



2023 Pickle Ball & Tournament – FAQ

Who is the organizer and what is it for?

This is a fundraising event sponsored by the **Friends of the Portage Senior Center**. Separate from the Portage Zhang Senior Center, the Friends is a 501(c)(3) membership organization founded in 1992 to ensure both short- and long-term funding for the Portage Zhang Senior Center. All proceeds from this pickleball event will benefit the Portage Zhang Senior Center.

Dates, Times & Summary

This is a 2-part event taking place on Friday, May 19 and Saturday, May 20:

- The Pickle Ball is a social event on Friday evening at the Portage Zhang Senior Center.
- The Pickleball Tournament is on Saturday at Ramona Park in Portage.

Registration & Cost

Registration and Sponsorship Forms can be accessed from the Friends of the Portage Senior Center website or with this URL: <https://friendspsc.org/pickle-ball-tournament>. Registration fee is \$40 per person and includes the Pickle Ball on Friday and the Tournament on Saturday. Tickets for just the Friday evening Pickle Ball are available for \$25. All registrants will receive our exclusive event t-shirt.

Sponsorship & Other Ways to Support

Sponsorship is available at various levels from \$500 to \$1,200. Benefits include: Sponsor's business logo on the official Tournament T-shirt, opportunity to exhibit at Saturday's tournament in Ramona Park, signage at the Pickle Ball on Friday evening – and more, depending upon sponsorship level.

We are also seeking gift baskets for the Silent Auction which will be ongoing during the Pickle Ball. Bidding will start at \$50, so we ask that all basket donations have a value of \$50 or more. Businesses can also donate a gift card or gift certificate with a minimum value of \$10 for our "Gift Card Pull" on Friday evening. All donors will be acknowledged at The Pickle Ball. For more information on sponsorships, gift baskets and gift card donations, please contact Arun Tandon at acarepharmacy@gmail.com.

The Pickle Ball: Friday, May 19 at the Portage Zhang Senior Center

- Like any ball, this Friday evening social event is for mingling, dancing and fun.
- Doors open at 6:30PM.
- Dress is fun/casual/stylish - with 70's dress optional.
- Entertainment will be provided by Tony Fields Music, a Battle Creek-based duo famed for their R&B, Soul and Funk music.
- There will be a cash bar and light hors d'oeuvres.
- A silent auction and "gift card pull" will offer additional fun and another way to support the Portage Zhang Senior Center.

The Pickleball Tournament: Saturday, May 20 at Ramona Park, 8600 S. Sprinkle Rd, Portage

- This is a FUNdraising tournament – with the emphasis on having FUN *and* raising FUNDS for the Portage Zhang Senior Center.
- There is no rain date.
- Players may register in either of two levels:
 - COME TO SLAY for intermediate and more advanced players seeking some *fun* competition.
 - COME TO PLAY for less-skilled players *and* those who are there purely for fun and recreation.
- Subject to the number of players in each level, we expect SLAYERS to begin at approximately 9:00am with PLAYERS hitting the courts around Noon. You will be advised of your group's start time by email approximately 5 days before the Tournament.
- This is a round-robin event with each team playing every other team within their designated pool. Winning teams will move on to the next round of play. Depending upon the number of registered participants in each level, we hope to guarantee each team at least 5 games.
- **ABOUT TOURNAMENT PARTNER-PAIRINGS**
 - There may be some people who are hesitant to play in a tournament without their usual partner – be it friend, family or associate. For those folks, please consider the benefits of a blind-draw tournament.
 - Like the Portage Zhang Senior Center, this fundraising tournament is also about camaraderie and social engagement. With our blind-draw for partners, you'll likely be playing alongside someone you don't know or don't know well: It's a great chance to make a new friend and maybe even find a new partner for future pickleball play!
 - Partner pairings will be announced on Friday evening at The Pickle Ball. If you do not attend the Ball, you can find out who your partner is at the start of the Tournament.