



President's Report - Sept. 2024

Nolan Ahn, PAK President



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The PAK 2024 Open is pau, and what a tournament it was. So many firsts as reported in last month's President's Report. The three-day tournament was the culmination of months of preparation and planning and by all indications a good time was had by all. Your board of directors worked tirelessly on this project. Juliet Peters and chair Rumi Masumura flew in from their mainland homes. They and our Kauai board members worked twelve-hour days for the three days. I am so grateful for their commitment to our mission. Please take the time to thank them for their tireless efforts. We had a dedicated core of volunteers that attended to the numerous tasks such an undertaking demands and we acknowledge and appreciate their work. One thing became apparent. We need to have more volunteers, and we need to organize them better in the future. This became apparent when our chair Rumi informed me that she no longer can be responsible for court operations (including tournaments) due to her decision to make Las Vegas her permanent home. Gratefully, she has consented to continue to serve on our board and supervise a replacement. Attached to this report is a description of the responsibilities that need to be filled by a willing volunteer. Also attached is a Volunteer Survey we hope everyone will fill out. Sorry, no free paddle giveaway this time. That would detract from the idea of volunteerism.

No sooner had we wrapped up the Open, we were faced with planning our Rice Street Block Party Pickleball Tournament at Kalena on October 12. Now that we lack a chair for such events and finding that much of the board will not be available to assist, we went into emergency mode trying to find people to run this relatively simple one day

event. After asking many and coming up empty, we are fortunate to have Lucia Bartels of our board, and her bevy of acolytes step up to run this. Lucia is our vice-president, and the tireless organizer of all things pickleball in Hanapepe and Kekaha. Another example for us to expand our volunteer base.

We are planning our 2025 calendar for PAK. Included will be a June Member Appreciation Day, the PAK Open 2025, and the Rice Street Block Party, as well as repeats of our free-to-members clinics. In the works are teaching and learning opportunities with keiki and kupuna, a paddle collection and refurbishment drive, and leagues. All need volunteers. (Am I saying that enough?) Just to clarify, the board suspended renewal dues until we proved ourselves worthy of your support. The suspension has caused some confusion as many members want to continue to pay to support our efforts. We have a team composed of Lori Uyeda, Juliet Peters and Laurie Yoshida working on how we can best re-start membership support in 2025. Be on the lookout for how that will work at our next website update in October.

I am happy to report that the Rice Street Block Party tournament is almost fully subscribed! We do have some openings in the 2.0-2.99 skill level. Many beginners are reluctant to enter a tournament but please remember that you will be playing with others of the same skill level. Competition is fun. You will make a new bestie with your blind-draw partner. You can have a medal to show for your efforts (half the field will medal!). Don't forget the free beer certificate to Kauai Beer! Please take the time to thank Lucia and her crew while you are there.

Until next time,
Nolan

Link to the PAK Volunteer Survey: <https://forms.gle/UZfm42f7GiXnVHFw8>

Director of Court Operations
Responsibilities and Duties