

Hollywood Pickleball Club Annual Charity Tournament 2025

PICKLEBALL BASIC RULES – COURT MONITOR REFERENCE

Court & Equipment

- Court size: 20 ft x 44 ft (same for singles and doubles).
- Non-Volley Zone (NVZ): 7 feet on either side of the net (also called “the kitchen”).
- Net height: 36” at sidelines, 34” at centre.

Serving Rules

- Serve underhand with paddle contact below the waist.
- Ball must be struck in the air (no bounce before contact).
- Serve diagonal cross-court and must clear the Non-Volley Zone (including the line) to be valid.
- One serve attempt only (let serves – ball hits net but lands correctly – are replayed).

Scoring

- Games typically to 11 points, win by 2.
- Only the serving team can score points.
- In doubles: both players on a team serve before a “side out.”
- The first serving team only starts with one server (to balance advantage).

The Two-Bounce Rule

- After the serve:
 1. The return must bounce before being hit.
 2. The next shot must also bounce before being hit.
- After these two bounces, volleys are allowed.

Non-Volley Zone (Kitchen)

- No volleys (hitting the ball out of the air) while standing in the NVZ.
- Players may step into the NVZ only after the ball has bounced.
- Momentum cannot carry a player into the NVZ after a volley.

Faults

- Ball is hit out of bounds.
- Ball does not clear the net.
- Volleying from inside the NVZ.
- Violating the two-bounce rule.
- Serving illegally.

Safety & Game Flow

- If an outside ball rolls onto the court, players must call “BALL!” immediately.
- Rally stops and players replay the point from the last serve for safety.

Conduct & Courtesy

- Give opponents the benefit of the doubt on close calls.
- Call “OUT” loudly and clearly when making line calls.
- Be respectful—pickleball values sportsmanship and fun.

Terms and Conditions

By registering for and participating in the Pickleball Tournament, all players agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. Eligibility

- All participants must be 18 years or older on the day of the event.
- Players must register as part of a mixed doubles team (one male-identifying and one female-identifying player or equivalent mixed pairing).
- Participants must register under the division that most accurately reflects their skill level (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced).

2. Code of Conduct

- All players are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, fairness, and respect toward fellow players, officials, and event organisers.
- Unsportsmanlike behaviour, including verbal abuse, cheating, or aggressive conduct, may result in disqualification without refund.
- Players must comply with all posted rules, schedules, and court assignments provided by tournament staff.

3. Player Tier Selection Policy

- When registering for the tournament, please select the tier (Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced) that best matches your current skill level. This helps ensure fair and balanced play for all participants.
- The organisers reserve the right to adjust a player's tier placement at their discretion, regardless of the tier selected during registration. Any changes will be communicated directly to the player via email.
- By registering, you agree to review and accept the tournament's Terms and Conditions, which include rules regarding tier placement, scoring, and conduct.

4. Event Format

- Each division will consist of round robin play followed by a knockout stage (quarterfinals onward).
- Tournament format and match rules may be modified at the discretion of the event organisers to accommodate time constraints or other circumstances.

5. Equipment & Attire

- Players must wear appropriate athletic footwear and attire.
- Paddles and balls will be provided if needed, but players are encouraged to bring their own gear.

6. Injuries & Liability

- All participants play at their own risk. The event organisers, venue staff, and affiliates are not responsible for injuries, lost items, or damages incurred during the tournament.
- It is the responsibility of each player to ensure they are physically fit to compete.

7. Photos & Media

- By participating, players consent to photographs and/or videos being taken and used for promotional purposes (including social media, websites, and flyers).
- If you wish to opt out, please notify the event coordinator in writing before the event.

8. Refunds & Substitutions

- Refunds are issued according to our Refund Policy (see separate document).
- Substitutions are allowed up to 48 hours before the event, provided the new team member is of similar skill level and age eligibility.

9. Event Modifications

- The event organisers reserve the right to modify the schedule, format, court assignments, or other logistics to ensure smooth operation of the event

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Tickets for the tournament are £28 per player – this includes an £18 play fee and a £10 registration fee.

Please note: The £10 registration fee is non-refundable under all circumstances.

We understand that plans can change. To ensure fairness and clarity for all participants, please review our official cancellation and refund terms below:

1. Team-Initiated Cancellations

- **7 Days or More Notice: Cancellations made 7 or more days before the tournament will receive a refund of the £18 play fee only (the £10 registration fee will not be refunded).**
- **Less Than 7 Days Notice:** No refunds will be issued for cancellations made within 7 days of the tournament.

How to Cancel: All cancellations must be submitted in writing via email to the tournament coordinator. Refunds (when applicable) will be processed within 5–7 business days.

2. Substitutions

- Teams may replace a player due to illness, emergency, or scheduling conflict.
- Substitutions are allowed up to 48 hours before the event, provided the substitute is age-eligible and of similar skill level.
- There is no fee for approved substitutions.

3. Event-Initiated Cancellations

If the tournament is cancelled by the organisers (e.g., due to weather, facility issues, or emergencies), registered players will receive:

- A full refund (play fee + registration fee), or
- The option to transfer registration to a rescheduled date.

4. Force Majeure

The organisers are not liable for cancellations or delays caused by events beyond their control, such as natural disasters or government-mandated shutdowns.

Scoring Policy

- **Format:** All matches will follow standard pickleball rules.
- **Scoring System:** Games will be played to 11 points, win by 2. The final match will be played to 15 points, win by 2.

- Round Robin Matches: Each team will play multiple matches within their group. Total wins will determine seeding for the knockout stage.
- Switching Sides(optional depending on external factors): Teams will switch sides after one team reaches 6 points in games to 11 (or 8 points in the final).
- Score Calling: The server must call the score before every serve.

Score Confirmation

- At the conclusion of each game, both teams must confirm the final score with the court monitor or referee assigned to their court.
- Once confirmed, the score will be locked in with the tournament director and cannot be altered unless a formal dispute is made immediately.

Dispute Process

- Any scoring or rule disputes must be raised immediately at the end of the game before leaving the court.
- The court monitor/referee will review the situation with both teams.
- If unresolved, the tournament director's ruling will be final.