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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

TOWN OF NEWTOWN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 17, 2018 NEWTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER, NEWTOWN, CT MINUTES

PRESENT: Chris Eide, Chris Smith, Jordana Bloom, Robert Pickard, Judit DeStefano, Ryan Knapp, Dan Wiedemann, Paul Lundquist, Phil Carroll, Kelley Johnson, Dan Honan.

ABSENT: Jay Mattegat.

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Finance Director Bob Tait, Director of Planning George Benson, Director of Parks and Recreation Amy Mangold, Edmond Town Hall Board of Managers Chair Margot Hall, 3 public, 2 press.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Lundquist called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm.

VOTER COMMENT: Ms. Jan Brown, 15 Lori Lynn Circle, Newtown – Ms. Brown is an Ambassador with USA Pickleball Association and spoke in advocacy of promoting and supporting pickleball in Newtown, she distributed a fact sheet and location schedule. (Attachment A) Ms. Brown said that pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the U.S., becoming very popular in Newtown with all ages especially seniors. Due to the sport's popularity existing courts are in high demand and more courts are needed. Relining tennis courts could be an option and Ms. Brown has forwarded information to Ms. Mangold regarding that possibility. Ms. Brown said that Ridgefield has a good model with location and availability.

MINUTES: MR. EIDE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING. SECOND BY MS. BLOOM. Mr. Honan pointed out two edits, correct the meeting location to Town Hall South and correct the spelling of Mr. Mattegat's last name. **ALL IN FAVOR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING WITH EDITS TO CORRECT MEETING LOCATION TO TOWN HALL SOUTH AND CORRECT THE SPELLING OF MR. MATTEGAT'S LAST NAME. (10-0) Mr. Smith abstained.**

COMMUNICATIONS: Board of Ed communications, excel version of debt indicator.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT: First Selectman Rosenthal recapped items from the Board of Selectmen's meeting, the owner of Lakeview Terrace offered a piece of land, conveying it to the Town, important to accept for drainage issues for road improvements, the Board of Selectman voted to approve to accept the land, item will come to the Legislative Council. First Selectman Rosenthal expressed an interest to preserve Cherry Grove Farm, more information and discussion is needed before the Town can

make any type of decision or commitment, perhaps to seek a conservation easement. First Selectman Rosenthal discussed the First Selectmen's budget which the First Selectman are still in the process of fact-finding, but First Selectman Rosenthal shared some key budget goals which include keeping increases as low as possible while preserving same services, increase the road account by \$250,000, put a new purchasing agent into the budget sharing with the Board of Ed, implementing new pension actuarial calculation, reducing the discount rate from 7.5% to 7%, had an offset with medical self-insurance, removed capital requests and likely recommend using capital non-recurring, total cumulative requests from all departments is roughly 7.5% and were able to trim it back to 2.5%, without roads is 1.9%, wages and benefits \$438,000 that represents contract negotiations, capital is \$309,000 which \$250,000 is for roads, operating expenses \$263,000 debt service \$53,000 increase, recommended reducing contingency, driving some of that change is budgeting registrars requests primaries this year, road salt and sand increased over the 5 year average, lightened up contingency, further discussion and debate continue in follow-up discussions.

Mr. Lundquist thanked First Selectman Rosenthal for the overview on the budget and recommended to hold back on specific questions on the budget at tonight's meeting in keeping with the agenda.

Mr. Knapp had questions relating to land use, he asked about the process of going through development rights, appraisals, value, citing an example of a similar situation last year, First Selectman Rosenthal said the process is in the early stages, Mr. Benson explained that there are a lot of steps that need to be taken before the Town can consider a conservation easement, for example discussion with P & Z, conservation commission, reviewing appraisals. First Selectman Rosenthal said that the Newtown Forest Association is getting an appraisal to figure out how much money to raise. Mr. Knapp asked about time sensitivity. Mr. Benson said that the NFA specified time frame for their own fundraising efforts, Mr. Benson reiterated the project is still at the early stages, First Selectman Rosenthal said that as public and private partnerships are pursued, the NFA is strong in fundraising, and First Selectman Rosenthal hopes the Town will be able to contribute, subject to various approvals.

Mr. Knapp asked about Lakeview Terrace, with the roads ordinance and new language, allows the First Selectman to exempt roads like Lakeview Terrace that would never meet standards, with acquisition of property that the land is only of value to the Town, would this fall under the parcels under \$20,000 exemptions. Mr. Benson said there is some value and varied instances, First Selectman Rosenthal reminded Council that the property is being given to the Town, Mr. Benson said that this parcel would probably fall under that exemption, and did not have specifics with him to provide a definite determination, but speculated that it might.

Ms. DeStefano asked how the property value is arrived at. Mr. Benson said a professional, licensed appraiser figures out the value using different methods of appraising property value.

Mr. Knapp added that in the ordinance there is language to address the challenges if the appraisal costs more than the property is worth, exemptions. Mr. Benson said that in those cases, property valued under \$20,000 the department may use assessment to try to determine value.

Mr. Carroll asked for clarification on Cherry Grove Farm, that it is just for the land not including the farm house and barns. First Selectman Rosenthal said that was correct and he explained a bit of history about the land and preservation efforts, the Town had an interest in trying to preserve the land in the past, the estate sold the land to a developer and the Newtown Forest Association is now trying to preserve a portion of the property, roughly 30 acres. Mr. Smith commented that there is Town open space, another 40+ acres to coincide with other areas. Mr. Lundquist asked for clarification on how this project came about, though he did receive the fundraising letter from NFA, he asked is this a brand new conversation in

response to their fundraising letter. First Selectman Rosenthal explained that the NFA asked about funding in the open space account. The Town is supportive of efforts and needs to work together on how the Town can provide support, and has not committed on any funding.

OLD BUSINESS

2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP:

MR. HONAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE. SECOND BY MR. CARROLL.

Mr. Lundquist asked Mr. Tait to speak about open space allocations historically and to discuss the two options, one of putting a placeholder of amount in CIP to use or do not use depending on the opportunity, and the other option to put into the year, then appropriate it, but don't actually spend/bond it until the opportunity comes up. Mr. Tait said that since he has been here, the \$10 million open space was appropriated all at once, \$2 million in each year for 5 years, but the full amount was appropriated, not that it was bonded. One can appropriate and not bond. The advantage of appropriating makes it more efficient to act quickly, sometimes grants may come up and there is not much time to go through the process. If we go through the process first, the purchase would still have to be approved by the Legislative Council even though the money has already been appropriated. Mr. Lundquist asked if it had been appropriated, and there was not an opportunity that came up that year, how long would we be able to hold on to that appropriation in the CIP. Mr. Tait that would be up to the Legislative Council, it could stay open and be closed at any time by action of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Wiedemann asked rather that setting money aside in appropriation, if a property came along, with grants attached, and money was not appropriated, could fund balance be used. Mr. Tait said that no, you cannot use fund balance without an appropriation, he explained it is not setting money aside, an appropriation is permission to spend. In the grant process, it is important see that the Town has authorized an appropriation, which is a permission to spend, and that the Legislative Council has acted. Once you do spend, typically it comes from bond proceeds. Another action would be necessary to use fund balance as other source of revenue. First Selectman Rosenthal noted Legislative Council approval is required before being able to spend. Mr. Honan asked about any detriment, regard to rating agencies, to take from fund balance, Mr. Tait said there is a fund balance policy and typically we do not like to draw from fund balance.

Mr. Knapp expressed concern about an item that would not come back to the Legislative Council once a big authorization has been approved, changing definition of appropriation, description, being specific, change in past practice, policy precedent, and reconcile with 635B of the charter, and concern of giving the authorization to spend and it not coming back to the Legislative Council. First Selectman Rosenthal said he understands the concern and gave his word that he will not take it as authorization to do whatever he wants, he would not do that, he would consult with the Board of Selectmen and Legislative Council.

Mr. Lundquist added that there is more than one path and to have some trust with each other. Ms. Johnson said that due to success in the past of obtaining grants, she would not want to compromise a winning strategy, if to use the CIP to prove intent, she supports that strategy.

Mr. Eide said when using the CIP as a planning document, looking at the forecasted debt service in percent to budget, is that percent assuming that each of those is bonded? And if so, does appropriating it ahead of time, change any of that? Mr. Tait said you have to assume because this is what we are planning to do, in the planning process you have to assume that you will bond everything. Schedules may change, but when we keep to the plan, we reach our goals, hope to be as accurate as possible.

Ms. DeStefano is more comfortable to put it in every year, appropriate and it disappears if not used.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

For a special appropriation, Mr. Tait said there is a description in it, the language of the special appropriation comes from the bond council and would not draw up a resolution unless it adhered to the charter.

Mr. Lundquist said the actions the Legislative Council can take tonight is to accept the CIP in its entirety, reject any item or reduce any item, or change the priority. Any new item would need to go back to the Board of Finance. He clarified with Dave Grogins that splitting the brownfields remediation, repurposing Glen Road and open space at \$650,000 now, would constitute a change, and is not something that Council can do without sending it back to the Board of Finance, and not something that can be done within the window of time.

Mr. Tait offered to ask bond council about de-authorizing part of the number that Mr. Wiedemann questioned, for example, the \$650,000 roughly \$250,000 for remediation and \$400,000 for open space. In response to Ms. Johnson inquiry, First Selectman Rosenthal plans to bring other items for Edmond Town Hall at a later date.

MR. KNAPP MOVED TO AMEND THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP - PROJECTS IN 2019-2020 DICKINSON PAVILION REPLACEMENT, EDMOND TOWN HALL EXTERIOR RENOVATIONS, LIBRARY RENOVATIONS/REPLACEMENTS/UPGRADES, HAWLEY-REPLACE BOILER & LIGHTING ENERGY PROJECT BE MOVED TO 2020-2021; PROJECTS IN 2020-2021 RADIO SYSTEM UPGRADE AND CONSOLE, FFH BUILDING REMEDIATION/ DEMOLITION/ INFRASTRUCTURE, LIBRARY RENOVATIONS/ REPLACEMENTS/UPGRADES, HAWLEY VENTILATION AND HVAC RENOVATIONS BE MOVED TO 2021-2022; PROJECTS IN 2021-2022 FFH BUILDING REMEDIATION/DEMOLITION, FAIRFIELD HILLS PICKLE BALL COURTS, EDMOND TOWN HALL GYM AIR CONDITIONING, LIBRARY RENOVATIONS/ REPLACEMENTS/UPGRADES, HIGH SCHOOL- REPLACE/RESTORE STADIUM TURF FIELD, MIDDLE SCHOOL –VENTILATION, HVAC, AC (PARTIAL) – Phase II BE MOVED TO 2022-2023; PROJECTS IN 2022-2023 FFH BUILDING REMEDIATION/DEMOLITION, P & R MAINTENANCE YARD IMPROVEMENTS, EDMOND TOWN HALL PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS, LIBRARY RENOVATIONS/REPLACEMENTS/UPGRADES, REED – INSTALL HIGH EFFICIENCY GAS BOILERS & LED LIGHTING BE MOVED TO 2023-2024. SECOND BY MR. CARROLL.

Mr. Knapp said that the previous Council supported the new debt policy, debt service cap of 9% and a five year target of 8.5%. To mitigate debt, without compromising roads or school needs, he suggests shifting lower priority projects to following years.

Mr. Eide said expressed some safety concerns, ETH, identify those with safety issues.

Mr. Honan is not in support of amendment, does not see a need to amend.

Mr. Lundquist said he understands what to accomplish, but does not support of micromanaging of thought and planning that has gone into it so far.

Mr. Carroll said a lot of it was put in to make if fit out of convenience, and does not see a problem in moving issues around, all agreed to get our debt down, he said it does not take out, just changes the prioritization and in favor of the change.

Ms. Johnson said that it should be safety first, second to protect our infrastructure, maintain it, and make sure we move forward with a police station, the tradeoff of the schools is of concern. Not in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Smith asked if the Board of Finance considered this schedule.

Ms. DeStefano said it is a good point to level to get close to that goal, but is not comfortable moving priorities.

Mr. Wiedemann addressed the schools facilities that are up to standards are held to higher standards than Town buildings.

Ms. DeStefano said the only year in violation at 9.1 in the last year, there may be an easier way to achieve that goal, with time, adjustment and planning.

MR EIDE MOVED TO AMEND MR. KNAPP'S AMENDMENT TO THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP SUCH THAT DICKINSON PAVILLION REPLACEMENT, EDMOND TOWN HALL EXTERIOR RENOVATIONS, AND ALL BOE PROJECTS REMAIN IN THEIR CURRENT PLAN YEARS. NO SECOND. MOTION TO AMEND AS MADE BY MR. EIDE DOES NOT MOVE FORWARD. MOTION TO AMEND THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP AS MADE BY MR. KNAPP FAILS. (8-3) (Mr. Knapp, Mr. Wiedemann, Mr. Carroll)

MR. KNAPP MOVED TO AMEND THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP TO REDUCE THE 2018-2019 (YEAR ONE) LIBRARY RENOVATIONS/ REPLACEMENTS/UPGRADES TO \$300,000 FROM \$350,000 AND THAT TECHNOLOGY BE FUNDED OUT OF THE LIBRARY BUDGET AND NOT BONDED. SECOND BY MR. CARROLL.

Mr. Knapp said that this would be a way to send a message that technology should come out of the library's budget and does not support bonding for technology. Mr. Honan said that he would need to abstain since his wife serves on the library board.

ALL IN FAVOR TO AMEND. (9-1) (Mr. Eide) Mr. Honan abstained.

Council continued discussion, Mr. Wiedemann asked about the SHS permanent memorial, First Selectman Rosenthal said it is on schedule. Mr. Wiedemann questioned the cost of Treadwell and NHS turf field replacement costs. Ms. Mangold could only comment on Treadwell, NHS is a much larger project and not funded by Parks and Rec.

MR. LUNDQUIST MOVED TO AMEND THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP TO REDUCE FFH BUILDING REMEDIATION/ DEMOLITION/INFRASTRUCTURE BY \$2 MILLION IN YEAR 2020-2021 (YEAR THREE) AND TO REDUCE FAIRFIELD HILLS PICKLE BALL COURTS BY \$180,000 IN YEAR 2021-2022 (YEAR FOUR). SECOND BY MR CARROLL. Mr. Lundquist needed to modify his amendment so that the pickle ball courts was \$250,000. MR. LUNDQUIST MOVED TO MODIFY HIS AMENDMENT TO REDUCE FAIRFIELD HILLS PICKLE BALL COURTS TO \$250,000 IN YEAR 2021-2022 (YEAR FOUR). SECOND BY MR. CARROLL. Mr. Lundquist explained that this would reduce debt service to under 9% in year five. Outdoor lights for pickle ball could be put off. Ms. Johnson is in support of full funding for pickle ball courts. ALL IN FAVOR TO MODIFY MR. LUNDQUIST'S AMENDMENT. (10-1) (Ms. Johnson)

ALL IN FAVOR TO AMEND THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP TO REDUCE FFH BUILDING REMEDIATION/ DEMOLITION/INFRASTRUCTURE BY \$2 MILLION IN YEAR 2020-2021 (YEAR THREE) AND TO REDUCE FAIRFIELD HILLS PICKLE BALL COURTS TO \$250,000 IN YEAR 2021-2022 (YEAR FOUR). (11-0)

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2018-2019 – 2022-2023 CIP AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE AS AMENDED TO REDUCE THE 2018-2019 (YEAR ONE) LIBRARY RENOVATIONS/ REPLACEMENTS/UPGRADES TO \$300,000 FROM \$350,000 AND THAT TECHNOLOGY BE FUNDED OUT OF THE LIBRARY BUDGET AND NOT BONDED, REDUCE FFH BUILDING REMEDIATION/ DEMOLITION/INFRASTRUCTURE BY \$2 MILLION IN YEAR 2020-2021 (YEAR THREE) AND TO REDUCE FAIRFIELD HILLS PICKLE BALL COURTS TO \$250,000 IN YEAR 2021-2022 (YEAR FOUR). ALL IN FAVOR. (10-1) (Mr. Knapp)

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

VOTER COMMENT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

June Sgobbo
Clerk

Attachments: 2018 Pickleball Fact Sheet.

These are draft minutes and as such are subject to correction by the Legislative Council at the next regular meeting. All corrections will be determined in minutes of the meeting at which they were corrected.



2018 Pickleball Fact Sheet

Pickleball is a court sport played on a badminton-sized court with the net set to a height of 34 inches at the center. It is played with a perforated plastic ball similar to a wiffle ball and composite or wooden paddles about twice the size of ping-pong paddles. It can be played indoors or outdoors and is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players. In addition, the game has developed a passionate following due to its friendly, social nature, and its multi-generational appeal.

Pickleball can be played as singles or doubles. New players can learn the basic rules quickly in a single session. No special apparel is needed – just something comfortable and appropriate for a court sport. Equipment is inexpensive and easily portable. The game can be played by all ages and is particularly popular in school P.E. programs and in adult living communities.

The sport is governed by the USA Pickleball Association (USAPA.org), which maintains the rules, promotes the sport, sanctions tournaments, and provides player rankings. For more information, please visit: www.usapa.org

History

2018 marks the 53rd Anniversary of pickleball, as it was invented in 1965 on Bainbridge Island, a short ferry ride from Seattle, by three enterprising dads – Joel Pritchard, Bill Bell, and Barney McCallum. Their children were bored with their usual summertime activities. It evolved from the original handmade equipment and simple rules into a popular sport throughout North America and is now taking off in other parts of the world.

The origin of the game's name is thought to be derived from Joel Pritchard's family cocker spaniel, "Pickles," who loved to chase stray balls and hide them in the bushes.

The Court

A pickleball court is 20' x 44' for both singles and doubles. The net is hung at 36" at the ends and hangs 34" in the middle. A non-volley zone extends 7' back from the net on each side, commonly called "the kitchen." In 2017, USAPA and the American Sports Builders Association (ASBA) co-produced and released an official pickleball courts construction and maintenance manual for the industry. Copies of this manual can be purchased at:

<https://www.sportsbuilders.org/publications/>

The Equipment

Competitive paddles used in pickleball are constructed from a high-tech composite, ranging in cost from \$50-\$150 each. An official pickleball is made of plastic and is between .78 to .935 ounces and 2.874 to 2.972 inches in diameter. There are no color restrictions other than the ball must be a single, consistent color. The USAPA has tested and approved a number of outdoor and indoor balls for official tournament play. Visit http://ifpickleball.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/IFP_Paddle_Test_Results.pdf and <http://ifpickleball.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/List-of-Approved-Balls.pdf> for testing results.

Places to Play

Every US state and all Canadian provinces have pickleball venues. Senior residence communities, YMCAs, local community recreation centers, schools and parks are just some of the places likely to have pickleball courts. The USAPA compiles the most up-to-date and comprehensive listing of places to play at <https://www.places2play.org/>. The known places to play total 5,883, in increase of 1,136 or 94.6 locations per month during 2017.

Tournaments

The USAPA supports and sanctions tournaments throughout the United States. See <https://www.usapa.org/events/> for a current list of upcoming pickleball tournaments. In 2009, the USAPA held the first National Pickleball Tournament in Buckeye, Arizona. Over 400 players participated in divisions for all ages. In 2017, the USAPA National Championships was the largest tournament to date, with more than **1,300** registered players competing in Casa Grande, Arizona. See <https://usapa.org/2017-national-championships/> for detailed information. CBS Sports Network carried a two hour nationally televised broadcast of the event.

Estimated Pickleball Players Within the United States

Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) 2017 Pickleball Participant Report, they reported pickleball currently has **2.815 million** players in the US an increase of 12.3 % over last year. SFIA is the premier trade association for top brands, manufacturers, retailers and marketers in the American sporting goods and fitness industry 1906. Additional details from the detailed **2016 SFIA** Report:

- 1.57 million were “Casual” participants who play 1-7 times a year
- 930 thousand were “Core” participants who play 8 or more times a year
- The rate of growth in participation from 2014 to 2015 was 1.8%, from 2.462 million to 2.506 million (Note: this growth rate is likely underestimated since 2014 was the first year for including pickleball in the SFIA report and the base number is open to question)
- Comparing Casual and Core participants:
 - Casual were 63% male and 37% female
 - Core were 73% male and 27% female

The age breakdown for Casual and Core are very different... with Core players being, on average, significantly older

- ages 6-17: Casual 18.5%; Core 0.8%
- ages 18-34: Casual 11.7%; Core 5.5%
- ages 35-54: Casual 29.4%; Core 19.2%

- ages 55-64: Casual 7.7%; Core 31.8%
- age 65+: Casual 5.4%; Core 42.7%
- 13% of Casual participants and 75% of Core participants are age 55 and older
- The 2.5 million total participants represent 0.9% of the US population
- The regions with the largest number of Core participants were
 - Pacific (CA, OR, WA) = 263,000
 - East North Central (WI, MI, IL, OH, IN) = 200,000
 - South Atlantic (FL, GA, SC, NC, VA, WV, DC) = 174,000

Any citation of this data should reference the SFIA report as its source.

The USA Pickleball Association www.usapa.org

The USAPA was formed in 2005 to promote the sport. It maintains the official rules, sanctions tournaments, provides player rankings and produces the annual National Pickleball Tournament. It is run by an Executive Director and a volunteer board of directors supported by thousands of dues-paying members.

USAPA Ambassador Program

USAPA currently has a network of over **1,600** volunteer ambassadors who have pledged to promote the sport of pickleball and the USAPA in their local area. They serve as local representatives for USAPA for all activities related to pickleball within the area they represent. Ambassadors support and abide by all official rules, assist with local clinics/tournaments and look for opportunities to add/grow the game in their community. A USAPA Ambassador Search feature can be found at https://memberleap.com/members/directory/search_USAPA.php?ambassadors.

Community Grant Program

A USAPA Community Grant will provide current USAPA members a maximum of \$250 reimbursement for the purchase of qualified pickleball equipment dedicated to a specific location. Special considerations will be given to locations with written “new player” training programs, areas with few pickleball locations in the vicinity, and individuals and groups that USAPA deems most in need of financial assistance. For more information please click on the following link: <https://www.usapa.org/usapa-grant-program-rules/>

High School Grant Program

The High School Grant Program will award a maximum of \$350 in reimbursement to USAPA members for the purchase of start-up pickleball equipment for regular high school physical education classes and after school programs. The grants funding will be equally targeted to every defined USAPA region and when feasible awarded to different communities within the region. Considerations will be given to schools and districts where pickleball is being introduced into the high school physical education curriculum and schools that USAPA deems most in need of financial assistance. For more information please click on the following link: <https://www.usapa.org/usapa-high-school-grant-program/>

USAPA Social Media

Visit Facebook.com/USA Pickleball Association

2017 USAPA Facts

- **Places to Play:** USAPA Places to Play Database: **5,883**
- **Membership :** **22,321** (increase of 5,526 or 460 per month)
- **Total Courts:** **21,154** (increase of 4,605 or 384 per month)
- **Ambassadors:** **1,640**
- **Grants:** USAPA awarded 119 Community Grants and 1 High School Grant, distributed over \$24,000 for pickleball equipment in local communities. Pickleball Central joined USAPA and donated over 700 wooden paddles to various programs.
- **2017 USAPA Nationals:** USAPA 2017 Nationals set a new player registration record with over **1,300** registered players
- **Fundraising:** USAPA raised over **\$8,000** in support of the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- **Player Ratings:** The number of officially rated players went from **6,000** on 1/1/2016 to **8,638** on 12/31/17. That's a 2,638 annual increase in initial ratings for new players which was roughly a 30% increase in one year. In addition, there were approximately **800** players who had a rating but required a rating change.
- **Certified Referees:** USAPA certified referees grew to **104** certified referees
- **Referee Evaluators:** USAPA trained and approved **5** new certified Referee Evaluators
- **USAPA Regions:** expanded from **8 to 11** regions
- **Medal Matches:** All medal matches in the 2017 USAPA Nationals were called by certified referees
- **Hall of Fame:** USAPA and the International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association (IPTPA) launched a new Pickleball Hall of Fame
- **Facebook Live Streaming:** USAPA Facebook team carried several live matches on Facebook and had a total reach of over **1.5** Million viewers
- **Newsletter:** USAPA produced **6** newsletters in 2017. You may view archive copies of the newsletter at <https://www.usapa.org/usapa-newsletter/>
- **Pickleball Magazine:** USAPA partnered with Dollard Publishing and produced **6** Pickleball Magazines during 2017 see <http://usapa.org/pickleball-magazine/>
- **Referee Handbook:** The USAPA Referee Handbook was updated in 2017 by the Certified Referee Evaluation Committee
- **Paddles:** USAPA tested and approved **107** paddles in 2017
- **National Senior Games:** USAPA provided administrative support for the 2017 National Senior Games which set a new player registration record of over **900** players – Visit <http://nsga.com/>

Editor's Note: The information contained herein is accurate as of December 31 of 2017. USAPA will update the Fact Sheet as necessary and post the results at www.usapa.org

To the reader – I am frequently being asked information on pickleball opportunities. I have not played at all of these locations at the time of the development of this list (November 2017.) I suggest you contact the location prior to attending as there may be changes due to holidays, snow days, etc. You may also contact me at jannie1225@msn.com with Pickleball in the subject please. Pickle on!

MONDAYS

Bridgewater Burnham School – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Free. Open to Bridgewater residents only. 1 court

Brookfield YMCA – 12:30-2:30 p.m. Free to members. \$10 to nonmembers. 3 courts

Fairfield Senior Center 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. \$5. 2 courts

Milford West Shore Rec Center – 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Annually \$25 residents, \$30 non-residents.
2 courts

Ridgefield Yanity Gym – 9:00 a.m. – noon. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.
4 courts

Stratford Beardsley Municipal Center – noon – 3:00 p.m. – \$10 annual fee nonresidents \$5 annual fee residents. 2 courts

Trumbull YMCA – 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Members only. 1 court

Lyme Shores – 1:00-4:00 p.m., \$8, 4 courts.

TUESDAYS

Fairfield Senior Center – 2:15 – 4:30 p.m. \$5. 2 courts

Brookfield YMCA – 12:30-2:30 p.m. Free to members. \$10 to nonmembers. 3 courts

New Milford Pettibone Rec Center – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – \$5. 2 courts

Newtown NYA – 7:30-9:30 - \$120/12 week session – 2 courts

Newtown Sandy Hook Elementary School – 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Free. 2 courts

Ridgefield Yanity Gym – 9:00 a.m. – noon. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.
4 courts

Ridgefield Rec Center – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. \$5. 2 courts

Shelton Community Center – 9:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. – \$70 annually Sept through May. 2 courts

Wilton YMCA – 1:15 – 3:00 p.m. – Free to members. \$10 to nonmembers. 3 courts

WEDNESDAYS

Ridgefield Yanity Gym – 9:00 a.m. – noon. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.
4 courts

Brookfield YMCA – 12:30-2:30 p.m. Free to members. \$10 to nonmembers. 3 courts

Groton Fitch School – 4:30-8:00 p.m. \$2.50. 3 courts

Milford West Shore Rec Center – 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Annual \$25 residents, \$30 non-residents. 2 courts

Shelton Community Center – 9:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. – \$70 annually Sept through May. 2 courts

Stratford Beardsley Municipal Center – noon – 3:00 p.m. – \$10 annual fee nonresidents \$5 annual fee residents. 2 courts

THURSDAYS

Brookfield YMCA – 12:30-2:30 p.m. Free to members. \$10 to nonmembers. 3 courts

Fairfield Senior Center 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. \$5. 2 courts

Ridgefield Yanity Gym – 9:00 a.m. – noon. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.
4 courts

Ridgefield Rec Center – 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.
4 courts

Lyme Shores – 1:00-4:00 p.m., \$8, 4 courts.

FRIDAYS

Bridgewater Burnham School – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Free. Open to Bridgewater residents only. 1 court

Fairfield Senior Center – 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. \$5. 2 courts

Ridgefield Yanity Gym – 9:00 a.m. – noon. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.
4 courts

Ridgefield Rec Center – 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.
4 courts

Shelton Community Center – 9:40 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. – \$70 annually Sept through May. 2 courts

Trumbull YMCA – 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Members only. 1 court

Wilton YMCA – 1:15 – 3:00 p.m. – Free to members. \$10 to nonmembers. 3 courts

SATURDAYS

SUNDAYS

Ridgefield Rec Center – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Free to Rec Ctr members \$5 nonmembers 60+ \$6 all others.

4 courts

Brookfield YMCA – 6:30-8:30 a.m. - \$10 to nonmembers. 2 courts

LOCATIONS AND CONTACTS

The Burnham School, 80 Main St., Bridgewater, CT, Jean Robinson, jeanr2758@gmail.com

Brookfield YMCA, 2 Huckleberry Hill Rd., Brookfield, CT, 203-775-4444

Bigelow Center for Senior Activities, 100 Mona Terrace, Fairfield, CT, 203-256-3166

West Shore Recreation Center, 35 Benham Ave., Milford, CT, 203-783-3280

Yanity Gym, 60 Prospect St., Ridgefield, CT, <http://www.ridgefieldpickleball.info/>

Beardsley Municipal Center, 468 Birdseye St., Stratford, CT, Dan Pechtoll djp1254@gmail.com

Lakewood Trumbull YMCA, 22 Trefoil Dr., Trumbull, CT, 203-445-9633

Wilton YMCA, 404 Danbury Rd., Wilton, CT, 203-762-8384

John Pettibone Community Center, 2 Pickett District Rd., New Milford, CT, 860-355-6050

Sandy Hook Elementary School, 12 Dickinson Dr., Sandy Hook, CT, 203-270-4340

Ridgefield Recreation Center, 195 Danbury Rd., Ridgefield, CT, <http://www.ridgefieldpickleball.info>

Shelton Community Center, 41 Church St., Shelton, CT, 203-925-8422

Fitch Middle School, 61 Fort Hill Rd, Groton, CT

NYA, 10 S Fairfield Circle, Newtown, CT, Tren Spence, 203.470-4954

Lyme Shores Sports Club, 22 Colton Rd., East Lyme, CT, 06333, kreidy@comcast.net