



**CITY OF MARTINEZ
PARK, RECREATION, MARINA & CULTURAL COMMISSION AGENDA**

AGENDA DATE: February 17, 2015

TO: PRMCC

FROM: Tim Tucker

SUBJECT: Pickleball follow-up

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Provide direction to staff regarding striping an additional tennis court or courts at Nancy Boyd Park.
2. Deny a request to change the Tennis Court Use Policy by providing exclusive use of courts for Pickle Ball use.

DISCUSSION:

I ADDITIONAL PICKLEBALL COURTS:

On January 20, 2015 the PRMCC received the following report:

The PRMCC and Council discussed and approved a test project to stripe one of the Hidden Valley Park tennis courts to also accommodate pickleball. This sport is better suited for older residents. From the point of view of the pickleball enthusiast the trial has been very successful. They indicate "the new Martinez Courts have become the most popular ones with them."

This past month staff has heard from a few tennis players that the new striping is distracting. Staff had posted the plan at the courts prior to approval and did not hear any objections at the time. The tennis players are requesting the test not be expanded. Maintenance staff will be doing some minor court striping to better help the tennis players identify the striping. We have asked for their feedback once the work is completed.

Staff has shared the above mentioned concern with pickleball supporter Karen Siemsen. She recently e-mail the following:

Since we started playing Pickleball at the Hidden Valley Park courts, I have asked all players to sign in and track the number of hours they played. I have kept track of all the information on a spreadsheet with the results in the attached report.

Based on the increasing numbers, it would seem that the "test" has been a huge success with 265 players and 582.5 hours of play in just 3 months. Saturdays draw the greatest number of players with people having to wait for long periods of time. It's obvious that people love to play

on these courts. And, I might point out that these results are during the winter months. Once Spring and Summer come, I suspect it will be even greater.

As a result, I was hoping that we might be able to discuss the possibility of expanding the number of courts available for Pickleball. One possibility might be to stripe the other tennis court at the same park, giving us access to 2 more courts. A second possibility might be to stripe 2 of the tennis courts at Nancy Boyd Park, still leaving one court there for the tennis players. If that were done, we could actually get 6 Pickleball courts on the 2 tennis courts. (bold emphasis added)

Please let me know if we can discuss the possibility of expanding the availability of courts for Pickleball to meet the ever-increasing demand.

Staff is requesting input from the PRMCC on this request. Staff recommends prior to any expansion of pickleball courts in town that an evening meeting with the Parks Subcommittee is held to obtain input from current court users.

II EXCLUSIVE USE OF COURTS FOR PICKLEBALL USE:

Karen Seimsen, the Pickle Ball Organizer is requesting a waiver to the Tennis Court Policy. She is asking for exclusive use of the Tennis Courts painted with the Pickle Ball lines at Hidden Valley Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday morning. Below is her e-mail dated January 30, 2015. She is unable to attend the February 17 PRMCC Meeting.

"... as the weather keeps getting better and more people are drawn outside, there are more people using the tennis courts at Hidden Valley. So far, everything has worked out okay. However, I anticipate the possibility of competition for the courts and wondered if we might be able to designate some specific times for Pickleball. We have established Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings for Pickleball play. Since tennis players have other options for courts and we are restricted to the one court at Hidden Valley, I was hoping we might be able to post signs that indicate Pickleball has priority at those times. All other times would be first come, first serve. That way our players will know we can play at those specific times without interference from other sports.

Please let me know if this will be possible. Thanks."

The Pickle Ball Group is not a club, organization or business but individuals that meet to play Pickle Ball. Staff recommends not to change the policy regarding public tennis court use.

Attachments: Tennis Court Policy.



TENNIS COURT RESERVATION POLICY

The Tennis facilities (Nancy Boyd, Hidden Valley, Golden Hills and Brown Street Parks), under the jurisdiction of the Martinez Recreation Department (MRD), were built for recreational use by the residents of the City of Martinez and in conjunction with Department activities.

It is the policy of the Martinez Park and Recreation Commission that the Tennis Courts are to be used:

- A. On a first come, first serve basis with reservations being allowed for Martinez Leisure Services department programs or occasional tournaments. No one group, agency, organization, club, school, etc. shall be given exclusive use of the courts on a set, regular or long term basis.
- B. Free of charge. A fee may be charged for reserved use of the courts and with the approval of the Martinez Park and Recreation Commission. Fees are \$3 per hour for residents and \$5 per hour for non-residents.

Tournament Reservations:

Because MRD recognizes that tournaments are an integral part of a well rounded community tennis program, public courts may be reserved one weekend a month by recognized clubs, agencies, or organizations.

- A. Reservation permits are issued through the Recreation Office. Any additional need for reserved court space above the one weekend per month must be approved by the Park and Recreation Commission.
- B. There shall be a maximum of 12 hours per day authorized for tournament play. No minimum hours shall be set. Courts may be rented between 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- C. As a courtesy to the public, the courts must be posted 72 hours in advance of a tournament.
- D. Tournament reservations shall not be permitted to individuals, groups, associations, clubs, or organizations desiring such use for "private gain", which is defined to mean use for the principle purpose of making a profit not pledged to a recognized charity or for the public good.

- E. All requests must be received at least two months in advance (60 days) of the tournament start date and may be scheduled up to six months in advance.
- F. The group, association, club or organizations must provide a **provide** a proof of insurance comprised of **a certificate of insurance and original endorsements of general liability insurance** written by one or more responsible insurance companies licensed to do business in California. This coverage must:
 - 1. Name the City of Martinez, its officials, officers, directors employees, agents and volunteers as additional insured against liability for injury to persons, damage to property and for the death of a person or persons arising for resulting from any act or omission on the part of your organization, its agents or employees.
 - 2. Include liability coverage for claims made by participants in your event. You are advised that any and all exclusions pertaining to athletic or recreational events must be disclosed in the endorsement and failure to do so will not necessarily insulate your organization from individual liability claims made as a result of the use of the facilities and your event.
 - 3. Be the PRIMARY insurance with respect to the additional insured named above. Any other insurance available to the City of Martinez, its officials, officers

The comprehensive general liability insurance policy limits of such insurance shall not be less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury and property.

- G. Complete and sign a Hold Harmless Agreement
- H. This policy does not apply to tournaments sponsored by the Leisure Services Department.