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President's Report - July 2023

Nolan Ahn, PAK President

TELL US WHAT YOU WANT!

I am on at least four text chain conversations arranging meetups for pickleball. Often, decisions of when and where to play are determined by weather and season. "Kalawai has a 30% chance of rain this morning. Koloa winds are forecast at 25-30 mph. Lihue night play has been suspended due to the Shearwater lights out rule." Many days, weather prevents a group from forming anywhere, and another day without pickleball happens. For the "chronologically gifted" (like me) with a finite number of days left to play, this is unacceptable. There has never been a day that I regretted playing pickleball, but there sure have been many that I wished that I could play but couldn't.

PAK is in the identification phase of our mission. We are diligently looking for a site where dedicated pickleball courts can be constructed. Many players ask us to pressure the County of Kauai to put up more courts. While this seems to be the most logical approach, we have not been successful in engaging the County with plans for a possible partnership. We are having on-going dialogue with Kauai Community College about creating more open access to their planned 6 court pickleball courts which are in the process of being re-surfaced. Our radar includes an unused basketball court for possible conversion to pickleball in Lihue. We have eliminated sites like Kukuilono, the YMCA, Pua Kea golf course after our inquiries ended up with us withdrawing our interest because of site problems or receiving a polite "no". Our latest and best hope has been deferred as the site is being master planned for development, a process that could take years. We do not have years. The need is now, and our problem of too many players, too little courts, will only worsen with time. We need about two acres of land. Away from residences. Central. Properly zoned. If you know somewhere, let us know and we will investigate.



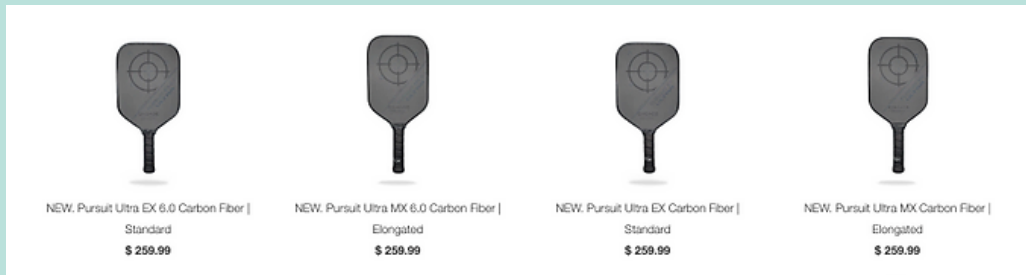
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and only one real disadvantage: it costs (a lot) more than open courts. But, while we dream of a site, and dream of dedicated courts, lines and nets, why not dream of covered facilities?

Our second annual PAK Open tournament slated for August will not happen because we did not have a suitable venue. We must have a facility that we control and can meet the ever-growing needs of the pickleball ohana, both local and visitors alike. PAK will soon release a survey to its 300+ members to poll their thoughts on future facilities. We hope this survey can help us assess what our members want, and what they are willing to pay to get. Those members that complete the survey will be eligible for a drawing on a new Engage Ultra Paddle give-away. The retail value of this paddle is \$259.99. Please help us with your participation.

Until next month,
Nolan



Previous Month's President's Reports and Photos



Photos from the April 2023 President's Report