



PAK President's Report November 2022

NEWS

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THE PAK MANIFESTO

Its election month. Many of our elected officials are trying to get back into office. Many new candidates are trying to get into office. Most have a declaration of the personal policy and aims if they should be elected. This is called a manifesto,

Italian for “make public”. The yardstick our elected officials should be evaluated by is how they fulfill their promises by the end of their term. PAK is calling on our elected officials to assist us with our mission and goals and we hope they can help us navigate through the governmental maze that characterizes our County and State.

Recently, we have re-visited the idea of converting under-used tennis courts at a state facility. We originally broached the idea almost two years ago, but because of COVID, normal operations were suspended, and we tabled our discussion until they re-opened. Our negotiations with our target site had reached a disappointing point when it appeared that zoning restrictions may prevent the building of courts on our proposed site. We continue to pursue this, but it became clear we better have option B, C, and D to evaluate concurrently. After eleven months of sharing visions for our target site, it was hard to start from zero and explain what we wanted to accomplish with option B site. I must say that our proposal was greeted with interest, but not very much optimism for success. We will continue to pursue the possibility as this is a site that is supposed to serve the needs of our community, built and supported by public dollars. We will also continue to pursue creative partnerships with private and government agencies. Towards that end, we have created our own PAK Manifesto about what we want, what we need, and what we can do to explain what we stand for. Like politicians, we should be evaluated by how closely our results match our aims. Here it is:

PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION KAUAI MANIFESTO

What we need (right now):

- Our first neighborhood pickleball court should be centrally located (Puhi to Nukolii). Its use will demonstrate the need for additional courts.
- It should have a minimum of six pickleball courts on a suitable, safe, crack-free surface within a fenced area.
- It is preferable that the nets and court lines be permanently dedicated to pickleball, but not essential.
- Parking, bathroom facilities, lights and drinking water are desirable.

- Courts should be available for play for a **minimum** of four days per week, mornings from 8:30 am to 11:00 am and afternoons from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Suggested days would be Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays with additional times as schedules allow. Such a facility would be able to accommodate 40 players in the morning and 40 more in the afternoon. There are more than 400 pickleball players on Kauai, not counting visitors.

What we want (eventually):

- Additional facilities as described above to serve the needs of the communities of Kekaha/Waimea, Hanapepe, Kalaheo, Koloa, Kapaa, Kilauea/Hanalei.
- Dedicated pickleball courts with permanent nets and lines.
- A tournament-class facility that has at least eight courts and lights.

What we can give:

- We are not looking for a handout (although we'll take it, if offered).
- If we are given the opportunity, we will fund the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of pickleball facilities.

Meanwhile, Kauai pickleball players continue to do well at the numerous tournaments in Hawaii and abroad. Here are pictures of our awesome competitors. Most notable is our own board member, Lori Uyeda, (who normally does not compete) winning some sake with her partner Patty Furtado at the Uchinanchu Taikai in Okinawa. At this writing, we have Julie Peters, Kimi, and Rumi Masumura competing at the Margaritaville Nationals in Indian Wells. Good luck, girls!

Until next time,

Nolan

