

TPA Member Newsletter

June 18, 2023



See the TPA website at tallahasseepickleball.com

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Notes From the May 4th Membership Meeting

Thirty TPA members attended the May 4th meeting at the Eastside Branch Library. The new TPA board was announced at the meeting:

- President: Rodney Bo Houck
- Vice President: Cathy Bedsole
- Treasurer: Elizabeth (Betsy) Lieberman
- Director: Edith (Ebo) Barefoot
- Director: JoAnn Cox
- Director: Marlon Mutuc
- Director: Holly Snyder
- Past President (non-voting member): Fred Markham

[View / download the minutes of the meeting.](#)

Northeast Park Update

At a recent Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meeting, the Northeast

At a recent Blueprint intergovernmental/agency meeting, the Northeast Park project was put on hold pending a decision later this summer. The delay is based on concerns voiced by local residents about traffic congestion in the area. The park is needed for youth sports as well as for pickleball courts. There are no public courts in that part of town, while a significant portion of the local players live in the area.

Please help TPA promote the park development by taking a few minutes of your time to complete the Blueprint IA [Project Information and Feedback Form](#) for Northeast Park. Your input truly matters, and may make a difference in the outcome of the park. The Blueprint IA staff and local government are sensitive to public inputs, and your comment will be read and tabulated with the rest. More inputs from the pickleball public can lead to us getting more courts in Northeast Park.

Tom Brown Park Shade Update

According to the latest update from Tallahassee Parks and Recreation on Friday, June 16th, materials have been ordered for the shade structure, and the manufacturer is working on it now. Installation has been given priority and it will be completed by Parks and Rec. staff as soon as the materials are received. The design is consistent with the other shade structures in the tennis court area.

Four Oaks Park Update

TPA requested information from Tallahassee Parks and Recreation about wind mitigation plans for the Four Oaks Park pickleball courts. It is quite windy, as all who have played there know. The Parks and Recreation staff are carrying this as a consideration, but there are currently no plans to provide wind mitigation via landscaping or other means. According to weatherspark.com, Tallahassee has lower average wind speed during the summer, so there may be some minor relief soon. On the other hand, the difference throughout the year is only about 2 mph, so we should probably just learn to play in the wind.

Chaires Park Update

Leon County Parks and Recreation replaced the troublesome SwiftNets with a new roll out design. The new nets are locked to the fence in each corner. The locks use the same code as the lock box. The original nets played very well, but they were often broken during setup and teardown. The rollout nets solve that problem. We don't have any new information on

the shade structure installation in the aisleway between the courts.

Sponge Rollers for Drying the Courts

Sponge rollers are available at Tom Brown Park and Four Oaks Park for drying the courts. There is an [instructional video](#) on our TPA Facebook Group. When you finish using a roller, please hang it on the fence to dry instead of leaving it sitting on the ground. When left to dry on the ground, the sponge dries with a flat spot that makes it difficult to use and deteriorates the material.

Hat and Visor Sale Update

Orders have been collected for TPA hats and visors, and the order is being prepared now by the printer. Delivery is expected before June 24th. Watch your email inbox, and our [TPA Facebook Group](#) and [Instagram page](#) for updates. Note that the original plan was to have white, black, and blue colors, but we have replaced blue with gray, as the blue was out of stock. The hats and visors will display the TPA logo as shown below, designed by Abdel Gonzalez.



Court Schedule Changes

With school ending for the summer, indoor play opportunities are no longer available for weekday mornings until August. Check the [City of Tallahassee pickleball website](#) and our [TPA Facebook Group Files](#) for court schedule updates.

PB&YAY! Tournaments

Slots are filling up fast for the July 22nd PB&YAY! Birthday Bash Round Robin Pickleball Tournament. Sign up [here](#) if you are interested. The next

tournament is in preliminary planning stages for sometime around early September. Look for a notification in your inbox and on the TPA Facebook group during the Summer.

National Senior Games Association - Nationals in July

Several Tallahassee players will be participating in the National Senior Games in Pittsburgh, July 9 - 12. Rodney Houck, Chelsie Levitan, Betsy Lieberman, Fred Markham, and Thea Petro will be playing in both doubles and singles pickleball events. There are about 11,500 total participants in all sports, and 1582 pickleball players on 45 courts over an 8 day period. Read [here](#) for an interesting history of the National Senior Games Association.

Membership Renewal Reminder (*Please renew now if your membership is out of date.*)

Our number of overdue membership renewals has been growing lately, so please renew your membership if it is overdue. If you are not sure when your renewal is due, you can find it by logging into the website, www.tallahassee.pickleball.com. You may also find it in a TPA email in your inbox.

TPA members will receive an email reminder to renew each year during the anniversary month of joining the association. These emails are sent automatically by our membership software. Please renew when you get the notification to help us continue advocating for improved pickleball resources and services. All TPA board members and workers are volunteers, so that all funds go directly into operations, pickleball equipment, and advocacy. If you have any questions about anything related to association finances or operations, please ask by emailing admin@tallahasseepickleball.com or ask any board member when you see them on the courts.

Membership Status

TPA is growing! We now have 309 active members. Part of the growth is due to the member discounts for PB&YAY! tournaments and TPA events. TPA is also beginning to organize "member only" events. Based on demographic data maintained by the City of Tallahassee, there are approximately 2200 pickleball players in the Tallahassee/Big Bend Area.

501(c)(3) Status

TPA is a volunteer-only Florida tax exempt, nonprofit corporation. We also have IRS 501(c)(3) status.

Social Media

- **TPA Facebook Group**

Our Facebook group is [Tallahassee Pickleball Association](#), a public group that now has 1011 members. Take a look, join the group, and add your Pickleball related posts and comments. (No marketing or soliciting, please.)

- **Instagram**

You may also follow us on our [Tallahassee Pickleball Association Instagram page](#). Our growing group of followers is now up to 92.

Pickleball Central DISCOUNT CODE (Use code **CRTPA** at checkout)

This is a great way to save money on your purchases from Pickleball Central and support TPA at the same time!

Get a 5% discount and TPA gets a 5% credit when you order from [pickleballcentral.com](#) using order code CRTPA. For every purchase using the discount code CRTPA, Pickleball Central will credit TPA's account with 5% of the purchase price. Each year TPA can use the funds on account to purchase nets, balls, and other equipment. So you get a discount and contribute to your Pickleball association at the same time. Sweet!

Update Your TPA Profile Data

Help us improve our communications by making sure your email and telephone number are up to date on the [TPA website](#).

Reach Out!

Give us your comments, suggestions, and questions via email, or via post/comment on the [Facebook group](#), or simply talk with one of our board members at the courts. Email: admin@tallahasseepickleball.com

TPA Board Members

Current board members are listed on the [TPA Website "About"](#) page.

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