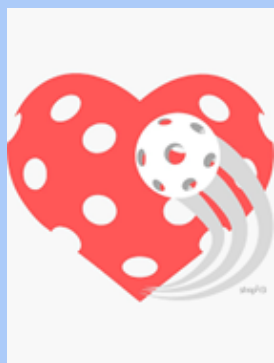




Berkshire Mountain Pickleball Mission Statement

BMP provides an inclusive, welcoming environment for Berkshire residents and visitors to actively participate in the sport of Pickleball that is easy to learn, fun to play, socially oriented, and promotes wellness and vitality among adult players of all ages and backgrounds.



Happy Valentine's Day!

Boys and Girls Club Winter Play

We have gone through a few changes with the schedule and the organization of OPEN PLAY. The schedule seems to be working nicely now with the Late Session back in. The levels are working themselves out and it's great to see players "moving up (or down)" as they get more comfortable. Nice job everyone! We appreciate your flexibility and patience.

And yes, the unplanned closings are disruptive, but let's not lose sight of all the great things they do for the community and let's be thankful we have a place to play indoors! If there is a question regarding school closings and Pittsfield snow days please check iberkshires.com or call the Boys and Girls Club directly (413-448-8258).

Here are the known closing for the next 3 months.

February 13 through February 21

March 14

April 4

April 18 through April 25

BMP Dues

A gentle reminder that our dues need to be paid by April 30th. They did not increase this year, dues are \$30. Please pay Jan via Venmo @Janice-Uliasz or by check to Berkshire Mountain Pickleball PO Box 66 Dalton, MA 01227. You can also pay one of the Steering Committee cash if that is easier.

Winners Circle

Here's to our Gold, Silver and Bronze medalists. We're proud of you! Dina Aberdalden, Kelly Maginnis, Carter Tyer, Judy Tierney, Khoi Luong, Rebecca Harris, Kirk Mitchell, Kathleen Millett. Stay tuned for more news about summer tournaments!



We Love to Party!

Thanks to all that attended and special thanks to all the planners! Let's do it again next year! Stay tuned, it will be bigger and better!



PIC•COLLAGE

Welcome New Members

A warm WELCOME to our newest members!!!

Michael	Atkins
Anurag	Bansal
Brian	Beauregard
Susan	Casey
Jean	Friedman
Jonathan	Kaledin
Kathy	Koscher
Tim	Mason
Bill	Rhodes
Debbie	Rhodes
Ginger	Roach
David	Roberts
Kimberly	Stuart
Jona	Trottier
Sally	Vincent
Lauren	Walker
Jackie ling	Wong





The Pickle Corner: *Clearly a case of stolen identity, I've grown fond to the Crazy Pickleball Lady (not to be confused with me!), so we will steal her image for this segment of the newsletter. The following was sent to us from Kay DeSanctis! Thank you Kay!*

What are the new rules for pickleball in 2025?

Let's kick things off with the most confusing of the rule changes. It's well documented that the hardest part of getting into the sport is learning and understanding pickleball serving rules. Am I player 1 or player 2? Am I on the correct side of the court? Do I need to switch sides? Like the subject matter, the rules are slightly confusing but we'll break it down as best we can.

1. Your partner is now on the hook! (Rule 13.D.1.a)

In previous years, you were responsible for calling balls out of bounds on yourself. In 2025, you're now required to call out balls on your partner as well, as long as you can clearly see that the ball was out. This new rule continues to build the integrity of the game and should increase the amount of accurate line calls throughout play. This also includes foot faults (non-volley zone or serving), touching the net, out balls, etc. If you see something, say something in 2025!

2. Spectators are no longer able to offer their opinion on calls! (Rule 6. C. 4.)

This rule now prevents spectators from giving pointers or advice, as well as players asking advice from anyone who is not a player involved in the match or the court official. No more bleacher coaching!

3. Hang on a sec! (Rule 4.C.2.)

This new rule allows a player to vocalize that they're not ready to receive a serve. In years past, a hand motion that you were not ready to receive a serve was legal. Now, both a signal and verbal "not ready" is legal.

4. Release the ball how you want! (Rule 4.A.5.)

Previously, you were required to release the pickleball with your free hand to start your serve. In 2025, if you'd like to release it from your paddle, you

are free to do so legally! However, you may not use any spin. If you plan on using your paddle to drop the ball, you will need to do so without any spin on your drop serve, just rolling the ball off of your paddle's face.

5. Welcome, Rally Scoring! (Provisional Rules 4.G.1 and 12.B.1)

Well, kind of. For those of you who don't know, rally scoring is a hot topic in the world of pickleball. [Rally scoring](#) is when a player or team will score every time the ball is in play and is different from "normal pickleball scoring," where you and your teammate must be serving in order to score a point. This new, provisional rule would allow rally scoring in doubles, as it is currently allowed in singles, however, regular scoring will still be the official scoring method at most events.

HouseKeeping!

Waivers

It would be super helpful to me and Jan if you brought a guest, to grab a waiver out of the blue folder in the back room cabinet and have them sign one. You can simply put it back in the box and we will pick it up.

Lost and Found

Please always check the back room for missing clothing, paddles, water bottles, etc. We collect a lot!

Sign Up Genius

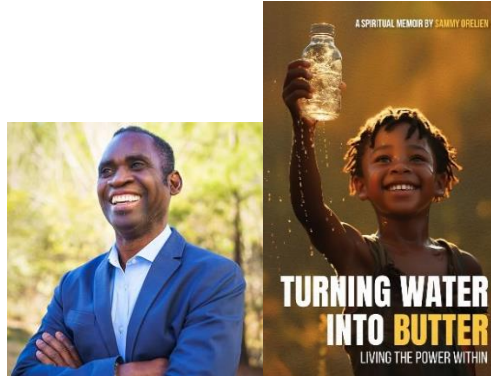
Please don't forget to delete yourself from the schedule if your plans change.



Our Members are AMAZING!

SAMMY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Our very own Sammy Orelie has written a book!
Congratulations Dr. Orelie! (Members you can find it on Amazon!)
Sammy would love to tell you about his book!



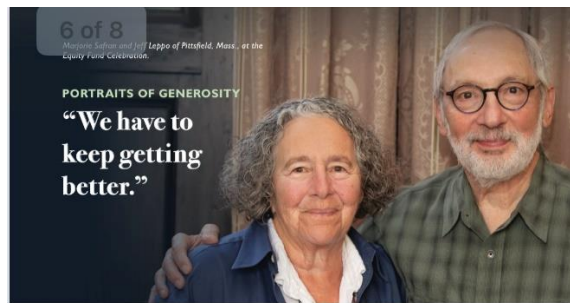
Turning Water Into Butter: Living the Power Within

"Turning Water into Butter" is an inspiring memoir for anyone searching for deeper meaning in their life journey. With raw and candid storytelling, Dr. Orelie (Sammy) welcomes readers into his world, exploring themes of self-discovery, resilience, and the profound power of love.

Dr. Jean-Guilmond Orelie (Sammy): Entrepreneur, Innovator, Author

Born in Haiti, Dr. Jean-Guilmond Orelie, known as Sammy, has dedicated his life to advancing solutions that improve human well-being. A visionary entrepreneur and leader, he has built and scaled organizations at the cutting edge of science, technology, and public health.

MARGIE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



A Commitment to Equity and Innovation in Philanthropy

In 2022, Jeff Leppo and Marjorie Safran established the Berkshire Inspired Educational Scholarship Fund through Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (BTCF), which supports BIPOC and economically disadvantaged students from Berkshire County who face emergency financial needs while pursuing higher education.

Read more about Margie and Jeff

<https://berkshiretaconic.org/btcfnewsfall2024>

Feel free to ask Margie to tell you about their efforts!

Be Well Picklers and Happy Valentine's Day!

Your Steering Committee Members

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