



Summer 2026 Newsletter

July 14, 2026

Upcoming Events

—Cynde Hargrave, VP/Director,
Communications

- **Monday, July 20**
Wes Gabrielsen PNW Classic Clinics
3.0/3.5 - 8:00-10:00am
3.5/4.0 - 10:30am-12:30pm
4.0+ - 5:30-7:30pm
Pine Nursery Park
- **July 22-26**
2026 PACIFIC NW CLASSIC
Pine Nursery Park
Annual tournament draws hundreds of players! Consider volunteering.
- **Thursday, July 23**
Tournament MEET & GREET
5:00-9:00pm
Ballers & Brews
20869 Redside Ct, Bend
- **Saturday, August 1**
Intro to Pickleball Clinic
10:00am-12:00pm
Free – Open to All
Pine Nursery Park
- **Wed., August 5 & ongoing**
Pro-Taught Clinics:
Drives, Drops, Drips & Dinks
12:00-1:00pm, 4-player max.
Serves & Returns Workshop
1:00-2:00pm, 4-player max
Register on CourtReserve

President's Message

—Kirk Foster, President

Our spring season opener was a great success, drawing strong attendance from both members and the public. We enjoyed fabulous weather and a full slate of activities, including rating evaluations, skills clinics, challenge court play, first aid instruction, and booths featuring snacks, pickleball gear, and other local resources for players.

Summer Weather and Tournament Outlook

The dog days of summer are here and as expected, both Bend and the courts are heating up. Long-range forecasts call for temperatures in the high 80s to low 90s throughout July. While those conditions are not ideal for the upcoming tournament, they could be worse—and we have certainly seen hotter tournament weather in past years.

Tournament registration is currently lower than anticipated, but we still expect to have about 300 players by the time registration closes.

Court Construction Update

The new public court construction project continues to move forward, though we do not expect the courts to be play-ready anytime soon. The court work is part of a much larger Pine Nursery Park project that includes several moving parts and makes the overall completion timeline difficult to pin down.

That said, the courts thus far look great, and the new lighting is going to be a tremendous improvement.

Board Updates and New Roles

At last month's general meeting, members approved bylaw changes that created a new board position and removed one existing at-large position. These changes are intended to better support Club programming, court organization, and player development.

- **Janet Davis**, who has served admirably as Director of Training & Development for the past three years, was elected to the newly created Director of Events role. In this position, she will plan, coordinate, and execute engaging Bend Pickleball Club events that enhance the member experience, foster community, and support the Club's mission of promoting pickleball in Central Oregon.
- **Marion Anderson** was approved as Director of Court Utilization. She will oversee the organization of member play at the Pine Nursery Park courts.
- **RJ Petershagen** was approved as the new Director of Training & Development. He will focus on developing skill-based training programs, identifying people to manage those programs and sessions, creating mentoring opportunities, and planning skill evaluations using the Central Oregon Rating Evaluation (CORE) process.

We expect members will appreciate the expanded Club activities and added support these roles will help provide in the years ahead. We thank the BPC members for attending the meeting and showing their support for Club operations.

Court Operations

One final update concerns the cameras at PNP. After a lengthy downtime, we have resolved the issues with the cameras, and they are back online. We know you appreciate and use them frequently. Technical issues are aggravating to all of us, especially those who must take the time to troubleshoot and restore them. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding.

As you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, we have enjoyed a busy spring and summer, and we have many challenging and fun activities on the horizon. As always, we thank you for your participation and support. ❖

Let's Get Your Game On

—RJ Petershagen, Director, Training & Development

Weekly skills clinics and workshops will continue throughout the summer season, as well as Saturday CORE tests at least once per month (dates TBD). Also, as previously announced, hall of fame player/coach Wes Gabrielsen is offering clinics to members and nonmembers alike on Monday, July 20th, at Pine Nursery, so that you can get your game tuned up for the annual Pacific Northwest Classic Tournament on July 22-27. There's still time to register for his clinics [HERE](#).

Keep an eye on the CourtReserve site (at >Events >Categories >Clinic) to find and reserve your spot in any of the clinics being offered. As announced, court availability is limited due to maintenance/resurfacing and the upcoming tournament. That said, resuming August 5, we are offering two 1-hour clinics every Wednesday at 12:00-1:00pm and 1:00-2:00pm, typically on Court 10. Each clinic is capped at 4 players.

In other training and development news, Svetlana Dieringer has joined the training staff as a Level 1 instructor. Svetlana is certified through Pickleball



Coaching International. She welcomes all who register with skill levels ranging from 2.0-2.5, 3.0-3.5, and beyond. She begins teaching the Wednesday afternoon clinics on August 5.

If you have ideas for a particular pickleball skill you'd like to hone or polish, drop a note in the Suggestion Box (located on the shed, right of the double door). We will try our best to accommodate your request in a future clinic. ❖

Come One, Come All!

–Janet Davis, Director of Events

As your new Director of Events, I couldn't be more excited to kick things off with something truly special.

For 2026, the Bend Pickleball Club is presenting an exclusive Pacific NW Classic tournament Meet & Greet event. Hosted at Ballers & Brews, this is your opportunity to meet and mingle with tournament players in a relaxed, festive atmosphere and hear how the competition is progressing.



Thursday, July 23, 5:00-9:00pm
Ballers & Brews, 20869 Redside Court, Bend

Come enjoy delicious food from the onsite food trucks, grab a cold beverage, connect with fellow members and players, and take part in the excitement. The Club will offer raffle tickets for great prizes, and there will be plenty of fun happening on the courts. Whether you're playing in the tournament, cheering from the sidelines, or simply looking for a great evening with your pickleball community, this is an event you shouldn't miss.

I look forward to our creating many more memorable events together. See you at Ballers & Brews! ❖

Clarification of BPC Rules for Scheduled Challenge Courts

–Alane Harrold, Director At Large

What is challenge play?

Challenge court play enables BPC members to play with other members of comparable skill level. Informative signage is currently on the courts, and/or members can refer to CourtReserve to see which courts are scheduled for challenge play, at what time, and by what skill level. Registration is not required; players join on a first come/first-served basis.

How does one join challenge play?

Waiting players (of appropriate skill level) place paddles in the paddle rack at the court where they wish to challenge the winning players. The set-up may vary:

- One-on challenge – In the instance of a single paddle in the rack, that owner can play the winners. One of the two losing players (they choose) can remain on the court as a fourth player.
- Two-on challenge – The owners of two paddles in the rack play the winners of the completed match. The losing pair leave the court and can place their paddles in the rack if they choose.
- Three-on challenge - If there are three paddles waiting, the first two paddle owners play the winners, and the third paddle moves to first in line for the next game.



Winners may stay on for two consecutive wins and then must come off in order to rotate back in. When courts are at or near capacity, and paddle racks have four or more paddles in queue, a four-on/four-off rule goes into effect.

Scoring

Games are played to 11 points, win by 2. When courts are busy, games shall be played to 11, win by 1.

In a situation where a specific rule cannot be applied, common sense and courtesy should prevail. Hopefully, this clarifies our BPC policy on scheduled challenge court rules. We know it can be "challenging" out there when we have many waiting players. We all are looking forward to new courts and more breathing room for all players. ❖

Annual General Meeting Moves Us Forward

–Cynde Hargrave, VP/Director of Communications

Our June 22 General Meeting was attended by 63 members (thank you)! This was a big improvement over last year's count, due in large part to some enthusiastic drumbeating by round robin captains. Board members were in full force and answered many questions posed by attendees.

The meeting covered many topics such as court resurfacing, new clinics under consideration, teaching pros, CORE testing, mentoring, financials (including for new courts), the upcoming tournament, and more. You had to be there....

As noted in the President's Message, bylaw and board member elections were a significant part of the meeting. Progress transpired, and while members of the Board didn't change, their respective roles did:

- **RJ Petershagen**, was Director of Court Utilization, is now **Director of Training & Development**
- **Marion Anderson**, was Director-At-Large #2, is now **Director of Court Utilization**
- **Janet Davis**, was Director of Training & Development, is now **Director of Events**

So, while working with a familiar slate of directors makes the personnel transition straightforward for the Board overall, looking ahead to future leaders is a whole 'nother thing. Members, please consider volunteering under any Board position of interest, potentially in preparation for a term in office. FYI, Board director terms that end next year (June 30, 2027) include Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Communications, and Director of Membership.

Leadership is how we not only maintain but also advance the success of the Bend Pickleball Club. ❖



Court repairs in progress, July 13, 2026.



New courts under development, July 13, 2026.