

Kings Point Pickleball Newsletter January 2016

Welcome to 2016. The year of Celebration. We are looking forward to many changes for the good this year. With the construction of the 8 new courts we should have an abundance of playing options for everyone. The Board will be working with Vesta to assure that all levels of players are represented at the courts. We are hoping to have more organized times like ladders, clinics and tournaments and of course open court times for all playing abilities. The questionnaire we sent out will help us understand what you would like as a club. You can still fill out a questionnaire. They are available at the courts. Remember, this will be a work in progress and we may not get it right the first time. There will undoubtedly be changes as we see what works. But we will do our best to make the most of what we have. We are so lucky. It will be so much fun watching our courts take shape.

The Annual Meeting went well. The club was represented with over 100 members attending and contributing to the agenda. The revised By-Laws were approved by the membership. They will be posted on the website. We have had 2 resignations from the Board. Carole Cuthbertson has had shoulder surgery and is in Michigan for an unknown time period. She resigned in December and Leslie Nield-Anderson agreed to return to the BOD. Bob Opletal resigned the day of the meeting and we are looking for a replacement. If you are interested please contact a Board member. This is a Member at Large position. Our Board of Directors meet every third Thursday at 3:00 in the 2020 Building. All members are invited to attend and contribute.

We have a busy March coming up. Our Annual Banquet will be on Saturday, March 5 in the Veterans Theater at the North Clubhouse. Food will be provided by Orange Blossom Caterers. We are still working on the menu. Taylor and Taylor will again be entertaining us with their lively, foot stomping music. Doors open at 5, dinner is served at 6 and entertainment will begin at 6:30. Tickets this year are \$25 / members and \$30 / guests. Tickets can be bought from Board Members. You can reserve them by emailing catdrinkard@aol.com. Tables seat 8. More information to follow in the next couple weeks.

On Thursday, March 17, St Patty's Day, we will be hosting the First Annual Golf Cart Poker run. I have sent out the flyer/waiver with information. Any questions please contact Kathy Martin raykathy2431@tampabay.rr.com or 813-633-3006.

On Saturday and Sunday, March 19 and 20, Jane Lang and Anne Smith will be running an ABC Tournament. This will be a fun event for ALL LEVELS of players, recreational to Intermediate + . More information will follow as they get it organized but please put the dates on your calendar.

Coach Russell from Suncoast Pickleball Association is offering a 2.5 level Round Robin division in his next Tournament in Largo on Saturday, February 20. This will be a great introduction to tournaments. If you are interested in trying it out and you would like some help getting ready, Troy Drinkard has offered to do that. Let me know.

We want to thank Jan Brown and her helpers for running our Introduction to Pickleball sessions. These sessions are held on Thursdays from 12 to 1:30. You must contact Jan to register. There are sign up slips at the courts. Since October almost 80 residents have participated in these sessions and over 1/3 have become members. This takes our membership for 2016 to 270 as of this date.

Court etiquette was brought up at the meeting. Please be respectful to all players. Do not walk between courts 2 & 3 while a game is in progress. Also, wait until play has stopped before entering and exiting the court area. Please do this in a timely fashion so play can resume.

The members voted on trying the new Onyx Pure ball. Valencia has been using this ball for a month and has not had any cracked balls. We bought 25 to give them a try. The new ones will be available along with the regular balls. Please let us know what you think. If you notice the ball numbers are low please contact a board member and we will address it.

Just a reminder, if you are the last person to leave the courts, no matter what time, please make sure all the balls are removed from the ball holders and returned to the cabinet and the cabinet is locked.

At the meeting, Lewis Lang remarked on the turn out for the Memorial and Celebration of life that was held to remember our friend Joni Stanton. He commented that around 200 people attended the mass at the church and the luncheon following had at least 300 people present. What a great way to let Tom and his family know how much she was loved. She was a special lady.

As always, if you have any questions please contact a Board member.

See you at the courts.

Cat

Upcoming events:

February 18 **Board Meeting 3:00 2020 building upstairs**

February 20 **Largo Tournament**

March 5 **Annual Banquet**

March 17 **Poker Run**

March 19 – 20 **ABC Tournament**

No open Board meeting in March