

**Probus Northmead & District  
October 2019 Guest Speaker**



Probus is renown for emphasising **active** as part of its philosophy. Continuing to create, to develop different skills, being in the moment, alive and ready to trial different experiences, we are committed to being active retirees.

There is no better way to demonstrate our focus on being active retirees than to get involved in something new.

Bob Mendelsohn, Founding President of **Pickleball NSW**, is part of a growing sport in New South Wales and, particularly, in Sydney. An unusual name for a sport?

Yup ! but it is growing fast. Look it up at <https://pickleballaus.org/>

Bob has been instrumental in organising Pickleball across Sydney, with venues ranging from Ryde to Abbotsleigh, Northern Beaches to Hornsby, Wahroonga to Dee Why and even one in the City of Sydney.

He began playing Pickleball in 2016 in Kansas City (USA). returning to his native city for a speaking tour and discovered the game by accident. After 10 minutes on an indoor court with some other keen players, he was hooked.

In 2017, he, along with some other keen Pickleballers, set up the first Open Day in Sydney. From there, the game has skyrocketed.

Bob continues to lead the development of Pickleball across NSW, with the assistance of a fantastic group of Pickleball enthusiasts. To the end, in just two years, Pickleball has grown to become a state-wide sport and part of a growing and recognised national sport.

Players are across all demographics but the rewarding thing to know is that more retirees are beginning to go back to their 'racquet sport' days to play Pickleball.