

Janesville Pickleball Club Minutes – September 15, 2026

Board Present: Julie Fiebig, Keith Christoff, Kathy Christoff, Ed Stried, Mimi Hahn

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm

Minutes from the 7/29/2026 Meeting were approved. Motion to approve: Kathy Christoff; seconded by: Mimi Hahn

The Board approved the Treasurer's Report. Approved by Julie Fiebig, seconded by: Kathy Christoff. Keith mentioned that we currently have 156 members. We have about \$21,000.00 in the JPC account. We had a loss of about \$800.00 by putting on the clinic in August (JPC paid for a portion of the members' fees).

The Board voted unanimously to elect **Denise Caldwell** as Board Position at Large (to replace Dave Viemeister).

Since the last meeting, **Dave Brusky resigned** from the Board as Vice President. Ed mentioned that Jean Schollmeier may be interested. It was decided by everyone present that if she wants to take on that Board position, she will fill it. Ed will talk to her about it and let us know

Updates regarding Cullen/City

The city now has 2 AED's and boxes for them. They have not been set up yet—this will probably happen in the spring. Julie has had a difficult time with Cullen returning her messages—hopefully that will improve. Julie will also talk to Cullen about removal of the wind screens before winter (to make sure they do it before they get damaged by weather).

Fundraising/Membership/Topics

There was a lot of positive feedback from the August clinic. While the club spent about \$800.00 on the clinic (by paying a portion of the fee for members), we gained 9 new members. We would like to try scheduling another clinic either this winter (mention was made of the Woodland Center in Janesville, where they have 3 indoor courts) or waiting till the spring.

The Project 16:49 Drive went very well. Julie will deliver the items tomorrow (9/16/2026); we also raised \$410.00 for the organization.

The Family and Friends Day went well. About a dozen people stopped by for lessons.

October 2nd will be the last Dink, Drink and Dine event for the season. It will resume in the spring.

It was suggested that beginning in 2027, all members would receive "coupon books" (copied pages, stapled) of participating local shops. Like the coupons given out at the Firecracker Tournaments, they would allow JPC members to patronize local businesses and receive small discounts. It was also suggested that we only do 5 or 6 businesses to start with, if that would be easier.

Membership Drive next year will be in the spring. However, in the January Newsletter we will mention that it's time for membership renewal and include the Venmo QR code for that. We will also need to have each member's email address, phone number and address for our files going forward.

The idea was floated to get a ball machine for the club. While nothing was decided about that, the concern was raised about security in the shed. Evidently some JPC members have shared the new code to get into the shed with people that are not members. It was agreed by the Board that the code on the shed should be changed before winter, and once the city has installed the outdoor AED's, the lock code on the shed should be changed at regular intervals. It was also agreed that at that time, only Board members and coaches should have the code. Dave Brusky will change the code on the lock before winter, as he has done it before.

Another idea that Ed Stried had was offering modest scholarships to children of JPC members. It was decided that we would discuss this at a future meeting, but that it was a good idea.

Julie raised the possibility of a JPC Vacations Getaway. Five nights in the Turks, with clinics every morning and open play in the evening. Trip would be all inclusive; all excursions and extras paid for. It would run between \$2,000.00 and \$3,000.00 per person. JPC would get \$500.00 per room if booked. Nothing was decided, but some Board members thought it might have potential.

Lessons over the summer: We are currently giving free lessons to anyone (per an agreement with the city). People taking the lessons do not have to be club members. We need to discuss (with the city) if this will continue going forward. There seems to be some inequity in that JPC members donate their time to give the lessons, JPC balls and paddles are used for the lessons, and JPC doesn't necessarily get anything out of it (except hoping some become members). Because people don't have to make a commitment to the lessons, many have signed up but don't show up.

Julie talked about small membership perks, and it was agreed that each year we offer one different perk. Some suggestions were: magnetic name tag, the elastic ring above a paddle grip with JPC on it, visor, mesh ball holder (for 3 balls) to clip on the outside of your pickleball bag. We did not decide which item will be offered in 2027.

The Woodman's Center was asked about pricing for holding a winter tournament. Their prices were way too high, and it was decided not to use them. We will wait till spring until we do a tournament. Kathy suggested we use the time now to set up a "committee" that will run a tournament down the road. We need to have several people who will help, each assigned to an aspect of the tournament, so no one person is overwhelmed. We did not iron this out, but we need to define the various aspects of a given tournament and find members who will be able to help.

Mimi reviewed the results of the member survey for August:

- 37 members responded
- 60% have been members for 3-5 years or more
- Over 50% of members play several or more times per week
- Over 40% of members play regularly when outdoor courts are not available
- Of those who play indoors, 30% go to JAC, 11% to the Y, and 8% to Woodman's. A fraction goes elsewhere.

- 90% are interested in seeing more clinics, tournaments, leagues, fund raising events
- 61% play pickleball for exercise or the social aspect of the game
- 11% play for the competition and want to play at higher levels

Some changes members would like to see:

- Limit group play after 8:30 am
- Have open drill sessions

Keith suggested we give Dave Brusky a gift card or something for all his years of service. Ed didn't think Dave would want to accept a gift card and mentioned that Dave may be back in a Board position down the road. Nevertheless, the Board will decide on this at the next meeting.

Next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, November 17 at 4:00 pm at the Janesville Library.

Julie made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 pm; it was seconded by Mimi.