



FALL IPTPA NEWSLETTER

IPTPA Members, can you believe summer is over already?? As cool weather is now a regular thing for much of the country, we're excited to bring you the IPTPA Fall Newsletter. I have been very busy since our last newsletter and certainly have been racking up the airline miles! Myself and a team went to Bhutan (Tigers Nest Monestary in right picture), IPTPA along with the World Pickleball Federation put together 3 amazing exhibitions at the 2023 Asian Games in China (The Watercube Arena top left), and I was able to visit and explore New Zealand for the first time (Glow worms in caves bottom left)! What a whirlwind of adventures. I hope you have had a great summer as well and as always we thank you for your continued support of IPTPA and all their efforts here and abroad!

-Rif



IPTPA launches Educators Program in partnership with the YMCA



In July, IPTPA attended The General Assembly of YMCA's which is the Y's premier leadership development conference designed to connect, educate, and inspire YMCA staff and volunteers. We are excited to announce our new initiative has officially launched. Known as the Educators Program, this new program is looking to bring the teaching methods of IPTPA into YMCA's, park districts, and PE classes around the country. Our first workshop was held and we are looking to expand this program as we move forward. The main goal of this is to find those already teaching other sports that can then add pickleball to the mix. If you are interested in finding out more information about this please reach out! Contact Lauren McLaughlin at lauren@iptpa.com.

IPTPA visits Bhutan for volunteer/charity workshops

This summer IPTPA President Seymour Rifkind along with 6 other IPTPA members went to Bhutan to hold certification workshops for no charge. This idea, spearheaded by Kathleen Kiefer, who relocated to Bhutan about six years ago, and her good friend Dorothy "Dottie" Barry (who unfortunately caught pneumonia and couldn't go) brought pickleball to the country in a significant way for the first time and in addition to donating time and workshops, IPTPA and the other Bhutan volunteers gave away equipment to the people to help them overcome any obstacles to growing pickleball. This included building 3 dedicated pickleball courts (completed the day before the groups arrival), 3 more dedicated courts, currently under construction, six portable pickleball nets, 300 paddles, several thousand balls, 200 pairs of gym shoes: various sizes for children through adults, several hundred pairs of socks, and IPTPA certification of 30 Level I instructors.



IPTPA hopes Bhutan can be a beta test of sorts. The hope is to visit other less fortunate countries to plant the seeds of pickleball and use our position to donate time and resources. A massive part of the success of this endeavor will be having someone in the country locally that can help continue the program and help it flourish so that it doesn't die on the vine. Do you have a country you think would be great for this and perhaps a contact in that country you can put in touch with IPTPA?? We'd love to hear from you!

IPTPA along with WPF put on 3 historic exhibitions at 2023 Asian Games

The success of the exhibitions was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the players, sponsors, and dedicated hosts in China. The first exhibition, held in Dongyuan, welcomed a crowd of 900 spectators who witnessed the excitement of pickleball. The second exhibition, an exclusive event in Beijing's Water Cube Arena, garnered attention from high-ranking government officials and dignitaries, marking a historic moment for the sport. The final exhibition in Hebi's Olympic arena, where the Olympic Badminton competition took place, attracted an awe-struck audience of approximately 2000 spectators and reached 4.8 million viewers within the first hour of the national live broadcast, making it the most-watched live event in pickleball history. The Hebi exhibition was an IOC Sanctioned multisport event making this the 2nd year in a row that WPF was successful in getting pickleball accepted at a major international



sporting event sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee. IPTPA was a sponsor in each of the last two years.

The exhibitions showcased the all-inclusive nature of pickleball, with players of diverse ages and backgrounds coming together to celebrate the sport. The enthusiastic participation of the spectators, many of whom joined the players on the court, reflected the universal appeal of pickleball and its ability to foster camaraderie. The World Pickleball Federation looks forward to

future collaborations and endeavors, uniting pickleball enthusiasts and fostering the spirit of sportsmanship across the globe. Check out a video put together from the Beijing presentations here: [WPF in China](#) A big thank you to our players (from left to right) Mike Newell, Ollie Gray, Roos Van Reek, Ludovica Sciaky, Emilia Schmidt, and Jai Grewal.

IPTPA looking for new Master Teaching Professionals (MTP's)

For everyone that has taken a Level I certification course, that workshop was taught by one of IPTPA's incredibly talented MTP's. These are individuals who have gone through extensive training, teaching, and demonstrated the ability to uphold IPTPA's standards when it comes to teaching. This includes both on court demonstrating/teaching as well as in classroom teaching. In order to hold more Level I workshops all around the country (and hopefully more abroad as well), we need more MTP's. This is not a simple process and takes a very dedicated individual who also demonstrates extreme skill when it comes to teaching both on and off the court. A full breakdown of what IPTPA is looking for in an MTP can be found on the website. Please look it over here [MTP's Requirements](#) and if you think this may be you, or you have someone you think would be a good candidate please contact Lauren McLaughlin at lauren@iptpa.com.

IPTPA Founder and President Seymour Rifkind inducted into Pickleball HOF

We all know how much Rif has done for the sport of pickleball in the US and around the world



and he is now officially getting that recognition in the form of being inducted into the Pickleball Hall of Fame! (Which he also founded btw, but no longer runs) What an honor and well deserved! His HOF plaque reads: 'In recognition of his contributions to the sport of pickleball as the founder and president of three not for profit pickleball organizations. Seymour founded the first pickleball teaching organization The International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association (IPTPA) in 2015, The Pickleball Hall of Fame in 2017, and the World Pickleball Federation in 2018. In 2021, he raised funds for the Pickleball HOF by riding his bike over 3,000 miles in 44 days from San Diego, CA to St. Augustine, FL. In 2022, as a member of the USA contingent, he spearheaded the efforts to showcase pickleball at the World Maccabi Games in Israel and in 2023 The Asian Games in China. He has worked

tirelessly to get pickleball into the Olympics one day, and continues to spread pickleball around the world, having visited over 25 countries and counting.' Congratulations Rif!!

Did you know IPTPA offers a Junior Certification Program now??

If you are a Level I certified instructor and you work with younger players or would like to, the Junior Certification program is for you! This is an online certification and they are offered every few months. There are specific things IPTPA has identified that need to be adjusted or changed when dealing with juniors from the Level I teaching methods

and we think having that knowledge is very important to shaping the future players of this great sport we all love! Check online to see when the next Junior Workshop is being held and get registered!

Instructions on how can be found here: [Junior Certification](#)

Member Profiles are live on the IPTPA Website, take advantage now!

IPTPA has added mini-web pages for any member that is interested in reaching additional players for your services. A template has been developed which will allow members to add photos, a bio, and a description of the services you provide ie: private & group lessons, clinics, boot camps etc. You can even list clinics you'll be doing anywhere in the world. We are happy to report this feature is now LIVE on the website. You can find all the info under the Membership tab on the IPTPA website and by clicking on 'Member Homepage'. We think this is an exciting feature that can help grow any IPTPA instructor's profile, and we hope many of you will take advantage of it. Click the link below to add yours now!

[Add your Member Homepage here](#)

IPTPA Continues to expand worldwide

In addition to workshops across the US, IPTPA continues its mission to bring pickleball to more and more of the world. In 2022, IPTPA held 15 workshops internationally on 3 different continents. As of Oct 2023 IPTPA has already held 28 international workshops with a strong emphasis in Asia, visiting Hong Kong, Vietnam, and Singapore, as well as Brazil, Australia, and New Zealand! 4 more international workshops are currently planned in the rest of 2023 bringing the total to 32 for the year! These future workshops include France, Turkey, and the UK. If you have any connections around the world and think an IPTPA workshop would be a great fit please let us know as we continue to add more and more countries to our list!

New policy regarding Level II certification goes into effect as of Jan 1, 2024.

Going forward, getting a Level II certification without a Level I certification will be considered a provisional certification. We understand it is sometimes quicker to get a Level II certification because you may not have access to a Teach the Teacher workshop near you. A certification may be time sensitive because there is an employment opportunity. In those instances, you can get Level II certified, however going forward we will require you to take a Level I workshop within a year to keep your Level II status. A full explanation of the history of this decision, reasoning behind it, and complete details is available on the IPTPA website here

[Level I & II Clarification](#)

Many companies offer discounts for IPTPA members

Don't forget along with the many benefits of being an IPTPA member, you also have access to exclusive member discounts from many pickleball companies. Under the membership tab on the website, click on membership discounts to see which companies offer special savings. They include Selkirk, Onix, Franklin, Diadem, and more!! Check them out today to save money simply

by being an IPTPA member! See what companies offer discounts by clicking here! [Exclusive member discounts for IPTPA](#)