

## Pickleball Reflections

November is over, and I have the opportunity to wax semi-nostalgia over the past 11 months.

I am thankful for the friends and loved ones who play with me weekly. Thank you all for forgiving me for my poor eyesight and calling your balls OUT. To my dearest friends... when I lift the ball and get you smashed, it's not intentional. I thank you all for your patience as you watch me play the game without warming up, and then hobble off mid-way because I tweaked something.

I am thankful for all the Villages staff who work to support our day-to-day pickleball activities. They respond to requests for different services, and help us coordinate our varied social, tournament and parties. A heartfelt thank you to the Villages managerial team for their presence and attention.

I am thankful to the pickleball club members who work quietly behind the scenes to help ensure that our playing environment can be safe, enjoyable, and organized.

And to those who teach us at the beginning, lead us as we move up in our levels, and then sprinkle us with occasional opportunities to compete, socialize and just celebrate our love of the game, we Thank you.

And lastly, I am thankful for all of us. We get to have access to a game that binds us in joy and provides us with another path to health. We get to see each other improving in our skills, playing for fun AND enjoying the moment when we pull off an intentional shot.