

## **Court Etiquette**

Everyone was (or is) a beginner at one time and playing with people that are better than you or that are just learning will help all players, at all skill levels and keep the sport of Pickleball growing. Everyone appreciates the time given to “assist” all levels of players with rules, set up, specific plays etc. If you are an “advanced” player, adjust your style when playing with beginners – work on your short game, work on ball placement. Mentor and offer advice kindly. Do not intimidate weaker players or dominate a game.

Play to have fun. Be cognitive of other courts. Give those courts lots of room to continue their match. You will avoid possible injury to yourself and to the players that might not see you near their court. If you bring a guest that has not played pickleball – stay with your guest/friend for a good part of the session. Introduce your guest to other players.

When waiting for a court to finish, you may place your paddle down next to the net to let other players know that you are next to play on that court.

Recognize and compliment your partner and opponents when they make good shots.

Apologize for inappropriate remarks immediately.

Call out the score every time you serve so that your opponents can hear the score. Call out your score first, then the opponents score and, finally, if you are the first server or the second server.

Do not chase the ball into another court. Call “ball” immediately when your stray ball rolls onto another court. No point is worth tripping over a ball and hurting yourself or other players. When retrieving a stray ball it is best not to walk onto a neighboring court – wait until the rally is over. When a ball rolls onto your court, stop play immediately. Pick the ball up, look to see where it came from and return it as suggested above. Return the ball on the outside of your court – not through neighboring courts. Make eye contact with the person that you are returning the ball to, then roll or throw the ball to them.

Extra balls are shared in buckets between the nets. Remove all errant balls from the courts and place in the buckets.

Please be cognizant of the horn signaling the end of the session. Upon hearing the horn, we ask that you wrap up your game and exit the court.

We ask that you please police yourselves. If somebody is in violation of this code, please let the Pickleball Point Person know.

Enjoy the game. No point or game is that critical to ruin your day or lose a friend.

In summary, be a positive minded player. This is YOUR facility, support it and strive to make it better.