



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Photos: "Pickleball Courts" (2) – photo credit Elite Sports Builders; Award Presentation (Troy Rudolph, Elite Sports Builders and Terry Mullarkey, ACC Board President)

ANTHEM PICKLEBALL COURTS NAMED 'OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL FACILITY OF THE YEAR'

Anthem, Ariz. –The 20-year-old master-planned community of Anthem, Arizona spent 2019 celebrating its 1999 founding with news of numerous local, regional, and national awards and accolades, even as it continued to grow and open new amenities.

In December 2019, the courts were honored with the coveted American Sports Builders Association (ASBA) "Outdoor Pickleball Facility of the Year" Award. The facility was judged to be the very best of all pickleball entries from North America in 2019. The project has been profiled in the ASBA's 2019 "Facility of the Year" publication and will be featured in Racquet Sports Industry's upcoming issue.

The ten-court complex opened January 19, 2019 as one of the Anthem Community Council's (ACC) Facilities Master Plan projects, and was constructed by Elite Sports Builders.

Troy Rudolph, president of Elite Sports Builders, accepted the award at the conference in December and presented the plaque to the Anthem Community Council at the January 22 Board of Directors meeting, just days after the first anniversary of courts opening. He announced that a brass plaque commemorating the accolade would be placed permanently at the Anthem Pickleball Courts.

He said, "This achievement is very special to us as the builder, but it's also a huge point of pride for this community, as the home of the best pickleball facility built in North America."

Since 2014, the ACC has invested approximately \$12 million into new recreational amenities for the community. Each of these projects went through extensive community input before being approved for funding by the

Board, without any external financing. Collectively, these projects enhance quality of life for residents, and allow Anthem to stay competitive with newer master-planned communities.

In addition to the pickleball courts, the Facilities Master Plan projects included the purchase and remodel of the Civic Building (2014); rebuilding of Adventure Playground (2015) and Discovery Playground (2016); ten-acre Opportunity Way Park (2016); the Community Center remodel/expansion (2018); and a four-acre dog park (2019). The final project, the expansion of the Skate Park, is scheduled for 2020-21.

Learn more about Anthem, its history and awards by visiting *OnlineAtAnthem.com*.

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