

Pickleball Villager Article for May 6, 2021

“Where’s the Pickleball Club? Where are the Pickleball Courts?” These are the questions Mike Walias asked when he moved with his wife Julie to the Villages 6 years ago. They had enjoyed playing pickleball at their former residence of 5 years.

Soon after moving here, Mike joined the founding group of 12 players who had begun the process of establishing the Villages Pickleball Club shortly before he moved here. For the last 5 years, Mike has instructed countless Villagers in the fun and exciting sport of Pickleball.

Questions for Mike:

1. How/why did you start instructing Pickleball to beginners?

“ By accident. During the first Pickle-Up summer instruction program 5 years ago, I was asked to help out when the original instructor left town. Then people started asking me for individual instruction. That’s how it started.”

2. Why do you still teach Pickleball?

“There is a demand for it. I gain satisfaction watching people improving and enjoying their game.”

When a few of his current beginners were asked why they enjoyed lessons from Mike, they answered: “He’s patient, awesome, knowledgeable, and fun.”

Thank you so much, Mike, for your years of dedication to and voluntary instruction for Villagers!

If you would like to learn this fun and exciting sport, please contact Mike at mjw027@yahoo.com