

SLPC

Mentor Profiles



Members who are seeking a Mentor Opportunity are to do the following:

- Seek out other members with similar skills/needs to form a group of 4
- Review the Mentor Profiles below to look for a good match to your needs
- One person in the group is to reach out to the selected Mentor to arrange for a mutually agreeable time slot
- The Mentor will book the Training Event in Court Reserve – note the following:
 - Members will get charged their regular court fees
 - There will also be an additional \$5 fee per player that will be charged automatically through Court Reserve
 - The Mentors do not get paid; all funds collected for training go to the Club

Note

- Individual New Players can contact Barb Atsalinos directly (barbatsalinos@gmail.com) to arrange for a Learn to Play session
- **When you participate in a Mentor Session, you will leave with different skills or strategies that you should work on over the next few weeks.**
- **As such, we ask that you wait at least 3-4 weeks before participating in a subsequent Mentor Session.**

Mentor	Aldo Adamo		
Email	adamoaldo29@gmail.com	Cell	519-384-4696
Club Level	4.0	Level Focus	3.25 and 3.5
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekdays preferred 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sessions will offer insights on intentional play and focussing on how to control the play rather than the play controlling you. My focus will be on strengthening the simple foundational elements and concepts in order to become a more consistent player. • Offering sessions that include game simulated drills, foot work, game strategies, and doubles play • Drills for constructive warmups and per-game thoughts • A's and B's - reinforce your shot options from serving to the 6th shot in each rally so that your foundation becomes solid and shot selections become second nature 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of mentor sessions for SLPC • Tournament experience at the 4.0 level • 10 years of Coaching soccer 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 and me sessions with equal level players are preferred • Find your group and reach out to me to organize a session • Sessions will serve as a reminder to all of us that there is so much to think about while we're playing, above and beyond the technical skills 		

Mentor	Barb Atsalinos		
Email	barbatsalinos@gmail.com	Cell	
Club Level	3.5	Level Focus	Learn To Play (for New Members) 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.25
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prefer 4-6 p.m. Mon, Wed, Thu, Sat, Sun (but flexible) 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offering sessions that encompass Mentoring, Drills and Skills Development. Groups of 4 players. Sessions may be customized to meet player needs upon request. My typical style of coaching is to incorporate at least 80% drills/play into a session vs. 20% instruction. I believe the more touches on the ball, the quicker skills start to feel natural (Session can also be customized to meet individual player needs). 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickleball Canada NCCP (National Coaching Certification Program) - Instructor Level 1 Member of the founding group of SLPC Mentors, established in December 2023 		
Other	<p>WHY I'm Passionate about Pickleball Development: I am driven and inspired every day by the joy and learning that happens on the courts and by the relationships built along the way. There's nothing better than seeing a player grasp a new skill, gain confidence and Trust their game a little more each time they step on the court.</p> <p>Player Development Mission: To help improve your play by having you leave each session with greater confidence and at least one enhanced skill or practical tool that you can immediately put to use. Small improvements add up, and that's what turns effort into real results. And yes, be prepared to have fun!</p>		

Mentor	David Begg		
Email	sabretooth@eastlink.ca	Cell	905-626-2661
Club Level	3.75	Level Focus	Learn To Play 2.0/2.5, and 3.0
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to 6pm 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have a very experienced eye for people's mechanics, and use what you have to mentor and improve your pickleball game. • We will engage in numerous drills and change the drill dynamic, based on progression. • A safety component is discussed as well as court etiquette if required • My attitude is relaxed but you will improve 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have and continue to coach youth volleyball for 7 years • Mentored and coached pickleball for 6 years • Attend coaching podcasts • Coached and refereed youth soccer 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Took and passed USPA line person exam • Helped with some clarifying wording in the USPA rule book • Retired and happy! 		

Mentor	David Caraher		
Email	dave.caraher2@gmail.com	Cell	519-328-4111
Club Level	3.75	Level Focus	2.0/2.5 and 3.0
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sessions would include working on court position, proper movement with your partner and shot selection • Sessions could also utilize the ball machine or feedback from game play. • Sessions can be designed to work on skills or strategies that the participants identify as focus areas 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retired teacher • Experienced coach for football, hockey, and track 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would like to put my extensive teaching and coaching experience to use by helping others achieve their pickleball goals • I appreciate the help that many SLPC members have given me and would like to give back to others and be part of their pickleball journey 		

Mentor	Mario Gonzalez		
Email	Mgonzalez11698@gmail.com	Cell	519-312-7728
Club Level	4.0	Level Focus	2.0 -3.75
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mon – Thurs afternoons and evenings • Possibly weekends 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My focus is to develop grassroots technique such as posture, paddle position, and footwork (very, very important) • How to develop different shots, such as dinking properly, top spin, forehand, and backhand, drives, etc • Help with game positioning, shot selection, mental part of the game, etc 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coached soccer for over 15 years from house league to Premier level from ages 5 – 17 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have always loved to coach and I get satisfaction from helping you become a better player 		

Mentor	Jeff Hicks		
Email	hickjr@gmail.com	Cell	519-312-5455
Club Level	3.5	Level Focus	3.0 and 3.25
Scheduling Availability	Weekdays 8 am - 6 pm, Weekends require advance notice. Contact me to discuss!		
Coaching Focus	Offering sessions that include mentoring, drills and skill development, foundational strategy, and partner play concepts. Bookings can be customized to meet individual player needs upon request. My coaching style relies on the F.O.S.S. Method of instruction - Framework, Objectives, Strategies, and Shots - providing players with a clear, structured approach to understanding and improving their game.		
Coaching Background	I am an alumnus of two online training academies, The Pickleball System and Dynamite Doubles for Pickleball . From 2020 to 2024, I created and led a 10-week Drill & Play Training Program, as well as a 3-day immersive pickleball camp held throughout the Lambton County region.		
Other	Player Development Mission: Using a step-by-step approach, my goal is to help you understand the complete framework of the game - including the strategies, shot selection, and movement patterns needed to construct points and execute a winning game plan. Together, we will explore not just <i>how</i> to perform specific shots and movement patterns, but <i>why</i> we use them in different situations. Once you develop a good understanding of the game, we will follow a clear roadmap designed to give you everything you need to play confident, awesome pickleball.		

Mentor	Glen Knott		
Email	glenknott1964@gmail.com	Cell	519-464-6720
Club Level	3.5	Level Focus	Learn To Play 2.0/2.5 and 3.0
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mon – Thurs anytime • Possibly Fri – Sun • flexible 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sessions that encompass Mentoring, Drills, and Skills Development with a focus on the foundation of the game, being the first 5 shots as described in our club philosophies. • My belief, along with Pickleball Canada is to have more touches on the ball • My coaching style is interactive starting with fun! • Sessions would include working on items you need to succeed at your intended level. This would include rules, court position, movement with your partner and shot selection 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickleball Canada NCCP Instructor Level 1 • Coaching Intermediate Hockey, Assistant Coach Ontario Level 1 Soccer London • Hockey Referee for 10 years • Member of the founding group of SLPC Mentors, established in 2023 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ball Machine use – could be a fun way to drill with a few others using the machine as our first player – always places a ball where you need to have it consistently to help master a shot or swing • 3 and me sessions with equal level players preferred 		

Mentor	Bill Lindsay		
Email	lindsaywp@cogeco.ca	Cell	519-381-6929
Club Level	4.0	Level Focus	3.25, 3.5
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afternoons 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play with your partner as a team, since pickleball doubles is truly a team sport at the higher levels • Getting rid of chaos pickleball – having a plan and strategy based on objectives, rather than hitting random shots • I like to explain and demonstrate why I suggest something, rather than just expecting you to believe it 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold certificate in Adult Instruction • Have been teaching pickleball at varying levels for 10 years • Have played well over one hundred tournament games • Two-time Canadian National Gold Medalist • Graduate of “Dynamite Doubles” Pickleball system 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am dedicated to pass on any learning I have gained to others, for the good of the Club and its members 		

Mentor	Jane Lindsay		
Email	Janelindsay@gmail.com	Cell	519-490-1229
Club Level	3.5	Level Focus	2.0/2.5 3.0
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on 1 hour of fun drills and 1 hour play • Mastering the first 4 shots of pickleball • Getting rid of chaos pickleball by using basic strategy and partner play • Stacking basics 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have certificate in Adult/Child Instruction • 12+ years instructing children, teens, and adults • Worked in Recreation for over 5 years instructing all ages • Graduate of “Dynamite Doubles” pickleball • Tournament experience and playing 10 years • Canadian National Gold Medalist 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I love to drill and want to share how beneficial and fun drilling is! 		

Mentor	David Matheson		
Email	davidjmdc@gmail.com	Cell	(519)332-7653
Club Level	3.25	Level Focus	Ball Machine Specialist
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday – Saturday prior to 6pm Sunday – noon - 6pm 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ball Machine use for various skill levels Creating space for your shot, footwork, the first 4 shots 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I’ve had approximately 20 years of martial arts (Kenpo karate and Thai Kick Boxing) Started coaching and class instruction after my second degree black belt 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am dedicated to the success of this club and will do whatever I can to improve it and the skills of its members 		

Mentor	Greg Mentley		
Email	lm_atombi@yahoo.com	Cell	519-466-8416
Club Level	3.5	Level Focus	2.0/2.5 and 3.0
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday to Saturday • Advance notice is good as to eliminate scheduling conflicts 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solidifying the foundations to reduce unforced errors, which account for 60-75% of all lost points • Help create good muscle memory through drills and encouragement • Develop court awareness, placement over power through patience 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have been and am currently teaching beginner and intermediate pickleball players at the YMCA for the last year and a half. • Also coached track & field and baseball • Pickleball Instructor level 1 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I love the game and am excited about helping others get as much enjoyment out of it as I do 		

Mentor	Ron Mombourquette		
Email	alumadude89@gmail.com	Cell	519-381-2926
Club Level	4.0	Level Focus	3.0, 3.25, and 3.5
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When I'm in Sarnia, I would be happy to do one session per week • Monday – Friday 8-6 is my preference but I could do weekend times when scheduled in advance 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping players get better at the boring stuff! 		
Coaching Background			
Other			

Mentor	Maria Rocca		
Email	maria.rocca21@gmail.com	Cell	519-384-1632
Club Level	4.0	Level Focus	Learn To Play 2.0/2.5, 3.0, and 3.25
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prefer evenings • 2 days 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on keeping the ball in play, patience, working on footwork, soft game, keeping dinks low to avoid being attacked, communication, defensive stance, first 4 shots, transition zone, when to attack • Play some 3 and me as well 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory Instructor Training Program Certification through Pickleball Coaching International. • Experienced coach for Basketball 		
Other			

Mentor	Anne Thompson-Wambua		
Email	atwambua@yahoo.com	Cell	226-886-5008
Club Level	3.75	Level Focus	2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.25, 3.5
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prefer not Sundays • Time is flexible 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building skills • Court positioning and working with your partner to get to the kitchen line • Go to shot selections, where, when and why • I enjoy breaking down skills into parts to help individuals improve their technique. • Most of the time, you need to correct technique in order to implement the shots you want in a game • I have picked up some good insights from other club members and Youtube that I can pass along when it comes to shot selection, court positions and working with your partner as a team • My teaching and coaching style is positive and relaxed and I will do my best to make the session rewarding and fun 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retired Phys Ed teacher • Several coaching certifications over my teaching career • Experienced coach for Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Tack and Field (over 30+ years) 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have played in several tournaments over the 3 years I've been playing (started at 3.0, then moved to 3.5 and now beginning 4.0 tournament play) • I had a lot of help along the way and would like to pay it forward 		

Mentor	Maria Varsava		
Email	<u>Mvarsava14@gmail.com</u>	Cell	519-332-9886
Club Level	3.75	Level Focus	Learn To Play 2.0/2.5, 3.0, and 3.25
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available starting in mid-April • Saturdays are best with some availability on weeknights 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mentored session with 4 players will include drills and skills your group wants to work on OR we can focus on the needs identified during a directed warmup. We will end with games and incorporate the skills we worked on • Option B <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Same as above, but with 3 players and me. After drills and skills, we play mentored games, taking turns partnering up 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retired teacher • Experienced coach for many sports • Pickleball Canada NCCP Instructor Level 1 • Instructor at Homecourt Pickleball • 12 years playing experience including many tournaments 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I loved teaching and now enjoy being able to use those same skills in a different setting 		

Mentor	Phil Warner		
Email	<u>Warnerph@gmail.com</u>	Cell	226-964-1465
Club Level	4.0	Level Focus	3.25 and 3.5
Scheduling Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekday evenings and weekend mornings 		
Coaching Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentor Sessions will begin with a level appropriate warmup that leads into active, monitored play – stoppages will be used for learning opportunities 		
Coaching Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retired educator • Coached various sports (travel hockey, soccer, and baseball – high school wrestling, hockey, football, and track) 		
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I got involved with mentoring as I have always believed in giving back. Numerous players have helped me progress my game and and I want to pay it forward. 		