

Happy New Year from the SSIPA Board

Looking Back –

At the writing of this article, December 27, 2018, SSIPA is celebrating its second birthday. Two years ago, on this date, the SSIPA website was open for business and added new members immediately. A special thanks to the Founder Members that were willing to support this new association. Please still find the list of these 100 members on the website. As pioneers, they were willing to go where others had chosen not to go. The original board members worked tirelessly to meet the goal of growing the sport for players 60+ in age. Founding board members were Winnie Montgomery, Arkansas, Alice Tym, Tennessee, Marc Rinehart, Colorado, Vicky Noakes, Oklahoma, Fred Thompson, Texas, Tim Kuss, Colorado, and Ford Roberson, Texas. Because of their leadership and hard work, SSIPA is poised to move forward into year three.

During the past two years, SSIPA's influence has grown from 9 tournaments, one of which was international in Spain to this past year where there were 41 tournaments, of which 4 were international, Mexico (2), Canada and Italy. There have been over 10,000 competitors in these 50 tournaments. The first SSIPA circuit event was held at El Mirage in Arizona and the fiftieth was held at Naples in Florida this month. The culminating event for 2017 was Super Senior World Pickleball Championships held in Griffin, Georgia. The tournament was hosted by Spalding County Pickleball Association and run by the SSIPA board, all of whom were present. In 2018, the Championship Series was begun with championships in the East, West and Worlds. These three SSIPA run events averaged over 330 players per event. The tournaments were located in Georgia, Arizona and Texas respectively.

Congratulations SSIPA on a great first two years and to those who chose to sacrifice their time and service for the benefit of others.

Looking Ahead –

With 1825 members strong, SSIPA will hope to surpass the 2000 membership number during 2019. Board elections provided three new highly qualified members that will begin their new roles on January 1st. The new board met on December 20th to elect officers for the new year. The following are the new officers and positions: Tim Kuss, President; Vicky Noakes, Vice-President; Chris Thomas, Secretary; and Fred Thompson, Treasurer; Debbie Forrester, IFP Liaison; Mark Kellam, Membership Director; Jeff Stone, Tournament Coordination. Staff positions for 2019: Ford Roberson, Executive Director, Dave Allenbaugh, Webmaster, Fred Thompson, Finance Director, Mark Kellam, Membership Director. Two new staff positions were approved by the board and will be filled the first quarter of 2019.

The tournament schedule is coming together with 25 tournaments listed so far and is a work in progress. International tournaments continue to increase in diversity with locations in Mexico, England, Germany and the first Asian tournament in Japan. The first 3 USAPA Regional Tournaments are in Arizona, Texas and Utah and are expected to have record numbers of participants. New locations in Hawaii, Texas, New Mexico, Oregon, California and Illinois have been added to the schedule as well.

Hoping 2019 is your best pickleball year ever as SSIPA continues to grow and provide our members with exciting opportunities for tournament travel both at home and abroad. Keeping Super Seniors super in 2019.

Once again, HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

Kudo's to Alice and Marc



A special thanks again to our retiring board members, Alice Tym and Marc Rinehart for the many wonderful contributions made by each down the road to success for SSIPA in these inaugural two years. To highlight everything would take pages, so to give you a glimpse into their efforts that produced significant results, two accomplishments will be featured for each.

Alice Tym not only served as a SSIPA board member, but was on the International Federation of Pickleball where she was instrumental in developing The Bainbridge Cup. Alice is the one that insisted SSIPA be an International organization and a part of the world community of pickleball. Global Paddle Share was begun and promoted by Alice which has resulted in paddles being sent around the world. From Alice's days on the women's professional tennis tours, she developed a love for travel and the people

of the world.

Secondly, a little-known fact was Alice's idea for sharing our membership's interests outside of pickleball through the SSIPA Stars program. For the past two years, Alice has interviewed and written about 36 of our members. Featured on our website, these stories have been of special interest to our membership. Members are able to enjoy them at any time, since they are archived on the website under the "More" tab. Both years have been saved for your enjoyment.

Marc Rinehart decided early on that SSIPA needed a presence on the internet besides just the website. Facebook seemed at that time to be the number one form of social media to help get the SSIPA message out to the 60+ age group community. For a long time, the membership on our Facebook page exceeded our actual SSIPA membership number. As time has progressed, both numbers have grown significantly with Facebook at 1495 and membership at 1825+.

Marc also has an uncanny desire for things to be done right. Almost all of the SSIPA documentation is available on the website for review and has been updated and maintained by Marc. His record keeping abilities and a skill set to match his desires has made him the backbone of SSIPA for keeping the board on track and headed in the right direction. SSIPA today would not be near as far down the path to success without the talents and work ethic of Marc Rinehart.

Super Senior International Pickleball Association - 2019 Tournament Schedule

#	S	Date	Tournament	Location	Reg. Open Date
1		1/8-13/19	USAPA Southwest Regional	Surprise, AZ	Open
2		1/24-26/19	Hawaiian Open	Kona, HI	Open
3	(S)	1/29-31/19	Sun City Marinette SSIPA	Sun City, AZ	Open
4		2/7-11/19	Sombrero Showdown and Amigos Cup	San Carlos, Mex	Open
5	(S)	2/19-21-19	Space City Championships	Houston, TX	Open
6		3/2-3/19	The Grapevine Indoor Tournament	Grapevine, TX	Open
7	(S)	3/18-21/19	Sunshine Sizzler at Kings Point	Sun City Center, FL	1/1/19
8		3/28-31/19	USAPA Mid-South Regional	Denton, TX	1/1/19
9		4/05-07/19	Aaron Gifford Pickleball Benefit Tournament	Las Cruces, NM	1/6/19
10	(S)	4/05-07/19	Kissing Tree Invitational	San Marcos, TX	tbd
11		5/03-05/19	Quad States Senior Open	Denton, TX	2/3/19
12		5/24-29/19	USAPA Mountain Regional	Brigham City, Utah	1/15/19
13		6/7-9/19	Colorado Pickleball Open	Arvada, CO	tbd
14		6/29-30/19	Super Senior Best of the West Championship	Concord, CA	1/15/19
15		07/10-14/19	Bainbridge Cup & German Open	Essen, Germany	Open
16		8/14-17/19	Quad Cities 2nd Annual Classic Tournament	Moline, IL	tbd
17		8/22-25-19	Billy The Kid	Ruidoso, NM	tbd
18		8/22-25/19	The English Open	Nottingham, England	Open
19	(S)	8/26-27/19	NC SSIPA Championships	Concord, NC	5/1/19
20		9/06-08/19	Willamette Valley Pickleball Super Senior	Albany, OR	TBD
21	(S)	9/17-20/19	SSIPA East Championships	Griffin, GA	6/1/19
22	(S)	09/30-10/03/19	SSIPA West Championships	Surprise, Arizona	7/5/19
23		10/04-06/19	Japan Open Pickleball Championships	Yamanouchi, Japan	5/1/19
24	(S)	11/22-24/19	JW Marriott - Phx Desert Holiday Classic	Phoenix, AZ	9/1/19
25	(S)	12/02-06/19	SSIPA Worlds	Surprise, Arizona	9/5/19
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This schedule will be updated as tournaments are finalized

(S) - Standalone Tournament for players 60+



Congratulations to 2018 Points Winners!

Women

Ranking	60-64	Pts	65-69	Pts	70-74	Pts	75-79	Pts	80+	Pts
1	Honeycutt,Jo	296	Morrissey,Kathy	233	Montgomery,Winnie L	232	Tym,Alice	351	Agnos,Erol	20
2	Henderson,Susan	220	Noakes,Vicky	225	Gillette,Joan	194	Pahde,Janet	245	Eadie,Deanna	20
3	Carr,Kathleen	166	Wise,Barbara	224	Scanlan,Sandra	144	Spacher,Valeria	202	Krueger,Beverly	19
4	Butler,Jennifer	135	Smart,Laura	183	Ware,Jacquee	140	Wilson,Patsy	136	Harmon,Sue	10
5	Thompson,Char	135	Baynton,Sally	158	Allcorn,Betty	136	Peter,Sharlene	129	Kiker,Jean	10
6	Endsley,Sandra	104	Romagosa,Irene	136	Powers,Barbara	113	Dhaeseleer,Pocket	74	Troester,Virginia	10
7	Jaworsky,Grace	87	Myers,Eva	133	Michel,Judy	111	Davis,Joan	71		
8	Austin,Patricia	81	Barnes,Cheryl	132	Adams,Charisse	106	Allaben,Joan	70		
9	Little,Roberta	70	Hopkins,Paula	129	Wintroub,Barbara	104	James,Genevieve	54		
10	Garcia,Mary	64	Hays,Sydney	121	Bruner,Bernadette	102	Vaughn,Georgianna	51		

Men

Ranking	60-64	Pts	65-69	Pts	70-74	Pts	75-79	Pts	80+	Pts
1	Pickard,Philip	201	Kuss,Tim	183	Thomas,Christopher	345	Johnson,Richard	229	Pesile,Michael	149
2	Walden,Wayne	127	Tarling,Ron	138	Tietze,Earl	196	Honeycutt,Larry	210	Jackson,Michael	83
3	Beggs,Steve	120	Baynton,Barr	117	Stone,Jeff	109	Miller,Larry	148	Smith,Robert	53
4	Noble,Darryl	109	Thompson,Fred	116	Willingham,Ken	99	Powers,Bob	113	Lofgren,Jack	39
5	Brown,Jim	93	Duwe,Michael	110	Brannon,James	98	Hohman,Ronald	93	Alexander,Tom	36
6	Shannon,Randy	93	Cox,Michael	81	Adams,John	87	Rinehart,John	92	Arends,James	36
7	Myers,Robert	86	Popovich,Peter	77	Guarnera,Joe	85	Jarrett,Harry	90	Sparks,Grady	34
8	Grubbs,Rodney	82	Morrison,Johnny	76	Hackenberg,James	84	Brinegar,Jerry	72	Holleman,Dan	33
9	Wise,Bill	81	Schuler,Dan	74	Girodo,Domenic	81	Phillips,Richard	63	Swartz,Jerry	22
10	Kellam,Mark	80	Chimino,Lenny	71	Stateler,Davey	80	Sneed,Gb	62	Gaps,Robert	21
			Morrissey,Richard	71					Ohlheiser,Dick	21

Each winner received a \$100 gift code from Pickleball Central.

All winners should have already received an email about their prize. If you have not received an email, please contact us at ssipa.membership@gmail.com

Tournament Updates

JW Marriott – Phoenix Desert Holiday Classic – November 30 – December 1, 2018 – Phoenix, AZ

The second annual Desert Ridge Holiday Classic tournament was held in Phoenix, Arizona on Friday- Sunday, November 30 – December 2nd. The setting at this beautiful resort with many amenities needs to be put on your tournament list for 2019. Staff at the Marriott are very accommodating and are there to meet your every need. Breakfast burritos at the courts each morning and lunch later in the day were a convenience most players and referees took advantage of daily. The prices were well below any expectation for a resort. A number of players took advantage of the extreme room discounts.

With 250 players competing in men's, women's and mixed doubles, the competition was fierce. For complete tournament results, go to pickleballtournaments.com. Each day was completed in time for dinner plans with other players, family or just friends. With plenty of seating daily, spectators and players were able to enjoy watching the matches in comfort. The referees were under the direction of Terry and Sandy Brown, our referee coordinators. Most of the referees were certified and several of the non-certified were working to complete their requirements.

Jack Thomas and Brian Thorfinnson were the co-tournament directors for the event. Jack is the President of the USAPA and Brian is the head teaching pro for the racket/paddle sports at the resort. Ford Roberson, SSIPA President was assisted by Julie Laderach, who traveled from Texas to run the operations for the tournament using Pickleball Tournaments software. Joan Thomas assisted with check-in and brackets postings and updates. Together the tournament team was able to provide a first rate tournament experience for all the players. This tournament has already been scheduled for 2019 and is among a few that will be hosting for the third consecutive year.

SSIPA West Championships, December 4-6, 2018 – Surprise, AZ

This tournament completed the Championship Series for SSIPA in 2018 and provided the largest tournament of the series with over 450 players. Held at the Surprise City Courts which are deemed "the place where the legends of the game have played", the event was non-stop action. Originally scheduled as a three-day tournament, a fourth day was added almost immediately, due to the large numbers registered for the event. Being held on Tuesday through Friday in weather conditions that caused a cancellation for Thursday, the men's doubles day was disappointing for all of us. Friday was the men's and women's singles day and was delayed with multiple rain showers, but, eventually with a shortened format the day was completed. The weather will always be a factor when our sport is played outside as it was originated.

Players enjoyed both playing in and watching many great matches where a number of the best in the 60+ age groups in our sport competed. Many of the players who were winners at Nationals were competing for the titles in this championship event. The points awarded in this tournament had an effect on the final standings in the SSIPA Points Awards final results for 2018. The volunteers did a great job of providing a comfortable setting for the tournament with snacks, hot drinks, medical services and the like. With seating available with stands and benches around the courts, players could both rest and view the action in comfort. The weather was not only wet at times, but was also about 10 degrees colder than normal. Players did not let the cold affect how they played.

The Surprise Pickleball Association hosted another great tournament. SPA is known for setting the tournament standard when it comes to providing superior expertise at pickleball tournaments. Tournament Director Jeff Stone and his group of club officers and volunteers did a fantastic job. Debbie Javete was responsible for registration and Becky and Doug Gibbs provided the tournament operations each day. The SSIPA Board was out in full force with Mark Kellam, Tim Kuss, Vicky Noakes, Fred Thompson and president, Ford Roberson.

SSIPA leadership announced the SSIPA World Championships will be coming to these same courts in December of 2019. Keep posted on the 2019 tournament schedule at the SSIPA website - SSIPA-PB.org as it continues to develop. See you on the courts in the coming new year.



SSIPA Board members at the West Championships



Women's Doubles Winners at West.

Florida State PB Championships, December 7-9, 2018 – Naples, FL

There were 400 total registered players, with 202 of those being SSIPA participants. All SSIPA matches had a referee. Tournament was well organized. To avoid a possible rain out on the final day, Sunday, all the matches that day (MS and WD) were 1 to 15 win by 2, except for the medal matches, which were 2 out of 3 to 11, win by 2. Sunday's matches finished early and avoided rain delays. Weather generally was great, in the 80's, except for Sunday, but it was windy. Thanks to Tournament Director – Jim Ludwig and Nancy Robertson who worked registration and brackets. A great SSIPA tournament.



Sandra Bowman at the SSIPA booth.



Medal winners: Sandra Bowman, Donna Mihailoff and Patricia Weiskopf

What's on the Web?

Everything is at www.ssipa-pb.com thanks to our innovative webmaster: Dave Allenbaugh.



Communications Review:

1. We have various ways to communicate with us via email: please use the appropriate email:
 - a. For MemberLeap and membership questions: ssipa.membership@gmail.com
 - b. For general questions about our organization, policies, procedures – that pertain to all members: ssipa.pb@gmail.com
 - c. For web site questions or comments: ssipa.webmaster@gmail.com
2. www.ssipa-pb.org is our official web page and the primary way information is passed on to members and the pickleball community. Please visit this site and get: Breaking News, SSIPA Code of Ethics/Bylaws, SSIPA Stars (player profiles), Board member bios, Membership, Founding Members, Tournament Schedule and links to results, Guidelines on Hosting a Tournament and SSIPA Point Leaders.
3. Join our Group Facebook page: you can ask to join (it is a closed group) by searching for Super Senior International Pickleball Association.
4. We also have a SSIPA Facebook Page to better share information and have you Follow

Membership Number: Will I need my SSIPA Membership Number? When you join we will send you your SSIPA membership number. You should not need it in the future as each Tournament Director will receive a list of all current SSIPA Members that are playing in their tournament. There is no membership card. If you have a problem, contact: SSIPA.Membership@gmail.com

SAFETY in all our tournaments and play is paramount. Super Senior players can be more prone to minor injuries – stretching before play, adequate hydration, and proper conditioning should be a goal for everyone. Eye protection, while not required, is strongly recommended. The potential for eye injury is high and can easily be protected/minimized by always wearing glasses, sunglasses or goggles - both indoor and outdoor.