

Pickleball expansion coming to Keowee Key

BY RILEY MORNINGSTAR
THE JOURNAL

SALEM — Keowee Key has broken ground on expanding courts for a sport rising in popularity.

Last week, officials began work on adding four new pickleball courts, doubling the number the club currently has in use.

“The board appreciates the fact that the community voted to go forward with these projects,” Keowee Key board president Cenia Gilbert said in a release. “We believe that it shows they are aware how important outside activities are during this time.”

Pickleball combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-



SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Keowee Key board members and construction partners recently broke ground on the community's latest set of expansions to recreational sport courts.

pong, and is played both indoors and outdoors on a badminton-sized court and a modified tennis net, according to USA Pickleball. In 2019, the Sports Fitness Industry Association called the

sport one of the “fastest growing” in popularity, with more than 3 million participants.

Keowee Key isn't the only community to update its pickleball offerings — both Walhalla

and Salem have gotten in on the sport over the past two years.

Board secretary and Pickleball Club president Ann Savoca said there are more than 300 participants in the Keowee Key community.

“After borrowing some of the tennis courts over the last year, we are happy to have the four new courts underway,” she said.

Keowee Key has also broken ground on four new shuffleboard courts and two new bocce ball courts at Chestnut Pointe, according to marketing director Christine de Vlaming.

rmorningstar@upstatetoday.com | (864) 973-6685