

AUGUST
2025

DINK

AUTHORITY MAGAZINE



JUAN
MANUEL
BENITEZ

Jessica Warren
Carolina Mayorga
Alex Lynch
Zalina Nazarova
Tips by Domenika Turkovic
and much more



**You're about to dive into
the best pickleball content!
Get ready for a full dose of
information, passion, and
action.**

**Are you ready to play
with us?**

"Let's go all in!"

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Editorial

My Guest

JUAN MANUEL BENITEZ

Zalina Nazarova

Jessica Warren

Alex Lynch

Carolina Mayorga

Tips : Domenika Turkovic

California Bers Black

Pickleball World Cup

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Dink Authority Magazine is owned by the Dink Authority Magazine Foundation.



Editorial

By Oscar Pena



The Spanish edition is now a reality.

We're excited to present this historic edition: the first official Spanish-language version of Dink Authority Magazine.

A project born from the same spirit that has guided us from day one — to spread, connect, and inspire through pickleball.

In this inaugural edition, we wanted to pay tribute to some of the great Latin American female players who have already appeared in our English-language issues. Today, they grace our cover and remind us of the immense talent in our region, as well as the passion and dedication that continue to drive the growth of this sport across the Spanish-speaking world.

With this new chapter, Dink Authority Magazine LATAM aims to become a key reference point for players, coaches, clubs, and pickleball enthusiasts throughout the Spanish-speaking world.

Here, you'll find news, interviews, analysis, inspiring stories, rising stars, and everything happening on our courts — from Mexico to Argentina, from Colombia to Spain.

We want to be closer to you. That's why you can reach out to us through our social media or email to share your questions, ideas, stories, or simply to say hello.

This space was created for you — and with you.

Because pickleball is more than just a sport. It's community, health, discipline, and above all, a tool for positive transformation. And in this editorial corner, every word is in service of that mission.

Thank you for joining us.

Welcome to the Dink Authority LATAM family!



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AUTHORITY MAGAZINE

Professional Player

By Oops Creative Group



Zalina Nazarova Giometti

From Interior
Designer to Pickleball
Champion

Professional Player

By Oops Creative Group

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Zalina Nazarova Giometti is an emerging player in the competitive pickleball scene in the United States, making a name for herself in the Minor League Pickleball (MiLP). With her team, Cobra Kai, she won the MiLP tournament held at the John Newcombe Country Club in New Braunfels, Texas, proving her talent goes far beyond the court.

A Multifaceted Profile

Beyond her role as an athlete, Zalina has a solid background in interior design. She is LEED-certified and a member of IIDA, having worked on large-scale projects for companies like Google, Microsoft, and Facebook. Her expertise in Building Information Modeling (BIM) and strategic thinking is clearly reflected in how she plays—meticulous, intentional, and always focused.

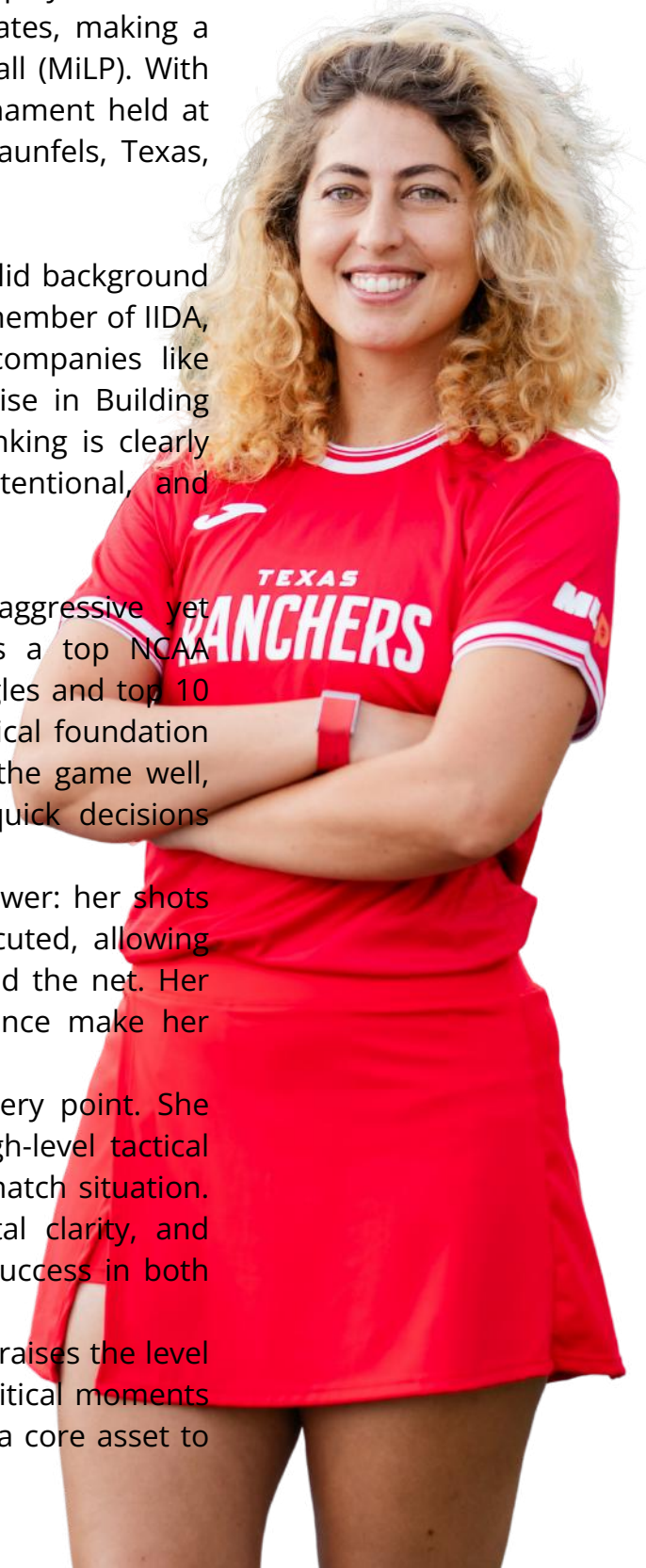
Playing Style: Power, Focus, and Strategy

On the court, Zalina stands out for her aggressive yet calculated style of play. Her background as a top NCAA Division I tennis player—ranked top 20 in singles and top 10 in doubles—provides her with a strong technical foundation and exceptional court awareness. She reads the game well, anticipates opponents' moves, and makes quick decisions under pressure.

One of her key strengths is her controlled power: her shots are strong, well-placed, and strategically executed, allowing her to dictate play from both the baseline and the net. Her explosive transitions and commanding presence make her difficult to break down.

Zalina's competitive mindset is evident in every point. She plays with determination, intensity, and a high-level tactical awareness that enables her to adapt to any match situation. This combination of physical strength, mental clarity, and game intelligence has been essential to her success in both individual competitions and team events.

Fellow players recognize her as someone who raises the level of any match. Whether leading her team in critical moments or bringing consistency to the serve, Zalina is a core asset to any roster aiming for results.





Notable Achievements

Zalina is a member of the Texas Ranchers DUPR 22 team, alongside players like Kayla Field, Jason Loyd, and Pieter De Vries. The team competes in high-level regional events, such as the MidSouth Regional Showdown in McKinney, Texas, where they were crowned champions on July 28, securing their position as one of the league's most solid squads.

In addition, Zalina is currently ranked #84 with a DUPR rating of 1400 in the national Minor League Pickleball leaderboard, a clear sign of her consistency and competitiveness in the developing pro circuit.

Team Spirit and Community Involvement

Zalina is not only a standout player, but also a community leader. She's an active presence in the Texas pickleball community, organizing clinics, training sessions, and programs to promote female participation in the sport. Her leadership within the Texas Ranchers has been key to strengthening team dynamics and elevating their performance both on and off the court.

Preparing for International Competition

Her journey is going global. Zalina has been selected to represent Team USA in the 2025 Maccabiah Games in Israel, as part of Maccabi USA. This opportunity highlights not only her athletic abilities but also her discipline, integrity, and commitment to representing her country at the highest level.

Strengths and Vision

Zalina exemplifies how professional excellence and athletic passion can converge to form a well-rounded and dedicated athlete. Her strategic mindset, shaped by her design background, blends seamlessly with her physical power and tactical gameplay to create a versatile and effective playing style. Her work as a coach and advocate in Houston, Texas, further showcases her dedication to growing the sport at the grassroots level.

Conclusion

Zalina Nazarova Giometti is part of a new generation of athletes who are building their path from multiple disciplines—combining intelligence, passion, dedication, and strength. Her story is inspiring not only because of her victories but also because of the way she embraces each challenge, on and off the court. She is without a doubt a key figure in the present and future of American and international pickleball.





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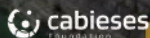
PICKLEBALL
WORLD CUP
2025



PICKLEBALL WORLD CUP 2025
EL GRITO GLOBAL DEL PICKLEBALL RETUMBA DESDE
FORT LAUDERDALE

After making history in Lima, Peru, in 2024, the Pickleball World Cup returns stronger, with more passion and a clear message: pickleball knows no borders. This competition, organized by the Cabieses Foundation, became the first true world cup of the sport, marking a turning point in the history of international pickleball.

🇵🇪 Peru, as the host country, opened its doors to official delegations from Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador, Argentina, Chile, Panama, El Salvador, Bolivia, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Spain, and the United States. Each nation arrived with their best athletes, selected by the most important associations, leagues, and federations in their countries. The result: an unforgettable experience of competition, brotherhood, and world-class technical skill.



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Florida USA

Every point played was an explosion of emotions. The courts became sacred ground where much more than matches were at stake — national pride was on the line. The anthems, the flags, the sweat, and the hugs between rivals transformed the event into a celebration of global sports unity.

🔥 On the road to Fort Lauderdale 2025: a world-class stage

This year, the world turns its eyes once again to the Pickleball World Cup 2025, which will take place in late October in Fort Lauderdale, Florida — a city known for its love of sports, top-tier infrastructure, and vibrant, diverse pickleball community.


The Cabienes Foundation once again leads the organization with a firm commitment: to elevate Latin American and global pickleball to the highest level. National selection processes are already underway in various countries, where federations and leagues will choose their elite athletes to proudly represent their colors.

An even larger turnout is expected compared to 2024, with new nations showing interest, international media coverage, global brand presence, and a festive sports atmosphere that promises to exceed all expectations.

🌍 More than a tournament, a global celebration

The Pickleball World Cup is much more than a competition. It's a bridge between cultures, a gathering of emerging talent, and a stage for the world to see how this sport is conquering continents.

The 2025 edition won't just be a championship — it will be a global cry for unity, effort, and passion. Fort Lauderdale will be the epicenter of a new chapter in the history of world pickleball.

Are you  ready to cheer for your country?

The countdown has already begun!

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My Guest
By Op

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**Juan Manuel
Benítez**

**Colombian
Pride – A
Living Proof
That Dreams
Do Come
True**

My Guest

By Op

Juan Manuel Benítez

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ASH

AY

STELLA



We first saw him in action during the most recent Major League Pickleball tournament. Amid the intensity of the matches and the demands of the pro circuit, Juan Manuel Benítez stood out—not just as a talented player, but as a magnetic presence embodying the very best of rising Latin American talent. His energy on the court was undeniable, but what truly caught our attention wasn't something you can track on a scoreboard—it was his attitude, his openness, his warmth. We decided to reach out, and it didn't take long for him to say yes. In true Colombian fashion, Juan welcomed us with kindness and generosity, instantly making himself available for anything we needed. In our conversation, he shared stories about his hometown of Medellín, his early years in tennis, his journey to the United States, and his unexpected discovery of pickleball—a sport that not only captured his passion, but reshaped his professional life.

Today, he's a key player for the California Black Bears, competing in the professional league, facing off against the world's best, and proudly representing his flag. But the most powerful part of his story isn't found in the scores—it lies in the message his path conveys:

Dreams do come true. Of course, they don't come easy. They require discipline, consistency, and a daily dose of perseverance.

Juan Manuel is living proof that it's possible—that it's worth it. His journey inspires, not just for what he's achieved, but for how he's done it: with humility, relentless effort, and a smile that never fades.

Here's the exclusive interview he gave us.



My Guest

By Op

Juan Manuel Benítez

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Tell us about your beginnings in tennis. What did that sport mean to you, and how did it shape your path as an athlete?

It meant everything to me for many years—my start as an athlete, the foundation of who I am, and how I developed as both a person and a competitor all came through tennis. I started playing when I was 4, moved to Argentina at 13, and by 19, I was attending Baylor University in Texas. Before, during, and even after my college journey, I played professional tournaments.

What was it like growing up in Medellín?

Growing up in Medellín was incredible. I had an extraordinary childhood. My parents gave everything to support my academic and athletic development. I remember traveling to tournaments with my mom and siblings, going to the German School—which had this amazing campus filled with green spaces everywhere. That kind of environment is essential for a child to feel the balance between school and freedom. And for me, that balance came through sports.

What values or life lessons from your hometown do you carry with you today?

One thing I've always kept with me is saying yes to (almost) everything: "Do you want to play here? Are you interested in this job? Can you help me with this? Want to come to this event?" Because you never know what could happen or who you might meet. That's something my grandfather taught me, and I'll carry it with me for the rest of my life.

Also, one thing that's defined me since I was a kid is my contagious smile. It's something paisas—people from Medellín—or Colombians in general have that sets us apart: our kindness, our friendly nature, and our willingness to help whenever we can.

**JUAN MANUEL
ACTUALMENTE ES
PARTE DE CALIFORNIA
BLACK BEARS DE LA
MLP"**

What role has your family played in your athletic career?

I wouldn't be where I am without my parents. They were the ones who pushed me to train, to work out, to hit the gym—and that drive they instilled in me made me want more, aim higher. Every goal I've achieved has been thanks to them, because they gave up everything so I could pursue tennis.

Is there anyone in particular who's been key in your journey?

As a tennis player—beyond my parents—my coaches at the Pilará Tennis Club academy played a major role: Pato Rudi, Ariel Suárez, Tommy Gatiker, Teto Medina, and Gustavo Luza. Later, during my time on the pro tour, it was Jean Luc Fontanot.

Now, in pickleball, I've been lucky to have mentors and supporters like Neil Brauner, Steve Schnur, Chris Rivera, Jason Aspes, and Gene Devito—among others who've truly believed in me and stood by my side unconditionally.

Why did you decide to move to the United States?

After coming to college and seeing how well some of my teammates were doing, I made it my mission to do everything in my power to build a legal life here—to chase my goals as an adult and also to support my family back in Colombia.

What were some of the challenges you faced, and how did you adapt to a new life?

The language, of course—English—but thankfully I adapted quickly and kept working on it. Truthfully though, because I'd traveled so much throughout my tennis career, I developed what you might call "street smarts," and that helped me navigate life, my travels, and all the ups and downs of trying to build a life in a country full of opportunities—for people like me who are willing to work hard.



My Guest

By Op

Juan Manuel Benítez

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AUTHORITY MAGAZINE

How did you discover pickleball?

I first heard about it in 2015 through a friend, Ian Mindell, at a country club in Truckee, California. I didn't pay much attention to it at the time.

Then in 2023, Leslie Bernard mentioned that I might have a future in the sport—but again, I ignored it.

Finally, a few months later that same year, a friend named Jules invited me to play. I finally gave in and gave the sport a try—and nothing was the same after that day.

What drew you to the sport, and when did you decide to pursue it professionally?

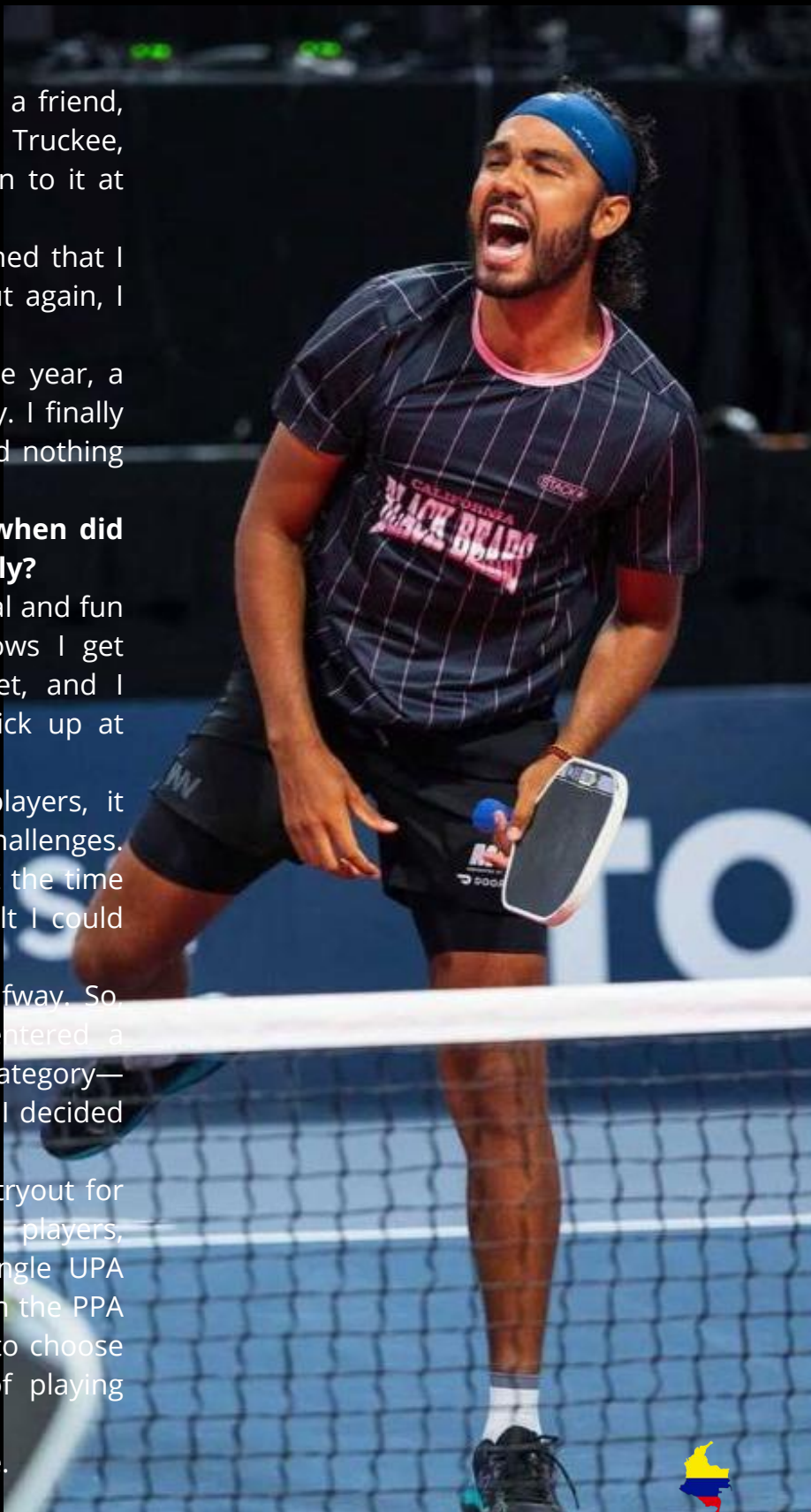
What I loved right away was how social and fun it was. Anyone who knows me knows I get along with (almost) everyone I meet, and I found pickleball relatively easy to pick up at first.

But once I came across stronger players, it became a challenge—and I love challenges. Even though I was already working at the time and didn't have much free time, I felt I could take it on.

I've never been one to do things halfway. So after just one week of playing, I entered a tournament in the highest singles category—and made it to the final. That's when I decided to keep going.

But the day I'll never forget was the tryout for The Kitchen Pickleball, where 70 players, including myself, competed for a single UPA contract that would allow us to play in the PPA and MLP. There were judges on site to choose one winner—and after a full day of playing pickleball, I was the one selected.

THAT was the day that changed my life.



My Guest

By Op

Juan Manuel Benítez

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How do you see the future of pickleball in Colombia and Latin America?

The future will be shaped by players like Federico Staksrud, Pablo Téllez, Daniel De La Rosa, and myself, so that in some way we can help the sport grow. I would love to travel throughout Latin America giving clinics to promote this beautiful sport.

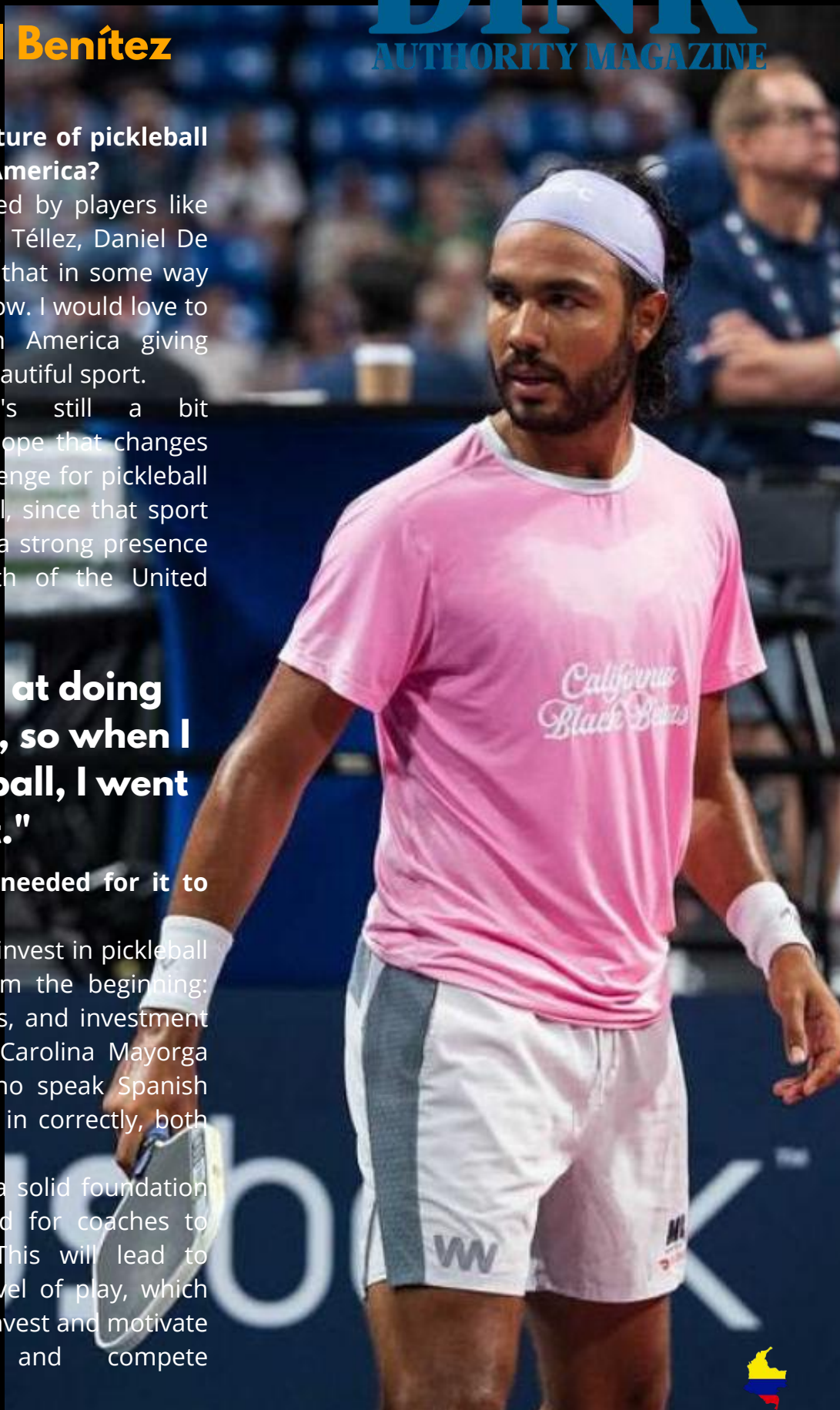
At the moment, it's still a bit underdeveloped, but I hope that changes soon. The only real challenge for pickleball in Latin America is padel, since that sport has already established a strong presence in most countries south of the United States.

"I'm not good at doing things halfway, so when I got into pickleball, I went all out."

What do you think is needed for it to grow even more?

Someone needs to truly invest in pickleball and do things right from the beginning: good courts, proper nets, and investment in top-tier coaches like Carolina Mayorga and myself—coaches who speak Spanish and can bring the sport in correctly, both technically and tactically.

That way, we can build a solid foundation for players to learn and for coaches to teach the right way. This will lead to improvements in the level of play, which can attract sponsors to invest and motivate players to travel and compete internationally.



My Guest

By Op



What's a typical day in your life like?

I wake up, have breakfast, and spend most of my day working as a coach. During my breaks, I go to the gym and train with other professional players. I try to see my psychotherapist at RRREMARKABLE two to three times a week. Right now, I'm looking for sponsors so I can dedicate more time to being a full-time athlete and reduce my working hours. Considering everything, I've managed to reach a solid level of play even without training full-time like many others do.

Walk us through your routine from the moment you wake up to the end of your day.

How do you train?

Depending on how many people I can find to train with, we run practice sessions, working on each shot for 10–15 minutes before rotating. If I find three more players, we play doubles matches for about two hours.

Do you focus more on physical, technical, or mental training?

Absolutely. The physical and mental sides are more important than people often realize. There's not much time to think and then execute the right shot, so strong coordination between the mind and body is essential. I dedicate about an hour and a half each day to physical training, and 30 minutes to meditation.

What do you do to relax or disconnect from competition?

I love golf — if I could, I'd play every single day.



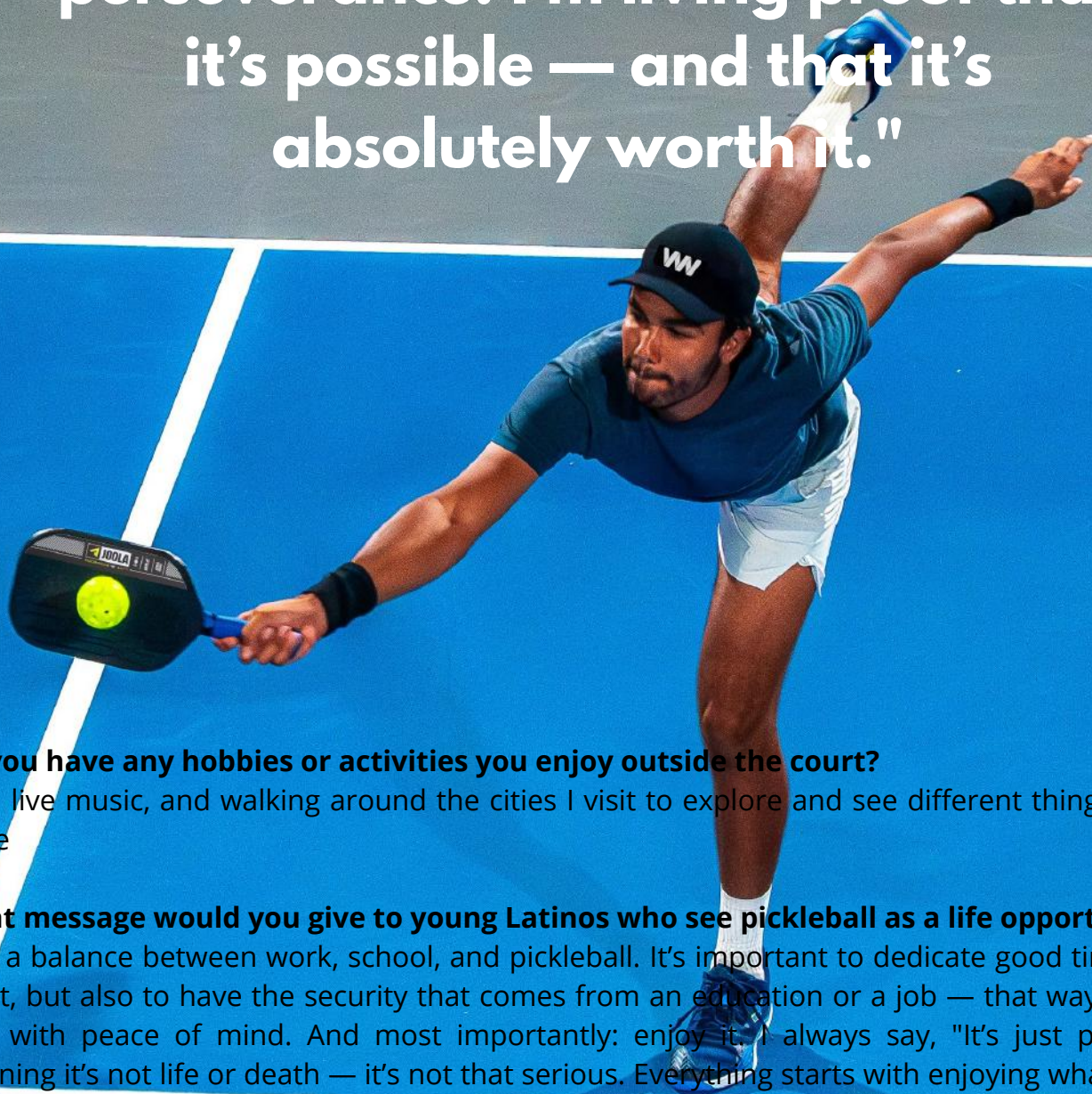
My Guest

By Op

Juan Manuel Benítez

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"Dreams come true through discipline, consistency, and perseverance. I'm living proof that it's possible — and that it's absolutely worth it."



Do you have any hobbies or activities you enjoy outside the court?

Golf, live music, and walking around the cities I visit to explore and see different things in each place

What message would you give to young Latinos who see pickleball as a life opportunity?

Find a balance between work, school, and pickleball. It's important to dedicate good time to the sport, but also to have the security that comes from an education or a job — that way, you can play with peace of mind. And most importantly: enjoy it. I always say, "It's just pickleball," meaning it's not life or death — it's not that serious. Everything starts with enjoying what you do, and the results — and everything else — will come in due time.





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Rising star

By Oops Creative Group



Jessica Warren

**From College Tennis to the
Professional Pickleball Podium**

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Rising star

By Oops Creative Group



“I’ve always trusted my preparation and mental game,” she said. “Even after time off, that foundation helps me stay focused and aggressive.”

A few weeks ago, we had the chance to talk with Jessica Warren, one of the most promising emerging players on the professional pickleball scene in the United States. With a powerful style and an enviable competitive mindset, Jessica shared her story with us — one of discipline, reinvention, and relentless determination.

Jessica was born and raised in Los Angeles, California, where she began her journey in high-performance tennis. She played Division I tennis for California State University Northridge, and after graduating with a degree in psychology, she worked as a Registered Behavioral Therapist (RBT) with children diagnosed with autism and ADHD.

In 2020, Jessica moved to Florida, where she discovered pickleball. Her first pro tournament was APP Sacramento, where she earned a bronze medal in women’s singles. That moment sparked a realization — she had what it takes to compete at the pro level.


Achievements and Competitive Drive

Jessica quickly began earning results on the APP Tour, where she now has four medals to her name. She was also runner-up at the 2023 APP Delray Beach and has had notable performances in both singles and doubles.

“Before I took a year off for personal reasons, I was ranked #5 in women’s singles on the APP Tour,” she recalled. “When I came back, I placed fourth in my first tournament, and then went on to win the back draw in both singles and women’s doubles with Lorena Duknic.”

Rising star

By Oops Creative Group

A photograph of two women in athletic wear (white tank tops, maroon shorts, white visors) holding tennis paddles and posing in front of the Unisphere in Queens, New York. They are smiling and have their arms raised. The background shows greenery and a clear blue sky.

“While I was working as an RBT, I started teaching tennis and built my own business. I was able to connect with amazing clients and help kids, teens, and adults. That experience gave me a whole new perspective on sports,” she told us.



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Hometown	Los Angeles, California
Academic Background	Psychology – Cal State Northridge
Tennis Career	NCAA Division I
Entry into Pickleball	APP Sacramento – Bronze in Singles
APP Tour Medals	4 (including singles and doubles podiums)
Highest Ranking	Top 5 in Women's Singles (APP 2023)
Playing Style	Tactical power, quick reads, strong mentality
Hobbies	Fitness, healthy cooking and baking
Sponsor	Joola

“I play to learn, to challenge myself. Each match is a puzzle,” she explained. “You win not just by hitting hard, but by thinking smarter and staying grounded.”

Rising star

Style of Play: Strategic Power and Mental Grit

Jessica's playing style is best described as tactical power. Drawing from her collegiate tennis experience, she blends precision, anticipation, and mental toughness. Whether she's pushing pace from the baseline or attacking at the net, Jessica controls rallies with intelligence and poise.

Coaches and fellow players note her calm under pressure — she doesn't just react, she reads the game and adjusts.

Beyond the Court: Passion and Purpose

When she's not training or competing, Jessica stays active in the gym, constantly working on her physical development. She also loves baking and crafting healthy recipes — a hobby that reflects her commitment to balance and well-being.

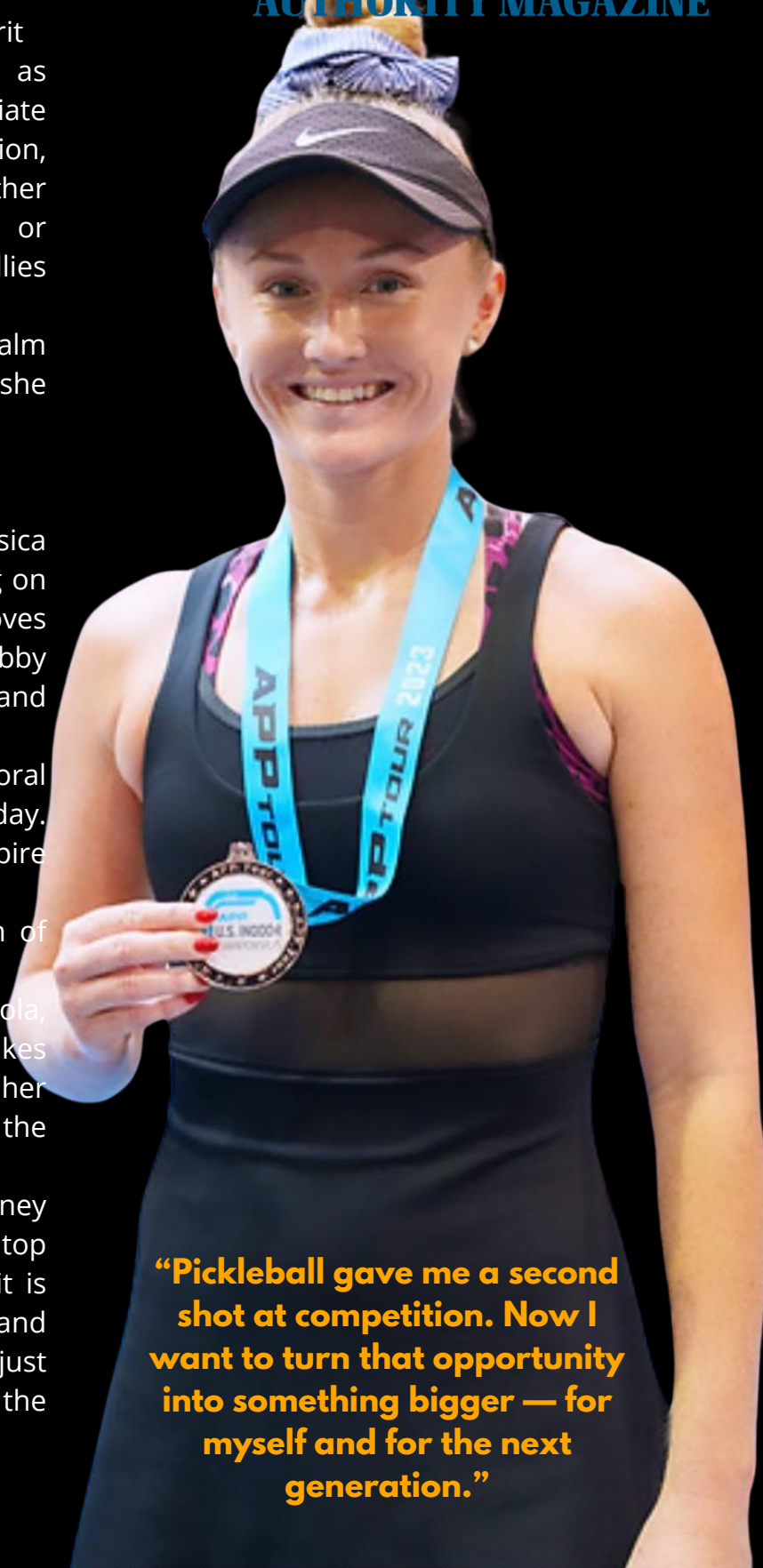
Her past work in psychology and behavioral therapy still influences her mindset today. She's driven not only to win, but to inspire others to pursue their best selves.

"My passion is to be the greatest version of myself — and help others do the same."

Now fully back on tour, sponsored by Joola, Jessica is preparing for the APP Great Lakes Open this August, ready to build on her momentum and continue rising through the ranks.

Final Thoughts
Jessica Warren is a rising star whose journey from the tennis courts of California to the top ranks of pro pickleball is as inspiring as it is impressive. Her comeback, consistency, and competitive edge prove that she's not just participating — she's shaping the future of the sport.

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"Pickleball gave me a second shot at competition. Now I want to turn that opportunity into something bigger — for myself and for the next generation."

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PICKLEBALL TEAMS

By Oops Creative Group

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Built with Grit: The Rise of a Globally Talented Team with Big Ambitions

As is tradition in our main edition of Dink Authority Magazine, we spotlight a professional team from Major League Pickleball (MLP). This time, we are honored to feature the California Black Bears.

This team stands out not only for its energy and competitiveness, but also because it includes one of our own: Colombian player Juan Manuel Benítez, who also graces the cover of this first-ever Spanish-language edition for Latin America.

As he himself said:

"Hard work makes dreams come true."

His story reflects exactly what this team represents: discipline, perseverance, passion, and a clear vision for the future.

PICKLEBALL TEAMS

By Oops Creative Group



Founders and Vision

The California Black Bears were founded in 2021 by Ritchie Tuazon, a Pasadena, California native. His passion for pickleball began earlier that year, and he quickly saw Major League Pickleball (MLP) as an opportunity to take his commitment to this fast-growing sport to a professional level. Since then, the Black Bears have established themselves as a franchise with a strong identity and big ambitions.

Headquarters, Structure, Outlook

Base Location: Pasadena, California

2025 Team Rating: DUPR 17.54

2025 Season: Participation in six regular-season events, the Mid-Season Showdown, and the Playoffs
Match Format: MLPlay™ (men's doubles, women's doubles, two mixed doubles, and a DreamBreaker tiebreaker if needed)

Current Players PlayerKey Strengths

Rafa Hewett Tactical precision, experience, and leadership in doubles

Lina Padeigimaite Court intelligence, strong mindset, and consistency

Layne Sleeth Versatility, pace, and a modern playing style

Juan Manuel Benítez Intensity, resilience, collegiate tennis background, and competitive charisma



PICKLEBALL TEAMS

By Oops Creative Group



Benítez, the team's most recent signing, represents not only emerging Latin American talent but also a well-rounded athlete who gives his all in every point. His story inspires and reinforces the idea that pickleball is a new stage to dream big.

Coaching Staff

Although the staff doesn't always take the spotlight, the Black Bears have an experienced technical team covering key areas: physical conditioning, mixed doubles coaching, performance analysis, and tactical strategy. The team's training approach combines high performance with the emotional chemistry needed for a mixed roster in a dynamic format like the MLP..

Achievements and Progress

Consistent participation since 2021 at the Challenger Level

Presence at key venues in the 2025 season: Austin, San Clemente, Washington D.C., Grand Rapids, St. Louis, and St. Petersburg

Competitive record in 2024 and 2025 tournaments, with a strong emphasis on mixed doubles— their strongest format (70.8% win rate)

Notable rankings in DreamBreakers and growing popularity among Californian fans





MLP: The Fastest-Growing League in the U.S.

Major League Pickleball is the first professional mixed-team pickleball league. Its growth has been meteoric: since 2021, it has merged with the PPA Tour under the United Pickleball Association, attracting multimillion-dollar investments and a global audience. Its unique competition system (MLPlay™) has revolutionized the traditional sports format and turned pickleball into one of the most dynamic and entertaining sports today.

Where to Watch the California Black Bears?

MLP matches and those of the California Black Bears can be seen on:

- PickleballTV (app and platforms like Roku, Samsung TV+, Fire TV, FuboTV)
- Official MLP YouTube channel — live streams and highlights
- Regional U.S. channels such as FanDuel Sports Network and Gray Media
- Sling TV, CBS Sports Network, and other distribution partners

The live coverage, combined with the players' charisma and the sporting spectacle, has made every matchday a must-watch event for pickleball fans.

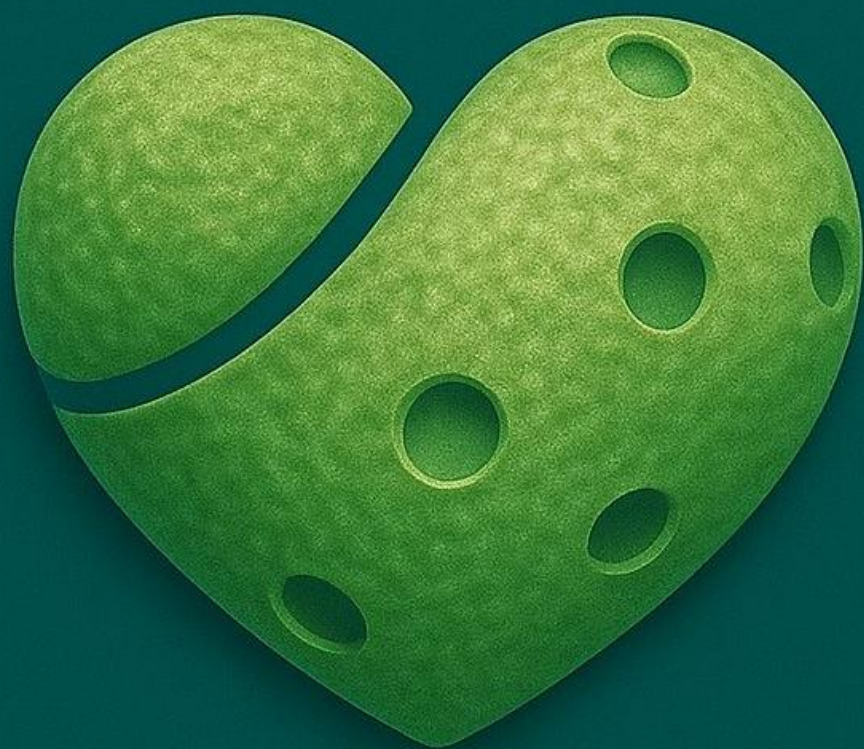
Conclusion

The California Black Bears embody the essence of modern pickleball: diversity, teamwork, and international reach. With talents like Juan Manuel Benítez, they not only show that Latin America is already competing in the big leagues but also inspire new generations to dream big.

Because, as he confidently says:

"It's not just pickleball. It's a lifestyle, a community, and an opportunity to transform the present."

See you in the next edition, guys!



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PICKLEBALL PLAYERS

Por Oops Creative Group

DINKTM
AUTHORITY MAGAZINE

CAROLINA MAYORGA

We Believe in
Stories
That Inspire



Some players step onto the court with just a paddle and little else. But there are others who arrive carrying history, purpose, and fire in their eyes. Carolina Mayorga-Perry is one of the latter. Born in Bogotá, Colombia, and living between Kansas City and her hometown, Carolina literally lives between two worlds: the competitive pickleball scene in the United States, and that of a sports ambassador driving the growth of the sport in Latin America. Her life moves between airports, training sessions, clinics, tournaments... and dreams that never stop. Before picking up a paddle, Carolina was a collegiate tennis player in the U.S., where she developed not only as a high-performance athlete but also as a leader. Later, she took on the challenge of leading the men's and women's tennis programs at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, where she left her mark as a coach, mentor, and manager. That phase, defined by strategy, character-building, and competitive rigor, became the foundation for her transition into pickleball. When she decided to make the leap into the professional circuit, Carolina didn't wing it. She prepared herself. She fully immersed herself in the sport's ecosystem. She began competing in APP Tour, PPA, and MLP tournaments, standing out at events such as the APP Delray Beach, Dallas Open, Cayman Islands Open, Sacramento Open, PPA Mesa Cup, and many others. Her DUPR ranking hovers around 5.45 — a number in the pro world earned through blood, sweat, and hundreds of hours on the court.

**Her DUPR
ranking
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earned with
blood, sweat,
and hundreds
of hours of
play.**



PICKLEBALL PLAYERS

Por Oops Creative Group

CAROLINA MAYORGA

DINKTM

AUTHORITY MAGAZINE

Today, Carolina is part of the Joola Pickleball team, one of the most powerful brands on the circuit. Her game is characterized by tactical precision, explosiveness at the net, and real-time reading of her opponents. She's the kind of player who doesn't just hit hard — she thinks through every point. She doesn't play by brute force; she plays with strategy. And in an increasingly physical and technical circuit, that makes her a formidable opponent.

But beyond the court, Carolina shines for her community spirit. She constantly organizes clinics, training sessions, and meetups both in the U.S. and Colombia. She is committed to the development of pickleball in Latin America, not only as a player but also as a talent developer. On her social media, she shares training routines, tips, tournaments, and her life as a bicultural athlete — a strong voice in both Spanish and English.

On the circuit, rivals and colleagues recognize not only her playing level but also her discipline, work ethic, and warmth. Carolina competes knowing that her story is bigger than just a point: she represents a country, a region, a generation.

At Dink Authority Magazine, we believe in stories that inspire. And Carolina Mayorga-Perry's story — a woman living between two cultures, two cities, and one passion — is exactly that: a testament that Latin talent no longer asks for permission. It's here. And it's here to stay.



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By Oops Creative Group
ENTHUSIAST
By Oops Creative Group

Alex Lynch

Energy, Passion and "Dink Dirty" on the Arizona Scene

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A few weeks ago, while scrolling through social media in search of fresh voices in the pickleball world, we came across an account that instantly caught our attention. Bold videos, intense rallies, and one phrase that kept showing up on shirts and in the comments: "Dink Dirty." We reached out—and this is what Alex Lynch shared with us. A passionate player who's quickly making waves on courts throughout Arizona's Valley.

"Pickleball isn't just a game—it's my thing."

That's how her story begins. And just one look at her play confirms it. With a background in competitive tennis, Alex has traded baseline rallies for fearless net battles. Her style is aggressive, unpredictable, and fast-paced. It's won her plenty of recognition in local tournaments—and earned her a community of players and fans who follow her journey online and in person.

"I'm known as Dink Dirty on courts across the Valley."

And that nickname is no accident. It's become her identity, on and off the court. Through her social media channels, Alex shares daily glimpses into the pickleball lifestyle—match footage, pro tips, gear reviews, and authentic behind-the-scenes moments. Her content isn't just entertaining; it's relatable. She connects with players of all levels, helping grow the sport from the inside out.

But behind the energy is a determined woman. Alex balances her love for pickleball with a full-time career and multiple side hustles. She may not be a full-time pro (yet), but her commitment is total. She trains hard, competes harder, and shows up for the sport and the community every chance she gets.





""By day I'm a focused professional. By night, I'm grinding —proving you can chase your athletic dreams while still living real life."

She proudly calls herself a rising face of Arizona pickleball—and we agree. Because more than just her match results or viral moments, Alex Lynch represents a new generation of players who've found in pickleball a lifestyle, a community, and a passion that keeps growing stronger.

At Dink Authority Magazine, we celebrate stories like hers. We hope to keep featuring guests with the energy Alex brings to the game.

See you in the next edition!

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TIPS

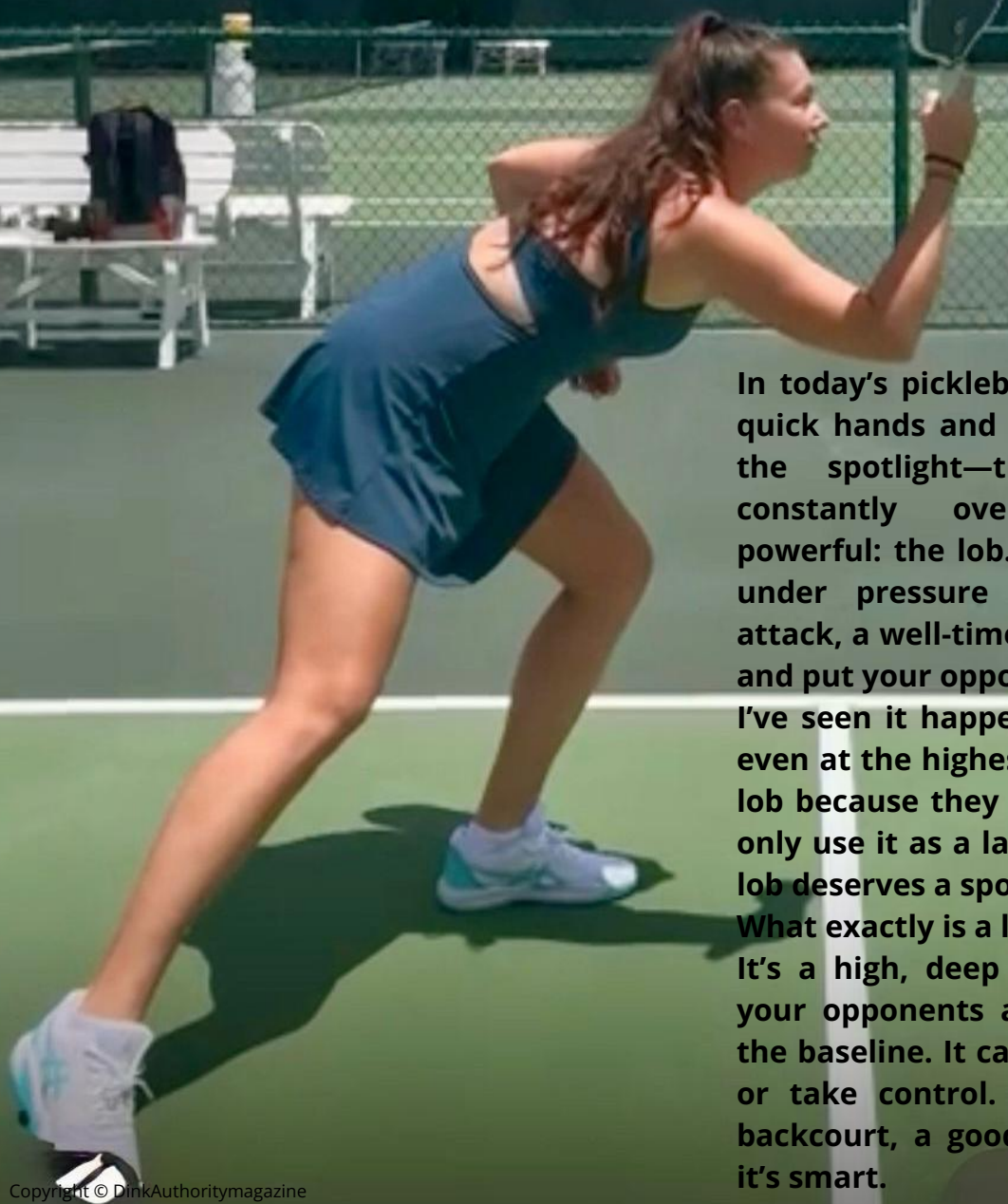


By **Domenika Turković**
Professional Player

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Mastering the Lob Your Secret Weapon on the Court



In today's pickleball game—where lightning-quick hands and net dominance often steal the spotlight—there's one shot that's constantly overlooked but endlessly powerful: the lob. Whether you're defending under pressure or launching a surprise attack, a well-timed lob can shift momentum and put your opponents on the run.

I've seen it happen many times and again—even at the highest levels: players ignore the lob because they think it's too risky, or they only use it as a last resort. But trust me, the lob deserves a spot in your strategy toolkit.

What exactly is a lob?

It's a high, deep shot that floats just over your opponents at the net and drops near the baseline. It can be used to reset the rally or take control. From the kitchen or the backcourt, a good lob isn't just defensive—it's smart.

TIPS

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Two types I love:

1. The defensive lob – Perfect when you're stuck at the baseline and need time to reset. Float it high and deep to give yourself space to breathe and regroup.
2. The offensive lob – My personal favorite when opponents get too hungry at the net. Surprise them, send that ball sailing, and watch them scramble backwards.

When should you go for it?

- When both opponents are hugging the kitchen line.
- When you need time to recover.
- When your opponents aren't comfortable moving backward and don't like to hit overheads.
- Lobbing crosscourt gives you more distance to put the shot in play.

Pro tips from me to you:

- Don't telegraph it. Keep the same setup you use for dinks—then lift!
- Some players like to use topspin. It helps the ball drop faster after going high.
- Go deep. A short lob is basically a gift to your opponents.
- It's best to place the lobs over your opponent's backhand as those are harder to get back.



TIPS

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Professional Player



- Make sure you stay low and use your shoulder when lobbing, not the wrist.
- Pick your moment. Don't spam it—make it count.

Mistakes I see all the time:

- Lobbing too low = easy overhead for your opponent.
- Getting predictable = they'll camp the backcourt.
- Poor balance = bad execution

Final thoughts

A lob isn't just a shot—it's a statement. It says: I see the court. I know where you are. And I'm two steps ahead.

So, next time you're in a tough spot—or you just want to throw off your opponent's rhythm—don't be afraid to lob. Practice it, own it, and use it with confidence. Sometimes the smartest play... is the one that floats.

See you on the court, Domenika Turković

The World of Pickleball According to Zakour

YOU MIGHT BE A BIT TOO INTO PICKLEBALL IF...

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN OUR KIDS WERE BORN?

DO YOU REMEMBER OUR ANNIVERSARY?

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE WON
THAT PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT?

NOPE

NOPE

JULY 10TH, 2021, 3 PM EST.



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