

Oct 4, 2019

Piedmont Recreation Pickleball Subcommittee
c/o Erin Rivera, City of Piedmont

Re: Oct. 7, 2019 Hearing

Dear Chairman Roland and Commissioners McCarthy and Dorman,

I. We have 166 members on the Piedmont Pickleball Group. Many days now see three and four courts going full blast with more on the weekends.

The model of experienced players stopping play to teach beginners is no longer viable as most of us simply want to play. We have initiated a volunteer introductory class every Saturday morning; Les Ellis has generously offered his time and expertise. We are starting to attract experienced out of town players. We have started family courts on the weekends. We are in the process of designating recreational and competitive courts; this insures an enjoyable game for all levels. Staff is in the process of arranging professional clinics; kindly encourage this.

II. I urge that the Linda and Hampton hours be made permanent; complaints from neighbors and tennis players are nonexistent.

I request the hours at Linda be extended a modest half hour to 1pm. This will not negatively affect tennis as there are no tennis players waiting to play at Linda at this time. Hampton at 3pm has tennis players waiting and we have informally accommodated them earlier if we are not using both courts.

III. The overly light brown Hampton pickleball lines on the tan surface are difficult and the two courts next to the baseball field become effectively unusable as shadows obscure the baselines (see two photos). Darker lines should be installed. Additionally permanent net placement marks are needed at Linda and Hampton. While usable, the Linda pickleball lines could be a bit darker.

IV. The City and private donations funded most of the re-asphalting of the PMS courts with the intent to transform the deteriorated PUSD courts into a multi-use community sports asset with pickleball being the primary addition. A reasonable person assumes the District would have a conversation with the City and an integrated stripping plan would be enacted; this was not done. The District arbitrarily striped for badminton without integrating pickleball lines. The District stripping is appropriate for parking lots and not sports activities.

The Badminton World Federation Handbook II 2014/15 Section 1A states badminton court striping is 40mm / 1.6" (see Badminton World Federation Sec 4.1 p1 attached). PUSD striped their PMS badminton lines twice as wide at 83mm or 3.25" (see att.). The paint used by the District has an unneeded three dimensionality to it and the lines are not sharp.

I am disappointed in the District's unilateral action. If a redo is possible, the four pickleball courts on the first two badminton venues can be restriped about two feet closer to each other so the existing basketball poles are less of an obstruction; they are in issue now if balls are hit near them.

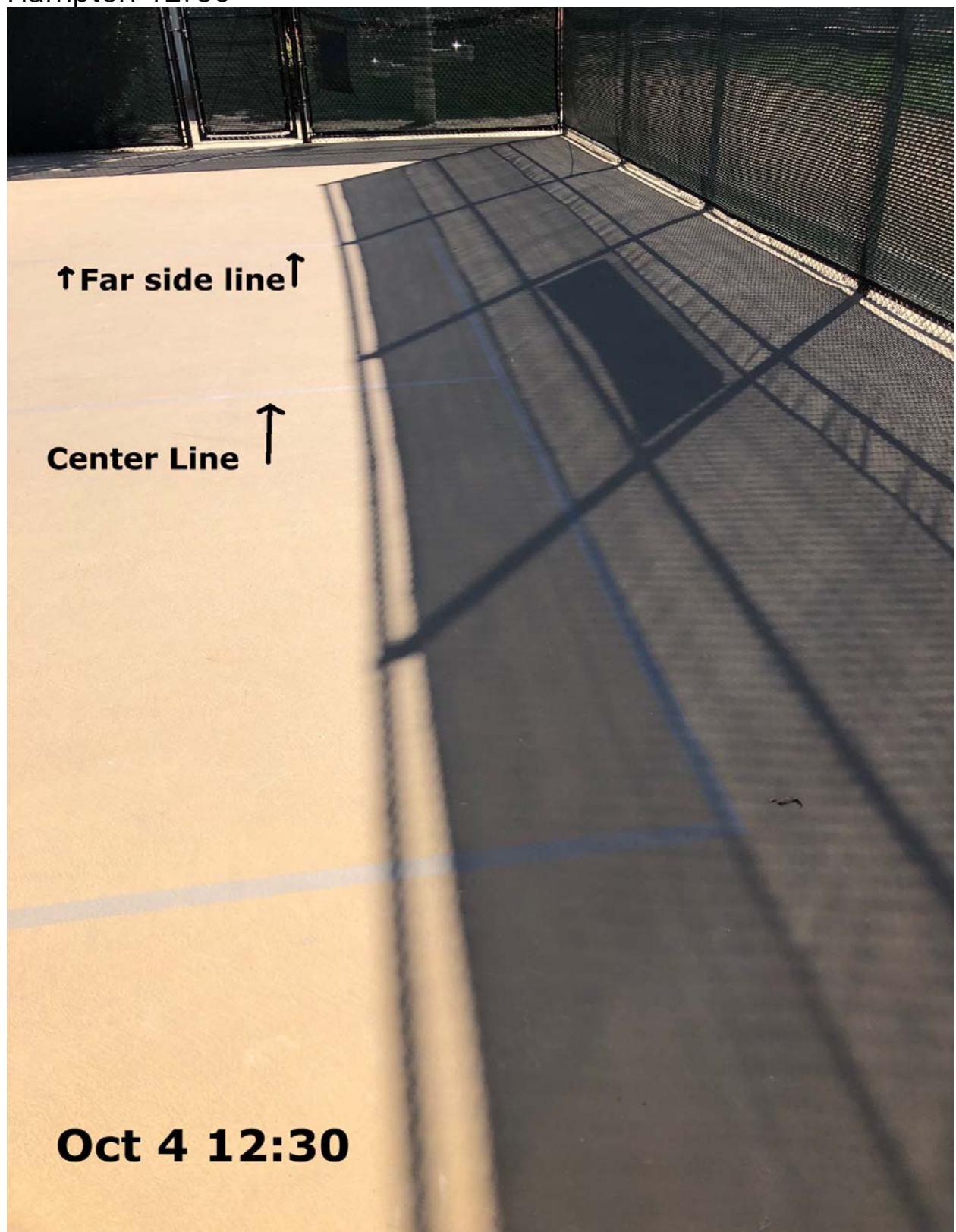
V. While the Linda redo is likely years off, four dedicated pickleball courts accommodating 16 players can be placed there rather than the two tennis courts accommodating 2 to 4 players. Another advantage of dedicated pickleball over tennis is that about 35% of space earmarked for tennis can be used for other uses such as a larger tot lot or other sports facilities.

Sincerely,

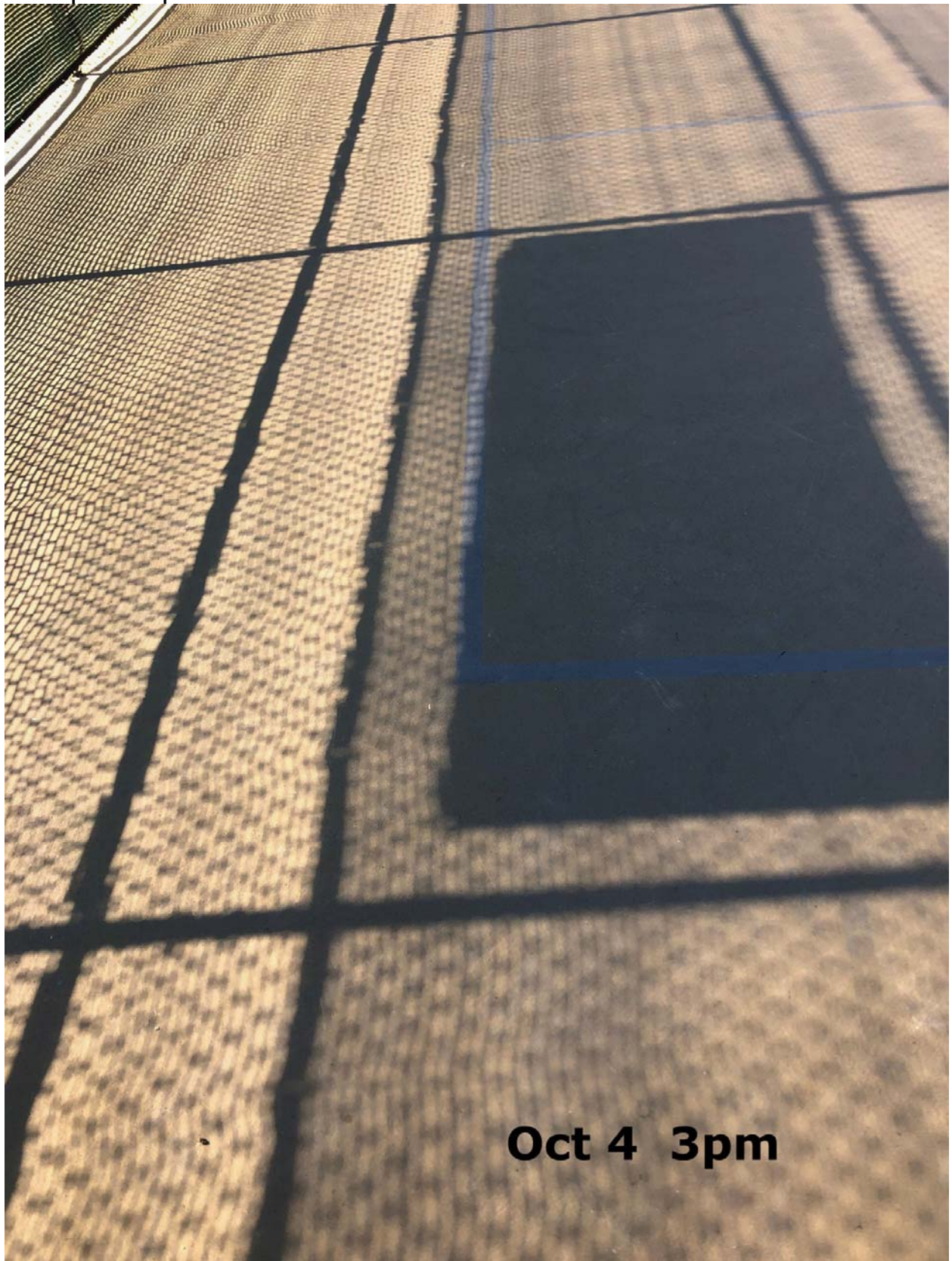
Rick Schiller
Piedmont, CA

cc: Jennifer Cavanaugh

Hampton 12:30



Hampton 3pm



Oct 4 3pm

Piedmont Middle School



BWF Statutes, Section 4.1

LAWS OF BADMINTON

DEFINITIONS

Player	Any person playing Badminton.
Match	The basic contest in Badminton between opposing sides each of one or two players.
Singles	A match where there is one player on each of the opposing sides.
Doubles	A match where there are two players on each of the opposing sides.
Serving side	The side having the right to serve.
Receiving side	The side opposing the serving side.
Rally	A sequence of one or more strokes starting with the service, until the shuttle ceases to be in play.
Stroke	A movement of the player's racket with an intention to hit the shuttle.

The clauses in italics apply to Para-badminton only.

1. COURT AND COURT EQUIPMENT

1.1 The court shall be a rectangle marked out with lines 40 mm wide as shown in Diagram A.

- 1.1.1 *The court for Wheelchair Badminton shall be as shown in Diagrams D and E, respectively.*
- 1.1.2 *For Standing Badminton classes playing half-court the court for singles shall be as shown in Diagram F.*
- 1.2 The lines marking out the court shall be easily distinguishable and preferably be coloured white or yellow.
- 1.3 All the lines shall form part of the area which they define.
- 1.4 The posts shall be 1.55 metres in height from the surface of the court and shall remain vertical when the net is strained as provided in Law 1.10.
- 1.5 The posts shall be placed on the doubles side lines as in Diagram A irrespective of whether singles or doubles is being played. The posts or its supports shall not extend into the court beyond the side lines.
- 1.6 The net shall be made of fine cord of dark colour and even thickness with a mesh of not less than 15 mm and not more than 20 mm.
- 1.7 The net shall be 760 mm in depth and at least 6.1 metres wide.
- 1.8 The top of the net shall be edged with a 75 mm white tape doubled over a cord or cable running through the tape. This tape shall rest upon the cord or cable.
- 1.9 The cord or cable shall be stretched firmly, flush with the top of the posts.
- 1.10 The top of the net from the surface of the court shall be 1.524 metres at the centre of the court and 1.55 metres over the side lines for doubles.
- 1.11 There shall be no gaps between the ends of the net and the posts. If necessary, the full depth of the net at the ends shall be tied to the posts.