



# BERKSHIRE MOUNTAIN PICKLEBALL



## Berkshire Mountain Pickleball Mission Statement

BMP provides an inclusive, welcoming environment for Berkshire residents and visitors to actively participate in the sport of Pickleball that is easy to learn, fun to play, socially oriented, and promotes wellness and vitality among people of all ages and backgrounds.

*Happiest  
of  
Holidays  
to  
everyone*



## What's New with your Steering Committee!

With heartfelt thanks to our co-conspirator, friend, partner on the courts, sounding board, voice of reason and undeniable contributor Ann Phillips for her many years of involvement with BMP. It is with lots of gratitude not only from the Steering Committee but from the entire BMP Community that we wish you well and thank you for everything you have done over the last 4 years. Your contribution to the new website among many other things has been invaluable. Thank you, Ann, you should be proud of your achievements with BMP, we are proud to call you, our friend.



Welcome to Phil Landa who comes to us willingly and unknowingly! Thank you for stepping up Phil! Phil has agreed to be the administrator of our new website!



## Speaking of our new Website!

It took about 4 months of working with the team at Boxcar Media in North Adams but Tony Richards and Ann Phillips hit a home run (or a good job) with this one. The content is straightforward and informative, and it has made all of our lives A LOT easier when it come to signing up new members.

When new players want to know how to sign up, or just want to know about us, please refer them to: [berkshiremountainpickleball.com](http://berkshiremountainpickleball.com)

And if anyone has any photos they would like to share, we would love to post them on the site.

## New Pickleball Courts

### They are springing up everywhere!

The latest information that we have on the new Pittsfield Courts is that the Site Committee appointed by the Mayor has agreed on the location, Benedict Road in Pittsfield. The original plan was to build 8 courts. There will be an RFP sent out soon and they expect the courts to be complete mid-summer 2023. Many thanks to Marie Richardson and Peter Lafayette for representing us on this committee!

We have a request to our membership! If there is something you would like to see included at the site, or if you have any suggestions from your visits to other sites, please let us know. You can email us individually, or of course to [bmp01201@gmail.com](mailto:bmp01201@gmail.com).

## So Long Snowbirds!

We will miss you of course! If we don't see you enjoy your time away and we look forward to seeing you in the spring!



## More Newsworthy Items!

### Boys and Girls Club

The chairs are back!!! But please be careful to put them back at the end of each session. Remember that the club is closed over the Christmas Holiday.

### Thank you, Kelly and Tom

Thanks to Kelly Maginnis and Tom Gelb for letting us store our equipment in your barn for the winter! Greatly appreciated!

### Berkshire Mountain Pickleball Gear for Christmas

Keep in mind that if you want hats, t shirts, hoodies, sweats, etc. with our logo on it, you can order from Peace Train Tees at 2 South Street, Pittsfield.

## Be Well and Enjoy your holidays Picklers!



### Your Steering Committee Members

Tony Riello	chiefajr@live.com
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Tony Richards	arichards4@nycap.rr.com
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Phil Landa	philiplanda@gmail.com
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### “Pickleball is a Gift”

Sometimes when we realize how wonderful it is that we found the game of pickleball we have to stop and count our blessings and understand that in many ways pickleball really is a gift.

For many who have reached ‘the age’ or who are fast approaching it, pickleball has been a revitalization. Lost was their hope of every playing anything remotely in the form of a sport again. Yet, there they are returning serves, hitting dink (a word that wasn’t even in their vocabulary) shots and congratulating friends at the net with a renewed enthusiasm for competing.

Sometimes people play in small groups of eight to ten. There are times though these groups will number in the hundreds. Whether big or small, new friends are found. Count how many dear friends you have acquired since you started playing pickleball. Amazing, isn’t it? Pickleball importantly breeds social opportunities. It’s from all of these opportunities that we can look forward to each and every day with guarded optimism that we will not let our partner down or that we will play better than the last time we played pickleball and perhaps, meet a new friend.

Certainly, there are some aches and pains. It’s all part of being active regardless of what we do at any age. On the flip side, however, just how much fun is it that a grandparent can teach their grandchildren a sport that maybe their own children don’t know much about. It’s all part of the gift that pickleball gives to us every time we step onto the court. It keeps us going strong.

We all know the look we get when someone comes up to us and asks, “What is pickleball?” From now on we should not be embarrassed to tell them proudly that “Pickleball is a Gift.” It’s a gift that brings so much joy to our lives and it can do the same for them if they only give it a try.

Pickleball Magazine (circa 2018)

