The SSIPA board recently met to consider how to best meet the needs of players that enter SSIPA circuit events. In 2019, over 75% of the SSIPA Circuit Events have players participating in age groups other than 60+. Serving the needs of players and helping grow our great sport of pickleball is the mission of SSIPA. Beginning on January 1st, 2020, SSIPA will allow memberships in the age groups 50+ and 55+. All SSIPA circuit events will include these two 50+ groups. Players that join SSIPA will be eligible for the circuit points awards and receive full membership benefits.

CIRCUIT TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY EXPANSION

For the first three years of operation, SSIPA has only allowed tournaments that are fully sanctioned by the USAPA to be a part of the SSIPA Tournament Schedule. In 2020, SSIPA will begin allowing any tournament that meets the new SSIPA guidelines, including Sanctioned, MMO’s (Medal Matches Only), and non-sanctioned tournaments to be considered for the tournament schedule.

Many tournaments across the United States are of high quality and have an established record of success. SSIPA has limited the membership’s participation due to lack of growth in fully sanctioned events. In order to provide expanded quality services to the membership, the SSIPA board has determined this to be the best course of action for 2020.

Please let the tournaments in your area know now so they can be included in the 2020 SSIPA schedule. A goal of SSIPA is to have tournaments in all parts of the country for our membership to participate in the near future.