

March 3, 2024



PB&YAY! Alternating Partner Round Robin

Men's & Women's Doubles: Saturday, April 20th

This OUTDOOR tournament will have four divisions for skill levels from 2.5 - 4.0+. The alternating partner format will guarantee that you play a LOT of games, meet new people and have fun. Cost is \$30. **No partner required!**

[Click Here for More Information and to Sign Up!](#)

Location: Daniel B Chaires Park and Community Center
4768 Chaires Cross Rd, Tallahassee, FL



Tom Brown Park News

Water Station

Using a donation of \$4000 from the Tallahassee Pickleball Association, Tallahassee Parks and Recreation will soon install a water fountain and bottle filler at the Tom Brown pickleball courts. Materials are on order, and the unit will be installed as soon as it is received from the manufacturer.

Court Repairs

Tallahassee Parks and Recreation will begin repairing courts at Tom Brown Park

soon - rumor has it that it should start any week now. We believe that the plan is to repair one court at a time, while leaving the other three courts open for play.

Northeast Park Pickleball Courts

Due to a recent budget reduction from \$18M to \$12M, Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency will only build 4 pickleball courts in the new Northeast Park, scheduled for completion at the end of 2025. Four courts are NOT enough: northeast Tallahassee has a huge number of pickleball players, but no public courts. In a recent meeting with Commissioner Brian Welch, TPA made the case for at least 12 courts. Commissioner Welch said that once Leon County Parks and Recreation takes over operation, funds could be found to add more courts. TPA then requested to include the necessary room for expansion ADJACENT to the initial 4 courts. Commissioner Welch seemed to agree with this idea, **but** the park's preliminary design does not provide the space we requested. **NOTE:** It is very simple and inexpensive to change the design layout at this early stage. There is plenty of room on the park grounds to move other amenities to make the needed space, or to relocate the pickleball courts to a larger area.

Please email the county commissioners, Blueprint IA, and Leon County Parks and Recreation to ask them to make this change. Here are the key points. Just say something like this in your own words, or copy and paste the following into your email. (NOTE: Please keep the message positive. The County and Blueprint staff are on our side, and they have all been very cooperative with TPA.)

- We understand the budget problems, and we appreciate getting 4 pickleball courts.
- However, we need 12 courts to meet the needs of the large population of pickleball players in Northeast Tallahassee who are currently underserved.
- We understand that this will have to come after the initial opening.
- The courts should be adjacent. Please change the current preliminary park layout to make space to add 8 future courts.

Commissioner Brian Welch: WelchB@leoncountyfl.gov

Blueprint IA:

- Director: Autumn Calder, autumn.calder@blueprintia.org
- Project point of contact for Northeast Park: Eric Mason, eric.mason@blueprintia.org

Leon County Parks and Recreation Director: Amanda

Leon County Parks and Recreation Director, Amanda

Heidecker, heideckera@leoncountyfl.gov

[Click here to easily email all of the county commissioners at once.](#)

2024-25 TPA Board of Directors

TPA is seeking volunteers for the new Board of Directors for 2024-25. Would you like to join the board this year to help advocate for increased pickleball resources and services, and help organize and run pickleball events such as round robins and drilling sessions? The Board meets formally about every two months, and holds informal electronic meetings occasionally as the need arises. The TPA Board consists of 7 voting members, including President, Vice President, Treasurer, and four Directors. We currently have two committees: Communications and Events. Read more about our mission and see the current board members at www.tallahasseepickleball.com.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board, or serving on a committee, please respond to this email stating your interest. Be sure to include your phone number and someone will give you a call.

New Sheriff in Town

Steven LeRoy has been promoted to Tennis Superintendent, replacing Glen Howe, at Tallahassee Parks and Recreation. The TPA board has reached out to meet with Steve to establish a working relationship. Our first request is to help improve the court contention at Winthrop Park, and Steve will call a meeting of tennis and pickleball people soon to discuss that topic. TPA has suggested several ways to modify the court layout to double the number of tennis and pickleball players that can be served at one time. For those of you who are familiar with Chaires Park courts, that is the layout that we propose.

TPA Membership Meeting

The TPA Board is making plans for the Second Annual Membership Meeting, probably sometime during May. Be on the lookout for more information in an upcoming newsletter.

upcoming newsletter.

This message was sent to you by [{Tallahassee Pickleball Association, Inc.}](#)

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