

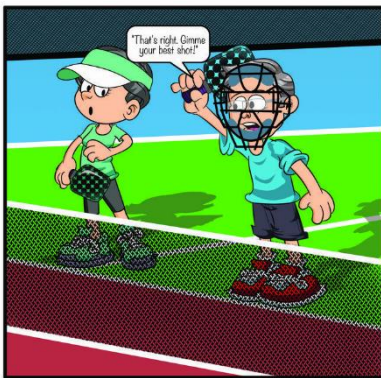


## Berkshire Mountain Pickleball Mission Statement

*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.*

*As always we value your  
input*

What are we doing right?  
What can we do to improve?  
Do you want to see more  
organized play?  
Please email us at  
[bmp01201@gmail.com](mailto:bmp01201@gmail.com)



Always the boy scout, Larry was prepared for everything.

## Let's Talk Safety FIRST!

As always, we want all our members to play safely. It's time to re-emphasize a few basics.

### **Pickleball Safety**

- 1.) *Always wear proper footwear! Any court shoes for tennis, volleyball or even basketball are best. These shoes have very flat soles with grooves for traction. They are made so that the player can move in any direction.*
- 2.) *Never run backwards. Back peddling more than a step (or even two) is unsafe. Turn and run towards the ball. If this isn't easily done, let the ball go and say, "GOOD SHOT"! Know your limits and stay balanced!*
- 3.) *Eye Protection is SO important! Proper eye protection should be able to withstand the force of a pickleball without shattering.*
- 4.) *Do not chase your ball onto active courts, CALL OUT "BALL ON COURT" and wait for others to return your ball.*
- 5.) *STOP immediately when someone shouts "BALL ON COURT"*
- 6.) *Stay hydrated and wear sunscreen!*
- 7.) *DO NOT keep balls in your pockets.*
- 8.) *Warm Up before playing! STRETCH!*

# The Pickle Corner

## Is it Legal?

“If a ball hits one of the net posts, and then bounces in, is it legal?” The answer is, NO.

**Rule 11.K.** The Net Posts: The net posts (including connected wheels, arms, or other support construction) are positioned out of bounds. If a ball or player contacts the net post, it is a fault and a dead ball is declared.

**11.K.1** A ball contacting the net, net cable, or rope between the net posts remains in play.

“What if the ball hits the horizontal support bar of a temporary net, or the center foot?”

**11.L.5** For net systems with a horizontal bar that includes a center base:

**11.L.5.a.** Before going over the net, if the ball hits the horizontal bar or the center base, it is a fault.

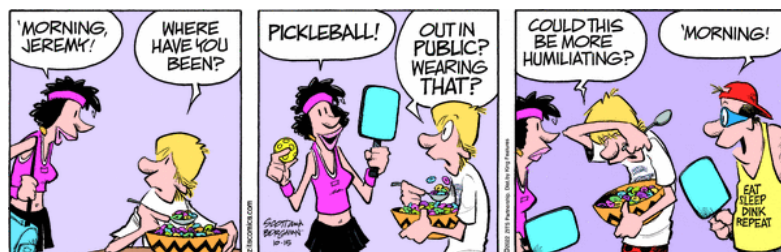
**11.L.5.b** Except on the serve, if the ball goes over the net and hits the center base, or any part of the horizontal bar, or the ball gets caught between the net and the horizontal bar, a replay will be called. Other than on the serve, if the ball goes over the net and bounces on the court and then performs any of the 3 above listed actions, a replay shall occur.

**11.L.5.c** On the serve, if the ball hits the horizontal bar or the center base or gets caught between the net and horizontal bar after going over the net, it is a fault.

For reference: [USA Pickleball Rulebook - USA Pickleball](#)

## Around the Post

Perhaps your opponent hit a shot that caused you to run far outside of the court to either side. Your return shot does not have to cross over the net. As long as it lands in your opponent's court, it can travel around or to the side of the post and can even be below the height of the net! As long as the player doesn't touch the post, he/she may travel past the imaginary extension line of the net. Those shots are very exciting to watch, and even more exciting when you're the one who just hit it!



*Thank you for sending this, Andy Plue! Made me laugh out loud!*

# Other Stuff

## **The NEW Process...JUST in CASE**

I'm guessing you have all seen this, but we wanted to make sure so here it is again.....let's try it! Two or three of us will be on the courts for the first few weeks during the transition, after that it should be easy!

*Beginning June 18th, we will be designating specific courts at Herberg based on Skill Level. This will enhance the level of play for all of our members from Beginners to Advanced.*

*Here's how it will work:*

### **LEVELS**

You will need to figure out where you should be playing based on the following Guidelines. Court skill assignments are not meant to box anyone into one court. At any time, players can move to the court above or below their level. This will allow players to compete one level higher and will help them improve. You should, however, be considerate and not move levels until you have achieved the appropriate skills to offer a good game at that level.

#### **Beginner/Recreational**

You know how to serve and keep score, and you understand the two bounce and non-volley zone rules. You tend to hang at the baseline and drive the ball, or you stop in no man's land (3-6' behind the kitchen line.) You can hit the ball if it comes to you, but with little strategy or control. You may have some mobility problems that keep you from playing in the optimal position, but you love the game, the people, and the exercise it provides.

#### **Intermediate**

You have a better ability to see the "whole" court and are placing your shots. You realize the power of hitting to the middle and are also starting to hit some angled shots. You are comfortable playing at the kitchen line and quickly get back to it when having to step back. You can use power or soft shots to set up points. You are more aware of your opponent's court position.

#### **Advanced**

You can use a variety of shots including lobs, spin, dinks and drive shots with a purpose and at the right time. You are very comfortable playing at the kitchen line and return to it quickly when forced back. You are more patient and choose shots based on your opponent's position, or weakness. Keeping the ball in play is more important than forcing a low percentage shot. You use the dink to move your opponent and create an opening. You can hit serves to your opponent's forehand or backhand, resulting in an occasional ace.

### **THE PROCESS**

Remember that skill sorting is not meant to segregate the advanced players from everyone else. It is simply a way to provide the best games for everyone. We will not direct players to specific courts unless asked, OR if it's obvious that someone is continually bringing down the level of play on a higher skilled court. Pickleball is to be fun, and hurt feelings can create conflict.

## **New Courts**

No real updates again. Not sure when OPENING Day is. We will be sure to let you all know!

## **Save the Date! ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Joe Levin Memorial Tournaments ~ Another Repeat, just in case!**

### **July 13th (Rain date July 20th)**

Advanced/Intermediate Senior Tournament for players ages 60+  
Mixed Doubles

Your partner will be drawn the morning of the tournament, you will remain partners for the entire tournament.

### **August 3rd (Rain date August 10th)**

Advanced/Intermediate Tournament for players of all ages  
Mixed Doubles

Your partner will be drawn the morning of the tournament, you will remain partners for the entire tournament.

### **August 24th (Rain date August 31st)**

Beginners/Novice Tournament for players of all ages

You will play with various partners within a group drawn the morning of the tournament.

If you played in the July 13th tournament and also want to play in the August 3rd tournament, you will be put on a wait list to allow more members to participate.

Details for all tournaments will be sent as the tournaments get closer. We anticipate that this will be a fun event for ALL SKILL levels!

## **Be Well Picklers!**

### **Your Steering Committee Members**

Donny Campagna	djcampagna27@gmail.com
Carol Cushenette	carol.cushenette@gmail.com
Kelly Maginnis	kellyamaginnis@gmail.com
Tony Richards	arichards4@nycap.rr.com
Marie Richardson	msrich627@gmail.com
Tony Riello	chiefajr@live.com
Paul Rodhouse	paulrodhouse@verizon.net
Bill Travis	traviswdt547@gmail.com
Jan Uliasz	juliasz3757@gmail.com

Some content is compliments of the crazypickleballady.com  
(and NO that's not me!)

