

WHAT IS PICKLEBALL?

Pickleball is a simple paddle game played using a perforated, slow-moving ball over a tennis-type net on a badminton-sized court. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn!

RULES

- The ball is served diagonally to the opponent's service court underhanded without bouncing it off the court.
- Points are scored by the serving side only and occur when the opponent faults (fails to return the ball, hits ball out of bounds, etc.). The server continues to serve alternating service courts until the serving side faults. The first side to score 11 points and leading by at least a 2-point margin wins. If both sides are tied, then play continues until one side wins by 2.
- Double Bounce Rule: Following the serve, each side must make at least one ground-stroke, prior to volleying the ball (hitting it before it has bounced).
- Non-Volley Zone: A player cannot volley a ball while standing within the non-volley zone. (The non-volley zone is the area of the court bounded by the two sidelines, the non-volley line, and the net. The non-volley line and the sidelines are included in the non-volley zone.)

SCORING

- Points are scored only by the serving team.
- Games are normally played to 11 points, win by 2.
- When the serving team's score is even (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) the player who was the first server in the game for that team will be in the right-side court when serving or receiving; when odd (1, 3, 5, 7, 9) that player will be in the left-side court when serving or receiving.

See Reverse Side

- **Centerline:** The centerline is the line on each side of the net bisecting the area between the non-volley line and the baseline.
- **Service Courts:** The service courts are the areas on either side of the centerline, bounded by the non-volley line, the baseline, and the sideline.

LINGO

- **Carry:** Hitting the ball in such a way that it does not bounce away from the paddle but tends to be carried along on the face of the paddle during its forward motion.
- **Cross-court:** The court diagonally opposite your court.
- **Dead Ball:** A dead ball is declared after a fault.
- **Dink Shot:** A soft shot that is intended to arc over the net and land within the non-volley zone.
- **Double Bounce:** A ball that bounces more than once, on one side, before it is returned.
- **Double Hit:** One side hitting the ball twice before it is returned over net. Double hits may occur by one player or could involve both players on a team.
- **Drop Shot:** A groundstroke shot that falls short of the opponent's position.
- **Drop Shot Volley:** A volley shot that is designed to "kill" the speed of the ball and return it short, near the net, to an opponent positioned at or near the baseline. This shot is especially effective when initiated close to the non-volley line.
- **Fault:** A fault is any action that stops play because of a rule violation.
- **Groundstroke:** Hitting the ball after one bounce.