

# PENTWATER TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL CLUB

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What's new in 2022?

We'll be kicking off Bi-weekly **SOCIAL NIGHTS** at the PTPC, with tennis and pickleball starting at 4 PM, followed by a social hour. Tuesday nights were chosen to minimize conflicts with PYC events and Band Concerts. Those who don't plan to play are encouraged to attend as social participants, and the lack of a partner shouldn't prevent anyone from signing up. All players will get plugged into a rotation on the courts. An itinerary for the social hour will be determined by group consensus of those signed up for that particular week. Register on [SignUpGenius](#).

We'll also be rolling out **BALL FEED CLINICS** with a member volunteer leading the group through various drills. An invitation will be sent for members to sign up for the ball feed clinics once dates are known. For practice purposes, a **NEW MOBILE BALL CART** will be filled with an initial supply of tennis balls, and **BALL HOPPERS** will be available for picking up balls. We're asking tennis players to deposit their used balls into the ball cart in the storage room. This will ensure plenty of fresh balls for practice purposes. If you wish to schedule free use of the **PTPC TENNIS BALL MACHINE**, please contact: [John DiPangrazio](#).

### When is the Club open?

Our open season runs from April to November, when the courts can be accessed using the key provided to each member. Upon seasonal closing in November, the nets are removed and locks are changed, with all courts closed until the Club reopens in April. The risk of freezing conditions keeps our bathrooms closed during the months of April and November.

### Who manages the Club?

We are a private club managed by an amazing group of volunteers. We have no employees. Our [Officers and Directors](#) provide leadership to ensure the Club adheres to a strategic vision that moves the club forward. Several [committees](#) do work to organize our tournaments, clinics, organized play and social events. Members are encouraged to participate in the volunteer effort. If you would like to serve on a committee, please contact a Board member or a committee chair. Members are encouraged to sign up for recurring maintenance activities using [SignUpGenius](#).

### What are the Club's values and vision?

We believe our Club is a vital part of a thriving Pentwater community. This drives a commitment to delivering the emotional and social benefits of exercise at a reasonable cost of membership. We want to nurture relationships with a growing percentage of Pentwater summer residents and repeat visitors. Our clinics, tournaments and organized play promote the fun of two lifetime sports with health smart benefits – physical, mental and emotional. It's never too late for people of all ages to start playing tennis or pickleball. The key is to start playing now to make the most of these benefits throughout your lifetime!

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### How does the Club receive funding?

As a private club, we receive no funding from public entities such as [Village of Pentwater](#). Our members and friends of the club are the sole source of financial support, which comes in the form of annual dues, assessments and donations.

### Why is there an ongoing capital campaign?

Since the Club's inception in 1973, our membership has fluctuated between (75) and (95) member units. Our recurring infrastructure costs over the years have tended to exceed our reserves, often requiring the institution of a capital campaign to fund project requirements. Such an instance was the spring of 2020, when a capital campaign was launched to make substantial enhancements to our facilities. The Board graciously thanks our [list of supporters](#) for their contributions to date!

### What improvements have been funded by the current capital campaign?

Contributions to date have partially funded a list of completed improvements as follows:

1. Resurfacing of tennis courts 5 & 6 in 2020;
2. Facelift and renovation of our clubhouse, kitchen and restroom facilities in 2020;
3. Complete rebuild of tennis courts 3 & 4 in 2021;
4. Conversion of tennis courts 1 & 2 into to six permanent pickleball courts with divided fencing in 2021;
5. Expansion of our parking lot in 2021.

### What further contributions are needed to cover costs for already completed improvements?

Our capital campaign has been a major success to date, with \$93,460 in pledges and \$89,877 in payments received. But we haven't yet covered the entire cost of our completed improvements. To bridge this shortfall, a generous member of the Club recently extended a low-interest loan to cover the remaining amount. In hopes of paying off this loan as soon as possible, additional pledges of at least \$30K are needed. The campaign is slated to conclude with the Club's [50th Anniversary celebration](#) in 2023.

∞ **If you haven't yet made a pledge, please consider doing so using [the attached form](#)** ∞  
∞ **Contributions may be sent to: PTPC, P0 Box 403, Pentwater, MI 49449** ∞

### What is the direction of the Club?

We are working to bring together like minded people from the Pentwater community to make new friends and expand social circles, to achieve extensive use of the facilities and a growing membership. Bold steps were taken recently to ensure the Club's health into the future. Our work in 2021 to facilitate (6) permanent pickleball courts had a very positive impact. We added (35) new member units in 2021, bringing our total membership to (125) units. For 2022 and beyond, we'll be increasing the available options for organized play and social events.

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*In the interest of minimizing the need for major capital campaigns in future years, an annual “Capital Reserve Special Assessment” was approved during our 2021 Annual Meeting. Historically, court resurfacing and other infrastructure improvements have been required every 6-7 years. The goal is to accumulate reserve amounts to provide adequate funding for that expected project interval. Starting in 2022 and continuing for a period of seven years, a small assessment amount will be added to the annual dues for each membership. This will be held in reserve for future capital improvement projects of the Club. Please see “[JoinUs](#)” tab for more details.*

### **How is court time made available to the public?**

*We do not offer court rental, but those wishing to explore membership can request participation in one of our organized play sessions. Subject to availability and approval, they can participate in a limited number of open play sessions for a daily fee of \$10. For any other use of Club facilities, the approved guest must be accompanied by a member. Those interested can start by contacting us at: [PentwaterTennisClub@gmail.com](mailto:PentwaterTennisClub@gmail.com).*

### **How can a member extend club privileges to a guest?**

*A family Membership applies member privileges to couples, their dependents, and/or grandchildren below the age of 21 (or 25 years of age if they are students). Beyond that, any member of the Club can extend guest privileges to someone up to a maximum of ten days per season, per guest. With the exception of organized play, the member must accompany their guest(s) and assume responsibility while on Club property. Guest fees will be billed to the “inviting member” at the rate of \$10 per day. Immediate family members (brothers, sisters, adult children & adult grandchildren) will be charged a reduced rate of \$5 per day. There is no charge for minor grandchildren.*

### **How do I schedule court time?**

*Any use of the facilities is offered on a walk-up/ first-come/ first-served priority. However, organized activities always take priority for use of our court facilities. They remain lightly used in the afternoon, so this is the best time to target for walk up play. Daily court time during the mornings tends to be fully committed to either organized play, or planned events. SignupGenius is used as signup tool for organized play pickleball and tennis, as well as events (tournaments, clinics or socials that are scheduled in advance). Details can be found on the “Play” and “Events” tabs of this website. Members wishing to participate can click on the SignupGenius link for the activity they wish to participate in, or contact the organizer.*

### **When does the PTPC offer private lessons and/or clinics for Tennis and Pickleball?**

*No teaching professionals are employed by the Club, but we do offer volunteer led clinics periodically, details of which will be posted on this website on the “Play” tab. A few examples are the [Annual Youth Tennis Camp](#), the [Beginners Pickleball Clinic](#) and recurring [Tennis Ball Feed Clinics](#). Any member wishing to schedule a private lesson with a teaching pro of their liking will be subject to the same rules for court*

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*time priority. So, this type of activity should be scheduled in the afternoon when court time tends to be plentiful on a walk up/ first-come/ first-served basis.*

### **What is “best practice” for members entering and leaving the courts and restrooms?**

*Our tennis and pickleball courts have several gates that must remain locked when not in use. Members can use their key to access the courts. Any member who is the last to leave (meaning they are leaving the facilities vacant), is required to lock the gate when leaving. In the case where no other members are presently using any of the tennis or pickleball facilities, the departing member is also asked to check the bathroom facilities to ensure they're locked.*

### **What is the rule regarding the type of shoes that can be worn?**

*Players new to the game often make the mistake of wearing running shoes, cross trainers or other leisure oriented sneakers designed for heel to toe running. Playing tennis or pickleball in this type of shoe exposes a player to increased risk of injury, and might cause surface damage by leaving black marks on the courts. Anyone found to be wearing running shoes or cross trainers with black soles will be asked to wear proper court shoes.*

*Both tennis and pickleball involve a lot of shuffling, turning, twisting and side-to-side (lateral) movement. Only purpose-built court shoes offer the appropriate level of lateral support, stability and traction. Unfortunately, you won't find a great selection of these shoes at your local department or sporting goods stores. And their well intentioned salespeople might tell you that cross trainers or running shoes will suffice. Sadly, they would be wrong. Your best source for appropriate tennis and pickleball court shoes is online retailers: [TennisWarehouse.com](http://TennisWarehouse.com), [TennisPoint.com](http://TennisPoint.com), [TennisExpress.com](http://TennisExpress.com), [TotalPickleball.com](http://TotalPickleball.com) and [PickleballCentral.com](http://PickleballCentral.com).*

### **What else can I do to protect our court surfaces?**

*In addition to wearing proper court shoes, we have several other rules designed to prevent surface damage and sports related injuries:*

- 1. Chairs are not allowed on the courts unless pads are installed underneath (in hot weather chairs will sink into the asphalt leaving dents).*
- 2. Bikes, skateboards or roller blades are never allowed on the courts.*
- 3. Equipment like ball machines, chairs or benches should never be dragged across the court surface.*
- 4. Improper disposal of chewing gum can damage the courts. If you find it necessary to chew gum, please dispose of it properly.*
- 5. Our hard courts aren't meant to be used in all types of weather. Playing on wet courts can expose you to significant risk of injury due to slipping.*
- 6. The courts must never be shoveled or de-iced for use in cold weather.*

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is an AED machine?**

An AED, or automated external defibrillator, is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's a sophisticated, yet easy-to-use, medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm. You should always request the assistance of trained medical professionals, but since the average response time for first responders once 911 is called is 8-12 minutes. And for each minute defibrillation is delayed, the odds of survival are reduced by approximately 10%. So, having access to an AED and knowing how to use one, is critical.

- An [instructional video](#) on how to use an AED machine can be found [here](#).
- A [certification training](#) from Red Cross for CPR and AED can be found [here](#).

### **How do I access the club's AED machine?**

We recently invested in an AED machine that is housed in a locked enclosure under the covered sections of the clubhouse. A wall mount combination lock box is mounted next to the AED cabinet. It holds the key that will open the metal cabinet door. Enter the combination 9-1-1 on the lockbox keypad to open the shutter door, and access the key. When operating the AED, once you press the start button on the unit, verbal instructions will prompt you through the process of using the lifesaving device.

## **Pentwater Tennis and Pickleball Club**

**USPS:** PO Box 403, Pentwater, MI 49449

**Street:** [8550 US-31 BUS, Pentwater, MI 49449](#)

**Email:** [PentwaterTennisClub@gmail.com](mailto:PentwaterTennisClub@gmail.com)

**MEMBERS & GUESTS**

ESTABLISHED 1973