



Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation

Adult Pickleball Rules

Game Rules

This is a “Call Your Own League”. Please use honesty and integrity when scoring and any rules decisions.

Players must be 18 year or older to participate.

Official Pickleball rules that are established by the United States Pickleball Association apply except where superseded by the following Adult Pickleball League Rules.

Overview

1. Pickleball is played on a badminton-sized court (20'x44').
2. Players on each side must let the ball bounce before volleys are allowed.
3. A seven foot “non-volley zone” or “kitchen” is on each side of the net. A player is not allowed to enter the “non-volley zone” and spike the ball. However, you may enter the zone if the ball has bounced once on that player’s side.
4. The ball is not allowed to bounce twice on either side
5. A ball contacting any line, except the non-volley zone line on a serve, is considered “in.”
6. The serving team is decided by a coin flip from the ESPR supervisor. The winner can choose to serve or receive.

The Serve

1. Serves are to be made diagonally starting with the right square of the side of the serving team. If a point is earned, the server moves to the left square and so on. If a fault is made by the serving team, the partner of the team serving serves from the square they were when the mistake was made.
2. The serve must land in the diagonal square. If failed, their turn is over.
3. If the ball touches the “non-volley zone”, it is considered short and is a fault.
4. Serves must always be done underhand without crossing the back line. If failed, their turn is over.

Fault

A fault is made when:

1. The ball is hit out of bounds
2. The ball does not clear the net
3. The ball fails to reach the diagonal square when serving

4. The ball is volleyed from the “non-volley zone”
5. The ball is volleyed before a bounce has occurred on each side
6. A player, player’s clothing, or any part of a player’s paddle touches the net or the net post when the ball is in play

Scoring

1. Only the serving team can score.
2. First team to 11 points, wins. Must win by 2 points.
3. **The player who is serving must declare the score before each serve.** Player should say, in order: their team score, opposing team score, and the position in which they are serving. Example: 3-5-2.
4. Games will be played best 2-out-of-3.
5. Report the score of your game to the supervisor on duty.

League and Tournament Play

1. Each team will play 10-game session in round robin format.
2. At the end of the season, teams will be seeded based on their regular season record. A playoff tournament in bracket style will follow.

Other Information:

1. The Recreation Coordinator will contact the captain of each team in case of cancelation due to weather.
2. Each team is allowed **ONE** alternate player in case a member of your team is unable to participate in the match. The alternate player **cannot** change throughout the season.
3. Players must be paid and placed on team prior to participating in the program. This must be done by prior to the game. Changes may be made prior to the start of each team’s **3rd week/match**. No changes may be made after that match.
4. **A player may not play for more than one team. If this rule is not followed, the second team they join will forfeit their match.**
5. Games must start on time. However, there will be a 5-minute grace period for your team to arrive. Failure to arrive after 5 minutes will result in a forfeit in their team’s first match. Failure to show after 10 minutes, the game is forfeited.
6. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated
 - a. No foul language
 - b. No alcoholic beverages or smoking permitted on school property.
 - c. If unsportsmanlike conduct persists by individuals or team, they will be terminated and fees forfeited.
 - d. If an individual fails to leave the premises, their team will forfeit the season.
7. Paddles, balls, and nets will be provided by ESPR. Feel free to use your own.
8. Schedule and standings can be found on teamsideline.com/excelsior

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department at 816-630-1040 or email kendrabeaver@esparksrec.com