

Medaling Grand Slam Completed for 3rd straight year by Dick Johnson!



Dick won the following medals at the **2017 USAPA Nationals** in Casa Grande, Arizona:

- Silver: 75 3.5 Men's Singles**
- Silver: 75 4.5-4.0 Mixed Doubles**
- Bronze: 75 5.0-4.5 Men's Doubles**



Dick with MXD Partner,
Alice Tym



Dick with MD
Partner, Del Root

After starting to play pickleball only 5 years ago, this year's unique **Medaling Grand Slam was achieved by Dick winning medals in all 6 senior Majors in 2017** (USAPA Nationals, US Open, Huntsman World Sr. Games, SSIPA World Championships, National Senior Olympic Games and the State Games of America). **And, he has now done it for three consecutive years, bringing home 35 medals in those major tourneys** (14 Golds, 12 Silvers, 9 Bronzes). Several of those medals were achieved by 77 year old Dick playing down in age against younger players and up in skill level brackets.

Lawana, Dick's loving wife of 53 years, is the on cheerleader. She is always living and dying on the close tournament matches.

It was especially tough on Lawana this year to watch Dick injure his leg and forfeit an early Singles match at Nationals. But, even harder to continue worrying while he limped through winning the Bronze match...and, then, along with the medics, convincing Dick to finally give in to the pain and forfeit half way through the Gold match.



Dick and Lawana with new USAPA President, Jack Thomas

Despite Dick now hobbling around on crutches, both Lawana and Dick continue very grateful for the healthy, fun opportunities of our exciting sport... **and, especially for the many wonderful friendships** that their Boise and Mesa friends, and all of "Pickleball Nation," have provided in the sunset years of their lives.