

THE RULES OF PICKLEBALL

SERVING

- Pickleball is similar to Volleyball in that a player or team may only scores points when serving. Both feet must remain behind the baseline until after the ball is struck.
- The serve must be underhand with the ball contacted below the waist.
- Serves must travel diagonally and land between the non-volley zone and the baseline of the service court opposite of the serving player.
- Each player is allowed only one serving attempt unless it is a "let" serve. A let serve is when the serve hits the net and still lands in the correct service court. If this occurs, the serve is played over.
- Each player will continue to serve until he does not win a point. Players must announce the score prior to each serve. Always call the servers score first!

SERVING IN DOUBLES

- At the start of each new game, only one player on the first serving team is allowed a service turn before giving up the ball to the opponents. Thereafter both members of each team will have a service turn before the ball is turned over to the opposing team.
- In doubles, the player on the right at the start of a service turn will be the first person to serve for their team and will continue to serve until he or she does not win a point. Then his or her partner will serve until he or she does also does not win a point. Then it is the other teams turn to serve.
- When the serving team scores a point, the server moves to the other side of the serving team's court. The receiving team should never switch sides. (SEE DIAGRAM FOR VISUAL OF SERVICE COURTS)
- If the serve rotation is done properly in doubles, the serving team's score will always be even when the player that started the game on the right side is on the right side and odd when that player is on the left side .

THE NON-VOLLEY ZONE

- To volley a ball means to hit it in the air without letting it bounce. All volleying must be done with the player's feet behind the non-volley zone. (SEE DIAGRAM THAT FOLLOWS THIS PAGE FOR A VISUAL OF THIS ZONE)

THE DOUBLE BOUNCE RULE

- Each team must play their first shot off the bounce. That is, the receiving team must let the serve bounce and the serving team must let the return of the serve bounce before playing it. After the two bounces have occurred, the ball can either be volleyed or played off the bounce.

FAULTS

- The ball may only bounce once per side. After the ball is hit by a player, it must travel to the other side of the net.

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- If the ball hits one of the sidelines or the baseline, it is a playable ball (SEE DIAGRAM THAT FOLLOWS THIS PAGE FOR MORE ABOUT LINES OF PLAY). When a player or team fails to win the rally they are said to have made a fault. Some, but not all of the things that cause a fault are listed below:
 - ✓ Serving the ball into an incorrect area.
 - ✓ Hitting the ball out of bounds.
 - ✓ Volleying the ball before it has bounced once on each side.
 - ✓ Hitting the ball into the net or hitting the net with your paddle or body.
 - ✓ Hitting the ball while in the non-volley zone before it is allowed to bounce.
 - ✓ Touching the non-volley zone with your paddle or clothes while attempting to hit a volley.
 - ✓ Stepping on or over the non-volley zone line on a follow through.
 - ✓ Missing the ball when you try to hit it.
 - ✓ Server swings the paddle with the intent of hitting the ball but misses.

THE PICKLEBALL COURT

