

# Pickleball Rules and Code of Conduct

The following rules apply during pickleball play.

Please read thoroughly prior to stepping onto the court.

## Court Usage Rules

- Four on, four off. While players are waiting, all four players must rotate off.
- Play one game to 11 points, win by 2 then rotate off the court.
  - If more than 12 players are waiting to play, game goes to 9 points instead of 11 points.
- Warmups are allowed but limited to one minute.
- No drilling. TWO balls maximum on the court.
- No rolling back the score to prolong time on the court.
- Pickleball nets and wheels must stay locked on the court.
- No food, pet animals, and non-pickleball equipment are allowed on the court.
- No private, professional lessons allowed unless contracted with the City.

## Next up Queue

- Use the paddle rack queue to indicate that you are waiting for next available court. Left-most grouping is next up.
- No double paddling. Do not place an extra paddle in a queue to save your spot while you are already on the court or to save a spot for a friend you are waiting to play with.
- If you are waiting to play with certain players who are currently playing, do not place your paddle in the queue. Once the player(s) come off the court then place your paddles in the queue.

## Sportsmanship and Code of Conduct

- Be courteous and respectful to fellow players and City staff.
- Give the benefit of the doubt in making line calls. When in doubt, call the ball in.
- Players are to comply with all posted rules for court usage and next up queue.

## Safety Guidelines

- If a ball strays on your court, stop play due to “ball on”. Make eye contact with the correct person and return the ball by rolling it or tossing it without disrupting play on other courts.
- If your ball enters another court, do not chase after your ball. Immediately call out “ball on” to the impacted players. Signal them to return your ball to you.
- Do not cross behind any court while a rally is in play. Cross only when the rally ends.



City San Mateo Parks & Recreation | Athletics Division

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Email: Questions, Comments, or Concerns

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