

PICKLEBALL DEN

THE TECHNOLOGY POWERING THE SPORT

WELCOME TO TEAM DEN

We are thrilled to welcome Elly Smith as Pickleball Den's newest sponsored player!

Thanks to her positivity, dedication, and passion for pickleball, Elly has quickly improved her skills after only playing pickleball competitively for less than a year. Elly began playing recreationally with her family after courts were built at her local park, but soon caught the pickleball bug, "the more I understood about the sport, how it's played, the different shots, the strategies, and then competing in tournaments, there's this whole world that you don't know about until you get invested and I was just hooked. I absolutely love it. I love the concept of the game and I love the people."

Determined to learn more and improve her skill, Elly soon turned to the pickleball community for advice. Her local pickleball group and her doubles partner Eli Bertram have played a vital role in supporting Elly's growth and passion for the sport. "Pickleball is such an inclusive community," she shared, "people want beginners to come in and they want to pass on the knowledge they've been given through other people." In fact, one of her proudest moments was winning against two talented players who serve as her role models for mixed doubles play, "they were so gracious and so excited for us... I just think it speaks so highly of them and their sportsmanship."

Elly experienced another exciting and addictive side to pickleball when she began competing in tournaments, but competitive game play came with defeat at times. When speaking about the difficult losses along the way, Elly shared, "you're going to get beat and that's okay... Don't expect to win, expect to learn." Elly's growth stems from her willingness to push herself out of her comfort zone and her mindset that loss shows you the areas to focus on to improve your game. Elly gives credit to her family and friends for supporting her journey with pickleball and helping to reset her mind when feeling discouraged, "having people pour into me and remind me what I am capable of even when I don't see that in myself is really important."

Her advice to players her own age looking to imitate the growth she has experienced is, "Ask the questions, make yourself uncomfortable in order to grow yourself."

Follow [Pickleball Den](#) for more clips from our video interview with Elly!



Continue to follow Elly's pickleball adventures by following her [@elly.smith.pickleball](#) on instagram.

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www.pickleballden.com



pickleballden@gmail.com



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DGR TOP 5

DEN GLOBAL RATING

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 [Den Global Ratings](#)

MEN



#1 DARRYL NOBLE

#2
DALE
PHILLIPS



#3 BRIAN LITTLE

#4
ARTURO
ESPARRZA



#5 PETER RILLERO

WOMEN



#1 HEATHER REARDON

#2
NANCY
FULLERTON

#3
DENISE
VANBUREN

#4
JENNIFER
GERSTENBERG



#5 JENNA NUNN

FEATURED UPDATES

ADVERTISE TOURNAMENT TO CLUB MEMBERS

Tournament directors can now tag their Pickleball Den club when creating a tournament. This will place the tournament card on all club members Den home page, helping to advertise the tournament to club members!

UPDATED COACH LISTING TOOLS AND FEATURES

Monetize your coaching services with Pickleball Den's updated tools and features to help coaches advertise their skills and services. Coaches can create events, track player registration, message players, and manage payment processing all through the Pickleball Den app! According to Sara Aiken, owner of Eastport Pickleball, "The coach listing was a wonderful benefit of the Den for our summer beginner's clinic. Players were able to easily sign up for the event and receive messages before each session with any changes regarding weather delays. I'll definitely be using this feature for all my future Intro to Pickleball classes as well as private and group lessons."

PARTIAL TEAM REGISTRATION

Partial teams can now still register for a tournament after a bracket is full.

SKILL TEST

Similar to open play, Skill Level Test has been added as a new play type. Club managers now have the option to designate play times as a skill test for club members.

CHANGE T-SHIRT SIZE

Tournament directors can now edit player t-shirt sizes after players have registered for the tournament.

Watch Our YouTube Video to Learn More:

 [Coach Listing and Tools](#)

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