

# **APC General Membership Meeting Minutes**

May 27, 2024

At LBCC Pickleball Courts in Albany, Oregon

**Approved: June 1, 2024**

**Attendees:** Jim Abbott, Polly Beam, Dave Burrignt, Dennis Dahlen, Steve Engler, Wendy Fekkers, Megan Gonyea, Cathie Harrington, Bob Heald, Christina Howard, Sam Injety, Peggy Joyce, Omar Khan, Jon Killinger, Elaine Kruger-Young, Jim Kuliesis, Stephanie Low, Maggie Lynch, John Morey, Laurie Morrical, Tony Scaltreto, Wanda Scheler, JoAnne Shields, Gavin Sublett, Eric Swander, and Bob VanderLinden

Meeting called to order by President Jim Abbott at 10:06 a.m.

## **Previous Minutes**

Minutes to the last Membership meeting on October 19, 2023 were previously emailed to all members in attendance at that meeting. They were approved on October 29, 2024 via email. Those minutes were included in the meeting reminder emailed on May 23, 2024 and not reviewed again at this meeting.

## **Financials**

Eric announced that he is now collecting dues for the 2024/2025 fiscal year. He reported a balance of \$4,456.75 in the regular club account. The balance in the tournament account is \$12,241.49 plus an additional \$10,000 that has not transferred back to the account from the APRD Foundation.

Eric reminded the members that any extra money that was collected from the players who used the Boys and Girls Club of Albany gym will be donated to the Boys & Girls Club after our last available day of use for the season on June 21, 2024.

Funds from the club account are used to pay LBCC for the contract which allows APC to use the courts on

- Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 am to noon,
- eight events such as round robins, clinics and other activities, and
- eight days of tournaments, which could be two separate tournaments.

There are four tournaments scheduled at LBCC this year—only Rally In The Valley is sponsored by APC.

## **Business from the Membership**

Nobody spoke up. Jon Killinger reminded members that anyone can talk to any APC officer at anytime with club concerns.

## **Election of New Treasurer**

There were two candidates for the treasurer's position: Omar Khan and Stewart Taylor. Each candidate were asked to answer three questions:

1. Why do you want to be the treasurer?
2. What is your background for this position?
3. How would you improve the club?

Omar answered the questions in front of the members. Stewart was not present, but emailed his responses to Stephanie, who read them to the members. Each member had a paper ballot to cast their vote, which was put in a closed container.

**Edited May 31, 2024 after the May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting--** Eric Swander and Stephanie Low counted the ballots after the meeting. Stewart Taylor received a majority of the votes; thus, is the next Albany Pickleball Club treasurer.

## **LBCC Contract, Maintenance and Improvements**

The Albany Parks and Recreation Department does not want to be involved with pickleball and has passed the responsibility over to LBCC. APC now has a contract with LBCC. LBCC agreed to power wash the courts every June and they will replace the windscreen on the northside of the courts. They will provide some bleachers on the southside outside the fence.

## **Status of Court Improvements by APC**

As far as court improvements, bids have been very high—in the \$30K range, so we need to do more fund raising. AARP offers grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000, but we must work with a non-profit foundation to sponsor the grant that we apply. LBCC does have a non-profit foundation that we can work with. We want to include a concrete sidewalk around the outside of the fence and improved lighting on the courts as part of the project. Jim Abbott, Bob VanderLinden, and Omar Khan will be working on the grant submission in January to March 2025 with the awards announced in mid May. Any grant money received will need to be spent by December of that year.

## **Club Activities and Hackleman**

A quick rundown of the most immediate activities planned at LBCC are

1. May 30 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm (make up date for May 2) – “Level Up” clinic for those in the 2.5 level wanting to move up to 3.0
2. June 4 from 9 -11 am - “Level Up” clinic for those in the 3.5 level wanting to move up to 4.0
3. June 15 from 9 –11 am – “Learn to Play Pickleball” clinic
4. June 22 from 9 –11 am – “Dink Challenge” event for APC members only.

All events will be posted on Play Time Scheduler and the APC website.

Jim said that there are 8 copies of a guideline for training clinics that will be stored in the shed for clinic leaders to use.

Hackleman Courts—are now open for play. It would make an excellent venue for beginners clinics or an alternative site when LBCC courts are full.

## **RITV and Other Tournaments**

RITV is scheduled for August 23-25. This will be a non-sanctioned tournament which will save each player \$30 because they are not required to be USAPA members. We will be looking for volunteers to help with all the tasks necessary to make the tournament run smoothly. APC member will receive a \$10 discount on tournament registration fee. Go to [Pickleballbrackets.com](http://Pickleballbrackets.com) to sign up

Wes Gabrielsen is conducting clinics on Thursday, August 22.

There are now four tournaments scheduled at LBCC this year.

1. Clash for Cash on June 8 & 9—not an APC tournament
2. Oregon Senior Pickleball Games on August 15–19—not an APC tournament
3. Rally in the Valley on August 22-25—APC (non sanctioned) tournament
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Willamette Valley by Pickleball is Great on September 13-15—not an APC tournament

## **New Business**

A new feature will appear in the monthly APC e-newsletter. To encourage more members to play tournaments, there will be a “Need a Partner” section where people can request a partner to play in any future tournament. Please be sure to include the name of the tournament, the age, the gender, the skill

level, the e-address, the cell phone number and name of the requestor so those who are interested will know who to contact.

To brand APC, Jim wanted to know the amount of interest among the members to purchase caps with APC logo. Peggy Joyce motioned that the Board purchase 40 hats to sell. Tony Scaltreto seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The Board will do some research and report back to the members about the material, style, color, etc. to get before actually purchasing the hats.

There was a suggestion to have name tags for club members to help everyone remember each others names and to develop camaraderie, but the Board decided against the idea. Instead The Board wants everyone to please introduce themselves to the other players on the court prior to playing each game and to repeat this as often as necessary.

Another item to consider was having a membership subscription option with the Square. Members can subscribe to the Square and have their annual membership dues automatically billed to their credit card every year. The drawback is that APC will have to pay \$29/month to get the service. A survey will be emailed to the members to consider the possible options:

1. Forget the subscription service
2. Increase everyone's annual dues to \$33 per year or
3. Charge those who use the Square \$35 for annual dues

Jim informed the members that he has started a new subgroup of members—the North Albany Pickleball Players or NAPPers. The purpose is for carpooling and other activities for those living in North Albany. Their first event is an “Emergency Preparedness” event. Contact Jim at [jimbobabbott@gmail.com](mailto:jimbobabbott@gmail.com) or (541) 220-0164 if you want to join the subgroup.

### **Court Etiquette**

There is a “Court Guidelines” document on the bulletin board next to the LBCC pickleball court east gate. Jim will post an updated copy. The guidelines can be found on the APC website, also. Among the items are

1. the first hour of club hours is open play, then people can divide up to different groups such as challenge court, women only, beginners, etc.
2. Ask your partner to make the call when you are at the baseline and the ball falls at your feet —the player hitting the ball cannot make the line call accurately and
3. for recreational play, the line call rule is if you don't see green, the ball is “in.”

Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Low  
APC Secretary