

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT RULES 2024

1. Two separate age categories are being offered, Open Age Bracket, & Teams Age 50+, each with their own brackets and playoffs (Semi-Finals, & Finals).
2. This tournament is round robin, with playoffs.
 - a. Each age bracket will be divided into 2 pools.
 - b. The top 2 teams from each pool will advance to Semi Finals for their respective age bracket.
3. Teams must use tournament supplied balls only.
4. All games will be played to 11 points (win by 2).
 - a. **Round Robin games will have a 14 minute time limit.** All games each round will start at the same time as announced by the tournament director.
 - b. There will be a 2 minute break in between rounds. During this break, the next matches will be announced.
 - c. Semi Finals will have no time limit.
 - d. Finals games will be played best 2 out of 3 games with no time limit.
 - i. During Finals, teams will switch ends after each game
 - ii. During a 3rd game tie breaker, teams will switch sides after one team reaches 6 points.
5. The team closest to the outer fence will serve first.
6. Points will be judged by contestants.
7. Score must be called out before every serve.
8. Rules interpretations made by the tournament director are final.
9. Teams must report back to the scoring table with a score sheet.
10. Please leave the tournament ball, quarter, pencils and extra score sheets in the pail.
- 11. Paddles used must be on the USA Pickleball approved list on the day of the tournament.**

Rule Reminders

Serve Rules

1. The serve **must** clear the “Kitchen” or NVZ line. The center line, side line, **AND** baseline are all considered “**in**”.
2. The return of serve may land on **any** part of the court.
3. There is no “let serve”. If a serve hits the net, but still lands in the correct service court, play continues without interruption.

Non-Volley Zone (“Kitchen”) Rules

4. It is a fault if, **when volleying a ball**, the player steps on the non-volley zone, including the line and/or when the player’s momentum causes them or anything they are wearing or carrying to touch the non-volley zone including the associated lines, even if the volleyed ball is declared dead before this happens.