

MILESTONES

LHC Pickleball History

2011. Tim and Carol Weaver became USAPA Ambassadors, and started play at a local church and the Aquatic Center. They also gave demonstrations at all 5 elementary schools.

2012. The Weavers introduced the game to the community college, gave a demonstration at the Health Fair, and set up 3 courts at the ARK center.

2013-14. They organized the first 2 tournaments at the Aquatic; the mayor attended in 2013 and declared March to be LHC Pickleball Month.

2015. Tim and Carol organized a tourney at London Bridge Resort, and lobbied the City to build dedicated outdoor courts. Regular players had grown to 100+ and the indoor venues were overcrowded. Doug Carr initiated play at the London Bridge Beach (LBB) basketball court, using portable nets and chalk lines, and set up a donation jar for equipment.

2015. David Rossing formed the LHCPBA non-profit to promote the game in the LHC area, and Eric Swiech built the website. The Weavers organized another tournament at the Resort.

2016. The Ass'n elected the first board: David Rossing, President; Doug Carr, VP; Fred Case, Sergeant at Arms; Mike Christensen, Member at Large; Mike Delaney, Secretary; Nancy Langen, Treasurer. The Ass'n lobbied the City to build dedicated courts at LBB but to no avail; the City was set on Dick Samp Memorial Park (DSP).

2017. The City funded a design for a 16-court complex at DSP, and had the first 4 courts built. The courts were completed in February and the LHCPBA held the first tourney there in March.

2017. David Rossing formed Lake Havasu Courts, a 501(c)(3), to encourage tax-advantaged donations for funding facilities and programs. Mike Delaney issued a \$25K donation match challenge to further encourage substantial donations.

2018. Funded by dues and donations, the Ass'n purchased windscreens, sunshades and bleachers for the DSP courts. Mike Delaney issued another \$25K donation match challenge. The Ass'n membership topped 200 in March.

2019. In December, LHCPBA reached the fundraising goal of \$100K and donated the money to the City for the construction of more Courts at DSP. The City responded favorably and agreed to fund the balance needed to build 8 new courts.

2020. Construction of the new courts began late in the year. The board determined that Lake Havasu Courts (LHC), a private foundation, was not well suited to our needs. Accordingly, a new 501(c)(3), a public charity, was formed and the private foundation company was terminated.

2021. The 8 new courts at DSP were completed in May. Membership increased to 241. The annual tournament was cancelled, due to Covid-19 concerns.

2022. In January, David Rossing was the subject of a celebrity roast, honoring his 7 years as president. The first sanctioned tournament, organized by Cheri Swettenam, Dennis & Kathy Day and Janie Morris, was held in March and was a huge success. Membership reached 350 in March.