add this information to help others reach out to you for players. Also, please send me a headshot if you would like to add a photo to your name, making it easier for our members to recognize you when they look through the list of names.

If anyone would like to assist in the management and enhancement of the web page, please let me know and we can discuss what's involved and how we can work together.

If you have suggestions or complaints, please use the contact page or email to our association email address and submit your comments. Feedback is appreciated.

Upcoming Events

November 17, HCPA tournament, Women's, Men's and Mixed Doubles

Saturday the 17th at either Locust Park or Owen Brown facilities for some Pickleball doubles-

A round robin event- with 8-10 teams participating at different times of the day-

A person can only enter one event for the day; register with your partner, cost is \$5.00 per team

Women's will start at 9.00-11.00

Men's will start at 11.00-1.00

Mixed will start at 1.00-3.00

To register: joedsp1125@gmail.com both partners name and email address. Please register by Nov. 10th. If you need a partner, just register yourself and we will attempt to find you a partner. We can use any volunteers during the event- to help run an event, or be an official.

Where to Play

With the winter season fast approaching, many of us are looking to find a nice cozy indoor facility.

Currently these are the **INDOOR** places we have identified. <http://howardcountypickleball.org/places-to-play/local-places-to-play/>

Venue	Address	Type	Time	Cost	Contact Information	Amenities
Columbia Association Supreme Sports Club	7080 Deepage Drive, Columbia, MD	Drop In	Any time	Free for Columbia Association (CA) members	410-381-5355	6 racketball courts, request a temp pickleball. Unline for pickleball.
Dancel YMCA	4331 Montgomery Road, Ellicott City, MD	Drop In	Mon, Wed, Fri 9am to 1pm	YMCA Membership (senor rate available)	410-465-4334	6 courts - 3 with permanent lines, 3 with tape. Some times not available during summer camp sessions.
Forty West Racquet Club	6421 Baltimore National Pike, Catonsville, MD 21228	Drop In	7pm to 10pm	\$10 per session	410-747-5683	Call ahead/RSVP
Gary J. Arthur Community Center (Howard County Recreation & Parks, Dept of Ageing)	2400 Route 97, Cooksville, MD	Drop In	Tues & Thurs 3 cts 11am to 2:30pm; 3 cts 12pm to 2:30pm Fri. 3 cts 12pm to 2pm**	Free for seniors 50 and over with membership card	410-313-5440	Senior membership card can be obtained at the center. ** Friday is designated as beginner/newbie play; experienced players may be on site to assist.
Meadowbrook Athletic Complex (Howard County Rec & Parks)	5001 Meadowbrook Lane, Ellicott City, MD 21043	Register	Days and times determined each season, no summer play	Visit website for registration & fees, times and dates of play.	Amanda Bartell abartell@howardc ountymd.gov	Visit HCRP website for more info.

Tournament Results

None at this time

Classified (Future- if you would like to advertise your business)

Teachers

Paddles for sale

Nets for sale

First Edition

Autumn 2018

Free Stuff