



LEVINE JCC PICKLEBALL MANAGER

Allycia Brown



Dear Pickleball Community,

As the fall season approaches, I'm excited to welcome you back to the courts for another season full of competition, growth, and connection. Whether you're just getting started or looking to sharpen your game, there is something for everyone this fall at the JCC.

Fall League Highlight: Club Paddle Battle

Our Club Paddle Battle returns this fall as a flexible and competitive league designed to fit your schedule.

- **Season:** August 30 – December 6
- **Format:** Self-scheduled matches during JCC hours
- **Levels:** 2.0–3.75
- **Play Style:** Competitive, level-based match play

Grab a partner (or reach out—I'm happy to help connect players!) and enjoy a season of structured play with the flexibility to choose your match times.



Adult Clinics – Build Your Game

We are offering a full pathway of clinics this fall to support every level:

BEGINNER 101

Perfect for those new to the game or returning after time. Learn rules, scoring, strokes, and positioning in a welcoming environment.

Wednesdays | 5:00–6:00 PM or 6:00–7:00 PM



INTERMEDIATE 201

Take your game to the next level with a focus on strategy and consistency.

Wednesdays | 6:00–7:00 PM

>> Focus areas include third-shot drops, resets, and point construction



ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE 201

For experienced players ready to refine consistency, shot selection, and competitive play.

Wednesdays | 7:00–8:00 PM

>> Placement or instructor approval required

Social Play & Special Events

Fall is one of our favorite seasons for bringing the community together!

Thursday Night Pickleball Socials

September 24 | 6:00–8:30 PM

November 12 | 6:00–8:30 PM

Enjoy a fun evening of pickleball, music, and social play.



Pizza & Pickle Family Social

September 27 | 11:00 AM–1:00 PM

A relaxed, family-friendly event with games, music, and plenty of fun on the courts.



Ladies & Men's Nights – Dinks & Drinks

Men's Night: October 8

Ladies Night: October 22

Casual, social evenings designed for connection, laughter, and great play.



Junior Pickleball

We love investing in the next generation of players!

Junior Pickleball (Ages 8–14)

Tuesdays | 4:30–5:30 PM

September 15 – December 8

A fun and engaging class focused on fundamentals, coordination, and teamwork. Parents are invited to join us for a round robin on the final day!

Competitive Team Play: Queen City League

Looking for a higher level of competition?

Join one of our Queen City Pickleball League teams.

Matches: Saturdays at 3:00 PM

Levels: 3.0–4.0+

Team-based format with men's, women's, and mixed play

If you're unsure where you fit, I'm happy to help guide placement.



Private & Small Group Lessons

Looking for more personalized instruction?

I offer **private and small group lessons** tailored to your individual goals—whether you're just learning the fundamentals or refining advanced strategy. These sessions are a great way to accelerate your progress and gain confidence on the court.

Reach out directly to schedule or to learn more about available times.

Final Thoughts

Fall is such a special season at the JCC—cooler weather, strong energy on the courts, and opportunities to grow both your game and your community.

I encourage you to try something new this season—join a league, sign up for a clinic, or invite a friend to a social event. I look forward to seeing you on the courts soon!

Warmly, **Coach Allycia Brown**

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Ellen Goldberg

If you've spent any time on the J Pickleball courts, chances are you've seen Ellen Goldberg in action! A solid 3.5-rated player, Ellen is much more than a competitor. She is a passionate advocate for building community through pickleball and loves bringing women together to enjoy the game.

This summer, Ellen served as captain of a women's league team and led her squad to the South Women's D3 Championship, a tremendous accomplishment that reflects both her leadership and dedication to the sport.

Whether she's organizing games, encouraging new players, or competing in league matches, Ellen brings energy, positivity, and sportsmanship to every court she steps on. Her commitment to creating opportunities for women to connect through pickleball has made a lasting impact on our community.

You can find Ellen on the pickleball courts almost every week, welcoming players, fostering friendships, and helping grow the game. We are grateful for her leadership, enthusiasm, and the outstanding example she sets as a true J Pickleball ambassador.

Thank you, Ellen, for everything you do to strengthen our pickleball community!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Andrew Bernstein

It's always a pleasure to see Andrew Bernstein on the pickleball courts! A longtime pickleball player, Andrew brings experience, enthusiasm, and a positive spirit to every game he plays.

Known for his leadership and love of the sport, Andrew has served as a Queen City team captain, where he not only organized his team but also faithfully scheduled practice sessions to help teammates sharpen their skills and grow together as a team. His commitment to fostering improvement and camaraderie has made a lasting impact on everyone around him.

Whether competing in a match or enjoying recreational play, Andrew has a special ability to keep the game fun while encouraging others to be their best. His sportsmanship, dedication, and welcoming attitude make him a valued member of our pickleball community.

Thank you, Andrew, for your leadership, passion for the game, and for being such a wonderful ambassador for J Pickleball!



Skill Spotlight: The Importance of the Split Step



One of the simplest ways to improve your pickleball game is **mastering the split step**. This small, quick hop as your opponent makes contact with the ball helps you stay balanced, engaged, and ready to move in any direction.

The split step allows you to: > React faster to volleys and drives > Stay light on your feet at the kitchen line

> Improve court positioning and anticipation. Without it, players often find themselves flat-footed and late to the ball. With it, everything feels more controlled and responsive.

TIP FROM COACH ALLYCIA: Try to time your split step exactly as your opponent hits the ball—it's a game-changer for both defense and consistency!



Join the **TEAM REACH APP!**
Group Name: CharlotteJCC
Group Code: CLTJCC



Stay connected & follow us
for community highlights!



Scan QR Code for all Pickleball info or contact the Pickleball Manager at allycia.brown@charlottejcc.org

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