

Profiles in Pickleball

By Neal Wendel



Olga Turova and I spent some time talking about her membership in the Regency Pickleball Club and it was great to learn about her perspective.

When did you move to Regency? I moved to Regency on Riviera Drive with my husband Oleg in September of 2023 from Palisades Park, New Jersey.

Are you retired? What did you do before retiring? I am semi-retired. I still maintain my on-line business selling vintage jewelry.

What made you decide to join the Regency Pickleball Club? I had no idea about Pickleball until I moved to Regency. I heard about Pickleball from a friend that lived in another 55 plus community, I got sucked in right away.

What do you think makes our Pickleball Club Special? There are so many talented people in the community and the club willing to dedicate time and energy to the club. I was drawn to the personalities and talent of the club leaders.

How often do you play? I play daily sometimes 2-3 times a day ranging from 2- 6 hours a day.

How has your game changed since you first started? I am pretty competitive and have been concentrating on improving my game. I watch 30 minutes of content on YouTube each day, I attend Pro Clinics and find it helpful to remember and apply what I have learned.

Has pickleball helped you connect with neighbors or make new friends? Tremendously! It is such a social sport. If not for Pickleball, I wouldn't have met 10% of the friends I have. People are very generous, playing with superior players has allowed me to progress faster.

What would you say to someone that is hesitant to try pickleball? You are robbing yourself. Try it and you won't hesitate to play again.

If you could introduce one new club activity or event, what would it be? It would be great to have “playing with a pro” program so that you can get real time advice from an advanced player.

What's always in your pickleball bag? A lot of water, extra balls and sunscreen.

What is a fun fact the people may not know about you? I am a recovering poorly coordinated person. I am now an avid cross-country skier, I used to also skateboard when I was younger and now, I am a dedicated Pickleball Player.