

NORTHERN BEACHES PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter May 2023

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Chris Taylor

Hello fellow Picklers, the Club continues to grow & your committee is working hard to provide:

- More games
- More venues
- More training
- More Round Robbins
- More Competitions
- More fun
- More everything



We are also constantly on the lookout for new venues to play Pickleball and will keep you informed as we move along. You will notice in the schedule below that we will be commencing play at Seaforth Community Centre, so stay tuned for more details on that new venue.

So, things are continuing to develop and I am pleased to say in general, we're getting great feedback, after all the Club is about your Pickleball. Here are the latest developments.

HOSTS ARE THE MOST

I would like to thank the various hosts at all the venues, you do a wonderful job as volunteers and sometimes it is not easy. We have new sessions developing so more hosts are needed. Please email Michelle if you'd like to help: hosting.nbpickleball@gmail.com

PLAYER FEE REDUCTION

There was a great deal of angst at the beginning of the year when PCYC put their session fee up to \$9:50. We have looked at our pricing and decided to reduce the player cost at CCYCC (Curl Curl) and BHMH (Beacon Hill) to \$7 per session. Go there just once a week and you could save quite a bit of cash over a year.

BUILDING PICKLEBALL SKILLS

These sessions have proved very popular now on Wednesday (morning), Thursday (afternoon), Friday (morning) and twice on Sundays. All new members are instructed to start here, once they have a reasonable level of skills and knowledge of rules, new players are then graded as Standard (formerly Lower Intermediate) and instructed to join the ALL GRADES sessions only. As you would have noticed, this has improved play at other sessions.

ALL GRADES SESSIONS

All Grades sessions are on every day of the week and sometimes twice. These are for players of every ability. If you turn up to an All Grades session, you are expected to play with everybody as suggested by the Host.

TOP GRADES SESSIONS

We have increased the number of Top Grades sessions and expect to have more soon. These sessions are very competitive and therefore require players with high levels of ability. They are reserved only for Challenger grade players (formally Intermediate Plus) and Advanced players.

ADVANCED SESSIONS

Are for Advanced players only.

NIGHT & WEEKEND SESSIONS

These sessions are proving very popular. They were planned for members who work and cannot attend weekday sessions. If you can attend during weekdays, please do so and keep the sessions available for working members.

NEW NAMES FOR GRADES

Labels or names for the various grades has been a thorny point of discussion ever since I joined the Club. There have been several attempts to get it right, here is the committee's latest.

GRADE	PREVIOUSLY	RATING
Beginner	No change	1.5 – 1.99
Standard	Lower Intermediate	2.0 – 2.49
Intermediate	No change	2.5 – 2.99
Challenger	Intermediate Plus	3.0 – 3.49
Advanced	No change	3.5 – 3.99
Master	New	4.0 + Above



- Note: There are no or very few players at Master level in Australia.
- All new members who complete the Building Pickleball Skills sessions will be given the grade Standard and will progress at the All Grades sessions.
- The Club's Grade Committee supervises player grades and is led by Michael Robinson. Other committee members are Mark Johnston, Chris Moorman and Chris Taylor (as President).
- Enquiries about grades and progression should be directed to Michael Robinson.
- Members can view the grades ratings and the appropriate list of skills required for each grade on our website. Use the link: <https://northernbeachspickleball.org.au/club-rating/>

Don't forget, your committee plays Pickleball too, if you have an idea or a question, come and chat to us. If not, send us an email. All committee members email addresses & mobile numbers are on the NBPA website.

LOOK DOWN & WATCH YOUR FEET

I have observed several recent games and noted people in the no volley zone completely unaware of their error. Another committee member called several foot faults at the recent Round Robin. Rules are there to keep the game fair for all, so please look down to check your feet. If somebody tells you politely that you have erred, accept it as advice with a smile and put it down to a learning experience.

MUMS & DADS WITH SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

Yes, we do have them in the Club. We are trialling a Thursday afternoon session (12:30pm to 2:30pm) for those members (and potential members) who have to drop & collect children from school. As it is a trial, it will be open to everyone. Come along to Beacon Hill, have a few games then go and collect the family at bell time.

JOINING PICKLEBALL AUSTRALIA (NSW)

The committee is exploring our Club (NBPA) joining with most other clubs in NSW as part of PANSW. It is in our Club's constitution and the committee believes there are a number of advantages for us in doing so.

- If you go travelling you can attend other Club's games.
- It has excellent membership/player software which will make it easier for us to administer our Club.
- Extensive training available to members in a wide range of skills.
- It will be easier to have inter-club competitions with say Willoughby or Ryde Clubs.
- Assistance to develop links with sponsors.
- Experience to share in dealing with Local, State & Federal governments or agencies to seek grants to achieve our goal of our own Pickleball facility.

Do not panic, the committee is just starting the conversation. This is not a done deal. We will share information and talk with members, there will be plenty of opportunity for you to discuss the proposal and put forward your views. Let's see where it leads.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Katherine Gillian

As at 9 April, 2023, NBPA has \$20,517 in funds available. Next financial year there will be a small increase in fees for hire of venues at CCYCC & BHMH. The committee agreed, there will be no increase in fees for players at this time (now \$7). The committee also agreed to invest \$10,000 to receive a return of 4.2% as opposed to zero in the current account.

MEDIA OFFICER'S REPORT – Michael Hawes

Website: We have been updating the website and making corrections as we go, but if you spot any errors or problems, or you want to suggest some improvements, please let us know by email, media.nbpickleball@gmail.com.

Facebook: Our Facebook group continues to grow, and we now have over 70 members. We encourage everyone to join this group so we can use it for more and varied communications for everyone. Here is the link to join the NBPA Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/nbpickleball>

Photographer wanted: If you have a half reasonable SLR camera & a good eye for photography, you could assist the club by photographing various events for use on our website, Facebook and advertising material.



COMPETITION OFFICER'S REPORT – Mark Johnston

Round Robin: I would like to report that the Round-Robin event played on the 22nd April was an overall success, with the majority of participants wanting more in the near future. There were however just one or two players that would prefer purely 'social' play only and didn't enjoy the 'fast & furious' competitiveness. However, the vast majority who did play want more competitive events in the future. So we will be running more competitive events but will still retain our more "social" events.

NSW Open: Members of NBPA competed at the recent NSW Open. Congratulations to the following NBPA members:

Donna Jay – Gold Medal
Moski Miyajima – Gold Medal
Maria Hawes – 2 Silver Medals
Michelle Golds – Bronze Medal
Ken Thong - Gold & Bronze
Matt Noone - Gold & Bronze
Wayne Fowler - Gold
Matt Szetu - Silver
Peter Coon - Silver
Emily Porfiri - Silver & Bronze
Robyn Flood - Bronze



Michelle Golds (above) recently won a Gold Medal at the West Australian Pickleball Championships.

Australian Pickleball Championships: The Australian Championships will be held this year at Blacktown Leisure Centre, Stanhope, 29 Sept- 2 Oct. This is not only for elite players; there are events for all age groups and different levels. Entries will open in June on the Pickleball NSW website and will probably close in July. We encourage NBPA members to join up with a partner and enter these Championships. If you don't have a partner, the organizers, PANSW, will pair you up with a partner. See <https://www.pickleballnsw.org/events/170325/>
We are going to get special Team NBPA T-shirts for all our participating members. Details will also be on our website, northernbeachspickleball.org.au



NBPA Schedule – May 2023

Monday	9-11am	CCYCC	All Grades	14 players	\$7	NEW
	12pm-3pm	PCYC	Top Grades	18 players	\$9.50	CHANGED
Tuesday	9-11am	PCYC	All Grades	26 players	\$9.50	
	7-9pm	BHMH	All Grades	14 players	\$7	
Wednesday	9-11am	CCYCC	Building Skills	12 players	\$7	
	9-11am	PCYC	Advanced	10 players	\$9.50	
	9-11am	PCYC	All Grades	14 players	\$9.50	CHANGED
Thursday	9-11am	PCYC	All Grades	18 players	\$9.50	
	12:30-2:30pm	BHMH	All Grades & Building Pickleball Skills	12 players	\$7	NEW
	7-9pm	BHMH	Advanced	14 players	\$7	
Friday	9-11am	CCYCC	Building Skills	12 players	\$7	
	9-11am	BHMH	All Grades	14 players	\$7	NEW
	12:30-3pm	PCYC	Top Grades	18 players	\$9.50	
Saturday	9-11am	PCYC	All Grades	18 players	\$9.50	CHANGED
Sunday	8-10am	CCYCC	All Grades	14 players	\$7	
	9:30-11:30am	PCYC	All Grades	20 players	\$9.50	
	10am-12pm	CCYCC	Building Skills	12 players	\$7 (may vary)	
	3-5pm	CCYCC	Building Skills	12 players	\$7 (may vary)	
	6-8pm	BHMH	All Grades	14 players	\$7	NEW

More, more & more on the way...

Drills & Skills player development at BHMH (dates, times etc to be advised real soon) **NEW**
 Regular Round Robins at BHMH (dates, times etc to be advised real soon) **NEW**

From early July

Thursday	9-11am	CCYCC	Building Skills	12 players	\$7	NEW
	12:30-2:30pm	BHMH	All Grades	14 players	\$7	CHANGED

October - PCYC not available

Saturday	10-12pm	SCC	All Grades	14 players	\$7	CHANGED
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Note: CCYCC is Curl Curl Youth & Community Centre, Curl Curl
 PCYC is Police Citizens Youth Centre, Dee Why
 BHMH is Beacon Hill Memorial Hall, Beacon Hill
 SCC is Seaforth Community Centre, Seaforth

All Photos – Round Robin, 22nd April, 2023

