

Hi Fellow Pickle-ball Player,

As I sat under the pavilion yesterday between games, I thought how blessed I am. Three years ago, Roger Karr introduced me to the great game of pickle-ball. And I have to say the more I play the game, the more I enjoy it. Not just the game, but the fun, laughs and soft competition from friends like you who I would have never met without pickle-ball at Hershey's Mill.

I have played the game at a few places outside the Mill and have seen many venues on YouTube but I have never seen a more beautiful site than I did yesterday: the sun shining on the colorful leaves just beyond the court. And the 4 newly resurfaced two-tone courts with permanent posts and all-weather nets allowing play 365 days a year. Soon the terrific autumn weather will give way to winter but (weather permitting) play will continue through the winter months -- allowing us the opportunity of experiencing first hand all 4 seasons.

Like the seasons, your pickle-ball leadership is changing too. When I accepted the chairmanship, it was understood that it would be for 6 months. As agreed, Tom Fant became the new pickleball chairman yesterday and will lead us through next April. This is not really a change since the heavy lifting has always been done by Tom, along with the outstanding efforts of George Madden and Lynn Mander.

Below, you will find a video URL on "The Origin of Pickle-ball" (compliments of Larry Appalucci ). It is a fascinating look into how it all began over 50 years ago.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kPJDj4LF1o>

Finally, I want to thank you for your kindness over the past 6 months.

I am looking forward to seeing you on the courts.

Thank you.

Jack