



APPL Championships Monday Update!

Monday kicked off our APPL State Championships with 5 exciting Men's Division matches at Dave White Regional Park in Casa Grande. It was a hot day made even hotter with outstanding and well played matches. Here's a summary of what went on:

Men's 3.5: At 11:00 the Southern Region champs in the 3.5 Skill Group, Team Tubac, took on the undefeated Happy Trails 2 from the West Valley Region. Going into the 3rd round it was Team Tubac with a one point 17-16 lead. When all was said and done Team Tubac prevailed 27-21.

Men's 4.0: Also at 11:00 the Casa Grande Region champs, Palm Creek, faced the undefeated West Valley champs, Paddle Up for their first round match. Palm Creek led 10-8 after the first round. Paddle Up closed the gap after the second round to tie it at 17-17. Some outstanding clutch shot making was exhibited by both teams with Paddle Up prevailing 26-22 at the end of round 3.

Men's 3.0: The first championship match began at 1:00 pitting the Southern Region's 3.0 undefeated champion, Oro Valley, against the Casa Grande's 3.0 champion team, Robson Ranchers. Again, a great demonstration of pickleball and sportsmanship with Oro Valley coming out ahead 30-16. They will proudly take home the state championship trophy and bragging rights for the year. Congratulations to captain Jeff Sween and his outstanding Oro Valley team.

Men's 4.0: The 2:30 session began with Casa Grande's Palm Creek team returning from their morning match to face the undefeated Southern Region representative, The Diamondbacks. Palm Creek put on quite a fight with some impressive between the leg shot making that resulted in a standing ovation (and the point) but the Diamondbacks were too strong in the end winning 35-6. They will face Paddle Up Wednesday for the winner take all finale.

Men's 3.5: The 2:30 session wrapped up with one of the most exciting matches of the day. Team Tubac, coming off of their morning win, faced the fresh Casa Grande Region undefeated champ, SCAMR. The wind was picking up, the temperature was rising and the 2 teams battled for over 2 hours in front of a large gathering of spectators (socially distanced) from both regions. SCAMR took an early first round lead of 10-7. SCAMR continued to ride their momentum in the second round, leading 20-15 heading into the third round. Team Tubac must have gotten their second wind in taking the third round 11-5 giving them a hard fought 26-25 victory. The win gave Team Tubac the top position in the 3 team flight and the State Championship title. Congratulations to Steve Burkhart and his impressive Team Tubac.

Daily Raffle Winners:

Volunteers:

Kurt Bauer - Paddle
Mark Fynn - Bag
Daphine Brues - Balls

Players:

Darrell Keifer - Paddle
Steve Burkhart - Bag
Jerry Seiberlich - Balls