

Hello. Yes I can speak to all those questions for sure. Just so you know- I have played pickleball at Prospect Park. I train once a week at Prospect Park and drive by there alot to see how many people are playing along with when and who. I will tell you that people are now playing there many mornings, some people are playing in some afternoons and some people are playing several nights. Usually not all courts are filled( there have been conflicts where the courts have been filled and people turn away) but it is more likely now that there are only two for use. The sport is growing for sure in Mt. Airy as more people find out about Prospect Park and more people ( now of all ages) continue to come into the sport. HU offers pickleball but they only have one indoor court which has been closed since March.

As far as teaching- I have taught several places for 15 months now and would love to have a set aside time slot or two where folks can come out and learn how to develop their physical and mental skills from beginners all the way up to semi pro if they desire. I can teach at any level. I also have professional liability insurance for any aspect of pickleball that I am involved with.

I am attaching my current brochure that Howard County Recs and Parks did to advertise my offerings of different levels of classes and specialized clinics that I design and run myself. I am the person on the brochure as well. The brochure is on their Pickleball Web site where folks can register as well. I think the July ones are a go but the April, May and June offerings got cancelled. More offerings are planned for the fall and winter but have not been advertised yet. There have been waiting lists on my previous classes in each case.

I would love to bring these learning opportunities to Mt. Airy.

In addition- I think the growing number of players would love to see more courts in Mt Airy--- and Watkins Park is a perfect place to put either four or six blended lined Pickleball courts along with the tennis lines on those two tennis courts. The cost is very minimal to add pickleball lines to existing tennis courts and a common practice all over the country. The portable nets you bought for Prospect Park are perfect too. There are lights there which makes it even more appealing.

As I mentioned above I have self monitored the usage of Watkins Park for tennis players, Prospect Park for pickleball players and skaters and the two tennis courts just over the hill and across from the Legion since you built the courts last fall. Bottom line is---- tennis is hardly ever played at Watkins Park, since last Sept. when you built Prospect Park Pickleball Courts ( I have seen once where anyone was playing tennis at Watkins Park- once). Tennis is played every once in a while at that park across from American Legion, pickleball is being played quite a bit now and growing and skating is every once and a while but the sharing with pickleball courts is awkward. The skate park nets could be moved up to that basketball court and then we would have a nice place for skaters/hockey to play as well as three pickleball courts where they don't conflict.

Thanks for listening and look forward to Thursday at 7 pm.

Marc Austin