



Proclamation

Honoring Pickleball in Palo Alto

WHEREAS, Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports with more than 2.5 million participants in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Pickleball is an intergenerational, low impact, competitive sport that is easy to learn, inexpensive to play and promotes camaraderie, teamwork, kindness and enjoyment for individuals and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Pickleball volunteers and enthusiasts share their joy of Pickleball and build community by providing nets, paddles, balls and a gathering place at Mitchell Park to host free drop-in clinics; and

WHEREAS, the Palo Alto Chapter of the nonprofit Silicon Valley Pickleball Club reaches out to Palo Altans of all generations, from youth to super seniors who may be isolated, to give them a welcoming place to play Pickleball, which helps improve their physical, social, and emotional health; and

WHEREAS, records show that the number of people who play Pickleball at Mitchell Park totals over 300 participants each week on only three tennis courts; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Senior Games Pickleball event will be hosted by volunteers at Mitchell Park next May for the third year running, which had 147 competitors last year, some over 80 years old; and

WHEREAS, the Pickleball classes which have been taught by volunteers and offered in the City of Palo Alto's Enjoy! Catalogue have all been full; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palo Alto Parks and Recreation Commission has established an Ad Hoc Committee focused specifically on promoting Pickleball in Palo Alto.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, H. Gregory Scharff, Mayor of the City of Palo Alto, on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim appreciation for the sport of Pickleball and recognize the health and wellness benefits it provides to the Palo Alto community.

Presented: November 13, 2017




H. Gregory Scharff
Mayor