

PICKLEBALL COURT RULES

Court assignments

There are 6 courts laid out north to south in the gym. The southern most court, closet to the roll up doors is court 4 of the facility and will have 3 playing courts within its perimeter and the next court to the north is court 3 of the facility and will have 3 playing courts within its perimeter. The playing courts are labeled east to west as court 1, 2, and 3. Facility court 3 will be courts 4, 5, and 6 for pickleball

Courts 1, 2, and 3 are identified as "challenge court" where players in skill level of 2.5 to 5.0 will play their games. Winners on this court can stay on (up to a maximum of say 3 consecutive games) before rotating out.

Court 4, 5, and 6 is for beginners of skill level 1.0 - 2.0 and will rotate out after each game and they will have a separate "ready for play" bench.

1. To start play players must place their paddles on the "ready for play" bench and as a court becomes available, they will rotate on to the court in the order of the paddles laid upon the bench.
2. Once your game is complete ALL 4 players must rotate off the court and 4 new players must come into the court. (on courts 1, 2, and 3 the winners can stay for 3 consecutive games.)
3. Teams may not swap players on the court with players in the queue for play

Serving

The server must serve to the service court diagonally opposite their correct position. The ball may clear or touch the net and must clear the NVZ and the NVZ lines. The ball may land on a service court line.

The moment the ball is served: At least one foot must be on the playing surface behind the baseline. Neither of the server's feet may touch the court on or inside the baseline. Neither of the server's feet may touch the playing surface outside the serving area.

The Volley Serve.

The volley serve is made by striking the ball without bouncing the ball off the playing surface and can be made with either a forehand or backhand motion. A proper volley serve includes the following elements:

1. The server's arm must be moving in an upward arc at the time the ball is struck with the paddle.
2. The highest point of the paddle head

must not be above the highest part of the wrist where the wrist joint bends when the paddle strikes the ball.

3. Contact with the ball must not be made above the waist.

The Drop Serve.

The drop serve is made by striking the ball after it bounces on the playing surface and can be made with either a forehand or backhand motion. There is no restriction on how many times the ball can bounce nor where the ball can bounce on the playing surface. A proper drop serve includes the following elements:

1. The server must release the ball from one hand only or drop it off the paddle face from any natural (un-aided) height.
2. When releasing the ball, the ball shall not be propelled in any direction or in any manner prior to striking the ball to make the serve.

Player positions

Partner Positions. In doubles, with the exception of the server, there is no restriction on the position of any player, as long as all players are on their respective team's side of the net. They can be positioned on or off the court.

Skill levels

Skill levels: Newbie (1.0-2.0)

Moderate skills (2.5 – 3.5) Ready for tournaments (4.0 - 5.0).

- **1.0:** A player who has never played pickleball
- **2.0:** A player who is just starting to play
- **2.5:** A player who has limited experience and can sustain a short rally
- **3.0:** A player who understands the fundamentals and basic rules
- **3.5:** A player who can consistently get to the non-volley zone
- **4.0:** A player who can identify and attack their opponent's weaknesses
- **4.5:** A player who understands strategy and has good footwork
- **5.0:** A player who is considered "semi-pro" or "pro"