



Welcome to the 2022 FRPA Conference!

August 29 – September 1, 2022 | Orlando, FL

BE WELL GET WELL STAY WELL LIVE WELL





PICKLEBALL

DESIGNING THE COURT
OF YOUR DREAMS

PRESENTER



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WHAT IS PICKLEBALL?



- A fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong
- Played both indoors or outdoors on a badminton-sized court and a slightly modified tennis net
- Played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes
- Played as doubles or singles
- Can be enjoyed by all ages and skill levels

FUN FACT

Pickleball has been around for
over 50 years!
2022 marks the 57th anniversary!



OVERVIEW

“Currently, the sport of pickleball is exploding in popularity. There are now nearly 8,500 locations on the USA Pickleball’s Places2Play map. The spread of the sport is attributed to its popularity within community centers, PE classes, YMCA facilities, and retirement communities.”

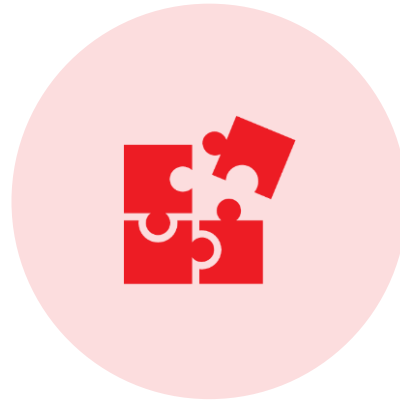
- USApickleball.org



TOP THREE TAKEAWAYS



TRENDS IN PICKLEBALL
FACILITY DESIGN AND
HOW THEY ATTRACT
NEW MEMBERS



WAYS TO EXPAND
PROGRAMMING, SPACE
REQUIREMENTS, AND
CONSTRUCTION



CASE STUDY OF
PICKLEBALL CENTERS

TRENDS

Staying up to date on Trends

- Industry Publications
- Events
- Social Media



“As the sport grew in popularity, players took to social media to set up matches, creating a sprawling network of pickup groups on Facebook and WhatsApp. A Facebook group for players in Chicago has 3,100 members, while one in northern Seattle has more than 2,000 members.

Fitness centers have begun to offer classes and install pickleball courts, even setting up friendly competitions between other athletic clubs. And specialty venues — like Chicken N Pickle, which has six locations across the country, including one in Kansas City — boast food, drinks and pickleball courts for families and friends to play and socialize.” - NBC News

HISTORY

1965

- Joel Pritchard and Bill Bell create a game with what materials they had at home. Joan Pritchard had produced the name “pickle ball”—a reference to the thrown-together leftover non-starters in the “pickle boat” of crew races.



1976

- First known pickleball tournament in the world was held at South Center Athletic Club in Tukwila, Washington



2001

- The game of pickleball was introduced for the first time in the Arizona Senior Olympics



1967

- First permanent pickleball court was constructed in the backyard of Joel Pritchard’s friend and neighbor, Bob O’Brian



1984

- The United States Amateur Pickleball Association (U.S.A.P.A.) was organized to perpetuate the growth and advancement of pickleball on a national level. The first rulebook was published



HISTORY

2003

- There are 39 known places to play in North America



2015

- Total number of courts per Places2Play continues to grow and breaks through 10,000 courts and finishes the year at 12,800 for both indoor and outdoor courts.



Continued

- There are now nearly 8,500 locations on the USA Pickleball's Places2Play map

2008

- There are now 420 places to play in North America



2018

- Total number of courts per Places2Play locations is nearly 7,000 and there are nearly 21,000 known courts across the U.S.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pickleball grew in 2021 to 4.8 million players in the US, according to the 2022 Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) Single Sport Report on Pickleball.

AGES	TOTAL	CORE	CASUAL
6-17	21.2%	14.2%	23.9%
18-34	28.8%	16.8%	33.5%
35-54	20.4%	17.0%	21.8%
55-64	12.0%	19.2%	9.2%
65+	17.6%	32.7%	11.6%



CONSTRUCTING NEW, DEDICATED PICKLEBALL COURTS IN RESPONSE TO DEMAND

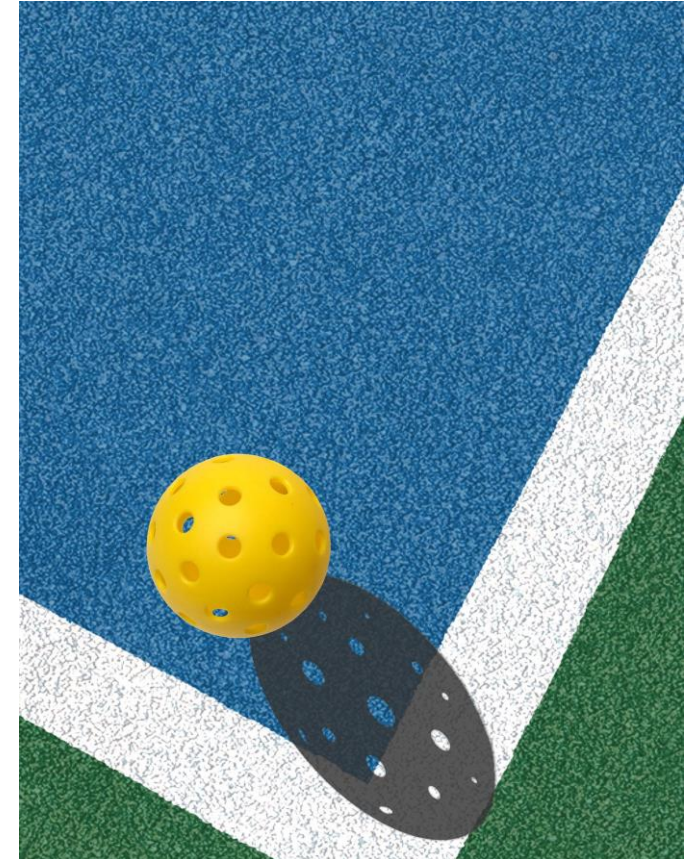


BUILDING BOTH INDOOR AND OUTDOOR COURTS



BUILDING MORE COURTS TO INCREASE REVENUE

Smaller court size
=
more participants/SF



PARTICIPATION



- Participation by families with children and young adults between the ages of 18 and 35.
- Easy to get started, low cost of entry, a short learning curve to "average" proficiency.

PICKLEBALL CLUBS

- Combining pickleball with social and entertainment activities
- The Bowling Model: Eat, drink, socialize...maybe get in a game or two of pickleball



REAL DILL®
PICKLEBALL CLUB



PLAYER RANKINGS

- Rankings similar to tennis (1.0 to 6.0, most amateurs falling in the 3.0 to 4.5 range and pros clocking in at 5.0 and above).



FUN ACTIVITY

- Google “Pickleball Team Names”
 - Dare Doubles
 - High Fives
 - Shot Girls
 - Kings of the Swing
 - Fault Loose
 - Grip n’ Rip
 - Hit and Run
 - Baby Got Backhand
 - The Kitchenettes
 - Mid-Court Crisis



TERMINOLOGY

What fun pickleball slang have you heard on the court?

- **Double hit:** When a ball is hit twice in one single, continuous groundstroke.
- **Forehand:** Forehand shot hit on a player's dominant side, for example for a left-handed player, a ball hit on their left side.
- **Half Volley:** A shot where a ball bounces but doesn't reach full height before it is hit.
- **Punch:** A quick shot with a minimal backswing, with a similar motion to stabbing the ball out of the air with the paddle.
- **Top Spin:** A shot with spin caused by hitting the ball swinging low to high. Some pickleball players buy a pickleball paddle for spin specifically.
- **Cross-court dink:** This is a dink that carries all the way from one side of the court to the other and usually lands in the opposite opponent's kitchen.
- **Lob:** An extremely high shot that goes over the heads of your opponents and into the backcourt. The purpose of this shot is to make your opponents run for the ball and lose their positions.
- **Slammers:** Slammers hit the ball hard and fast. Advanced players claim playing like this demonstrates poor technique as they can run out of energy quickly.
- **Dink Shot or Drop shot:** This is a soft shot that lands in the non-volley zone.
- **Poach:** Poaching is where one team member will take the shots going towards their partner, instead of letting the partner play. Poaching may happen when one player is on a much higher skill level than their partner.

DESIGN ISSUES INDOOR FACILITIES



- Marking
- Portable Net
- New program in the gym space

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

- USA Pickleball Recreational Programs and Services Department has developed free downloadable resources for youth program providers nationwide to help with programs conducted in schools, parks, youth centers and pickleball facilities.
- A Campus Pickleball Guide has been created to help grow pickleball for middle school, high school, and college students. Additionally, a Fun Play Formats and Events resource has been developed to support programs for all ages offered in parks, HOA's, retirement communities, and pickleball facilities.



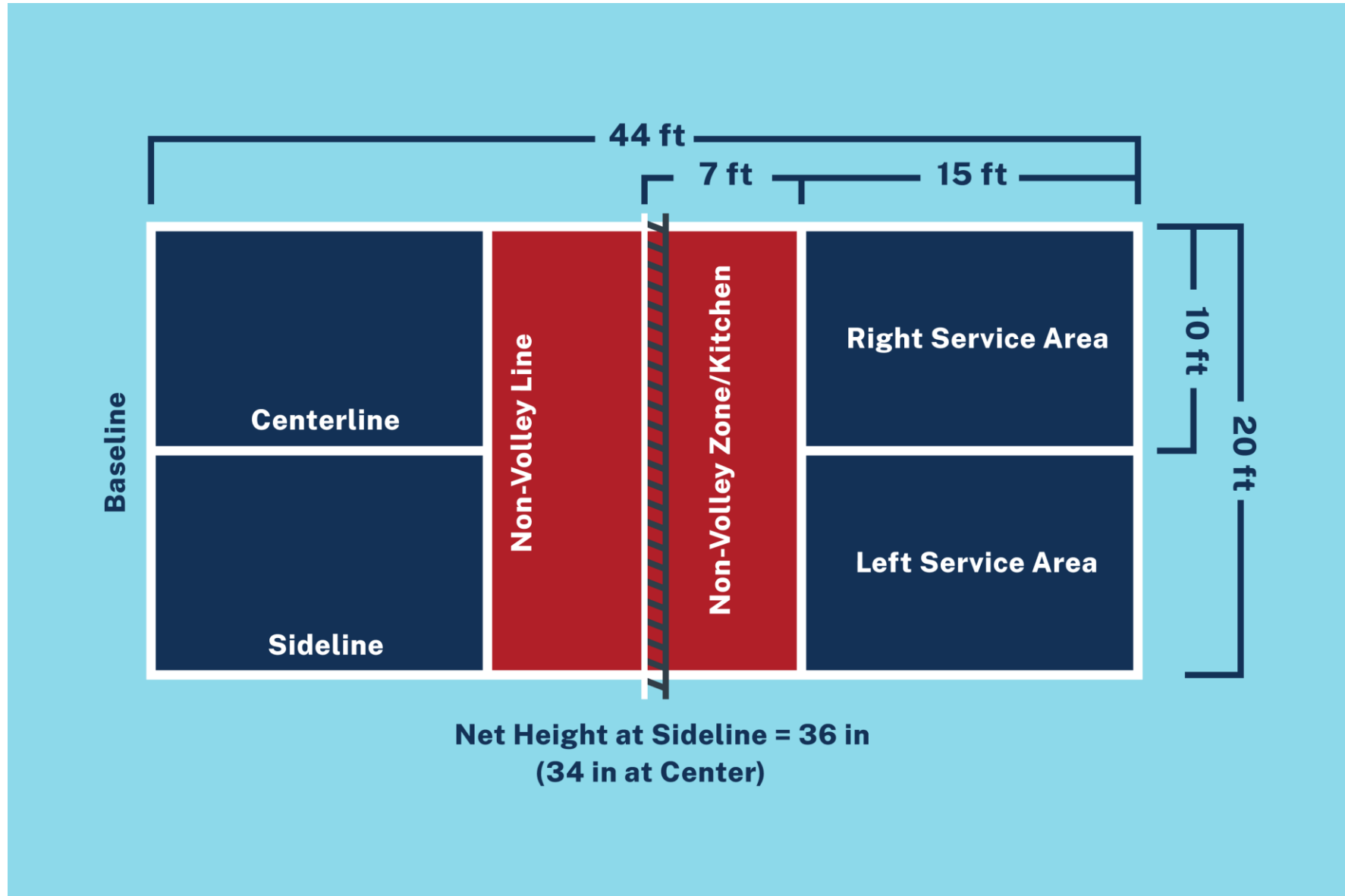
INCREASE PROGRAMMING



- Lessons
- Mixers
 - Individuals sign up by level: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced
 - Court assignments made at random- Winners move, Losers stay put.
 - Leagues (Men's, Women's and Co-ed)
 - Tournaments

Q: WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO INCREASE PROGRAMMING?

SIZE OF COURTS



SPACE REQUIREMENTS & DESIGN ISSUES

- Circulation & Flow
- The ball and the noise
- Lighting
- Clubhouse amenities and location
- Ball control (fully fenced, 10' height)
- Benches, gear bags, hydration & shade



CONSTRUCTION

Dedicated Pickleball Courts (just like a tennis court):



- Breathable acrylic court surfacing for non-slip
- Post-tensioned Concrete or Asphalt substrate
- Net Posts securely anchored
- Chain link fencing
- North-South Orientation
- Windscreen
- Shade structures
- Play on wood or synthetic gym floors with portable nets

CASE STUDY NO. 1:

PALM BEACH GARDENS TENNIS & PICKLEBALL CENTER

- Premier community public tennis facility with 18 hydro-grid clay courts. Year-round programming is offered for all ages and abilities
- OLC examined the original proposed design of re-using the existing building and adding another building in the middle of the courts
- Presented the pros and cons of this design and then worked with the City to demo the existing building.

SIZE

11,000 sf

COST

COST: \$4.4 M









CASE STUDY NO. 2:

CONVERTING EXISTING COURTS TO PICKLEBALL



RDV Sportsplex Tennis Renovation

- After several years of operation, the owners decided to study the conversion of an under utilized and an adjacent courtyard into tennis use
- Result was a compact plan of six courts attached to the main building

CASE STUDY NO. 3:

EXPANSION & NEW FACILITIES

Palm Coast Southern Recreation Center

- A master plan for a section of the property was completed around 2004 and in 2007 the initial development of the tennis center was constructed.
- OLC was retained by the city to provide the master plan
- 5 Hydro courts to complement the existing 10 courts for a total of 15 Hydro courts. In addition to a stadium court with 400 people seating capacity, the center will also include 6 hard courts, 4 Junior tennis courts and a training hitting wall. Also included is a 17 pickle ball court of which 7 are covered with plans to cover an additional 6 courts
- Includes a maintenance building, several shade structures, a 30'X40' PICKLEBALL GAZEBO, and the main club house with 8,700 sf of indoor space and 6200 sf of outdoor viewing spaces

SIZE

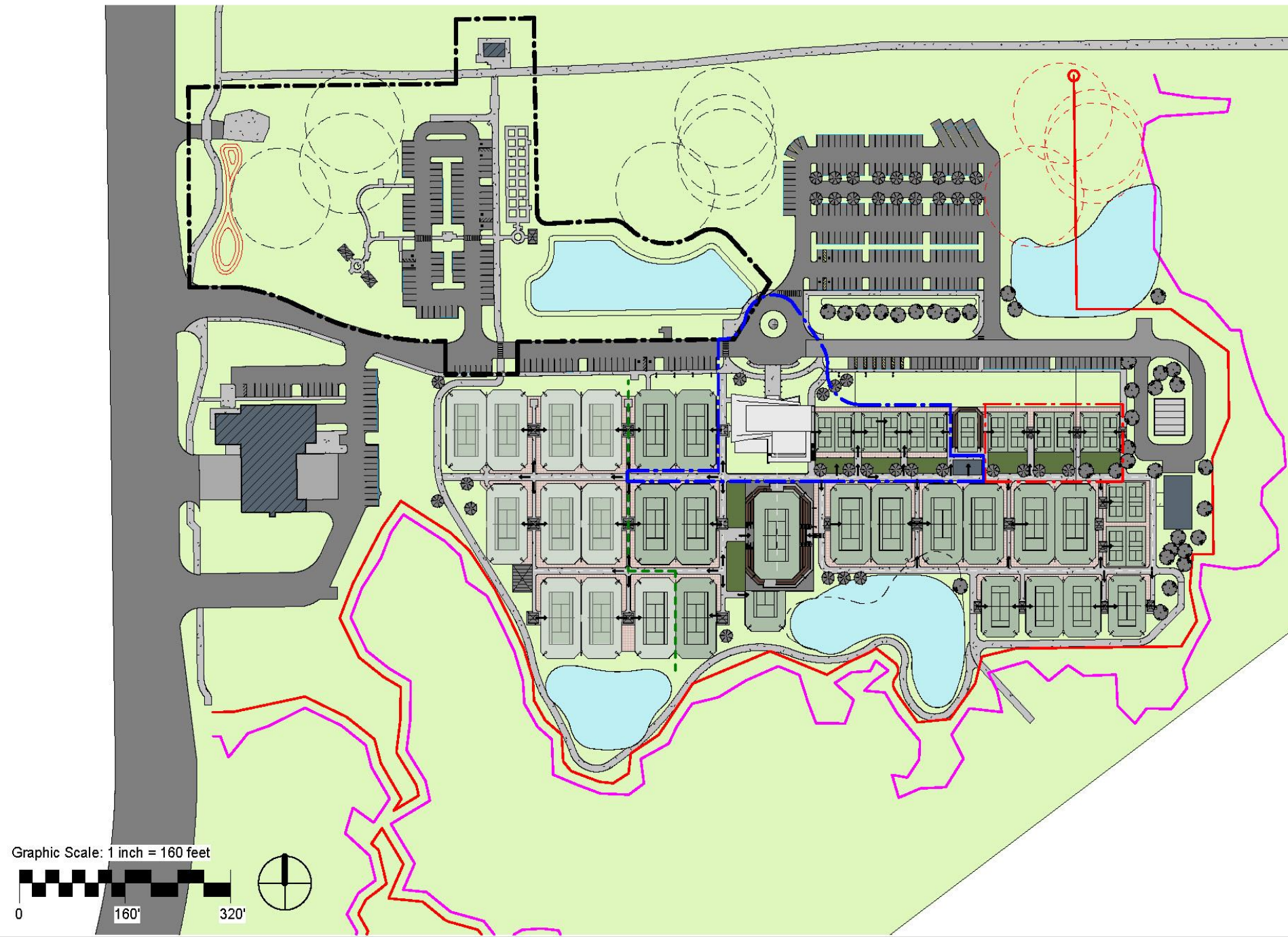
22 Acres

8,700 sf Indoor

6,200 sf Covered Viewing

COST

Phase I \$1.5 M





PALM COAST
RACQUET CENTER







LEARNING OUTCOMES

RECOGNIZE

HOW PICKLEBALL
ATTRACTS NEW
MEMBERS TO THE
FACILITY

DEFINE

SPACE REQUIREMENTS
AND EXISTING TO BE
TRANSFORMED OR
NEW CONSTRUCTION

EXAMPLES

CASE STUDIES OF
CENTERS

THANK YOU!



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