

**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
FITNESS & ATHLETICS
BAYSIDE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER
4500 FIRST COURT ROAD
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23455
385-2950
www.VBgov.com/Pickleball**

ADULT COED PICKLEBALL LEAGUE BYLAWS

The object of this league shall be....

- To provide a wholesome and enjoyable recreational activity for the participants.
- To develop character, skill, sportsmanship, and good will among individuals participating.
- To determine a champion in each league annually

EFFECTIVE DATE: These bylaws are in effect for the 2018 Fall Adult Coed Pickleball League season. Players are responsible for educating themselves on the articles within these bylaws.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Adult Coed Pickleball League is for all levels of play. All play will be Doubles (gender neutral), using a modified ladder format. Rankings are based upon individual winning percentage (the ratio of points won to total points possible) in all games played. Bayside Community Recreation Center (BSCRC) reserves the right to move players up or down the ladder based upon winning percentage.
2. The Parks and Recreation Department requires a registration fee from all adult participants, the amount of which is determined each season. In addition, a valid Virginia Beach Community Recreation Center Membership or Day Pass is required to participate.
3. The Parks and Recreation Department assumes the following responsibilities:
 - A. Match site facilities and game balls.
 - B. Management of player information and the authority to rule on player eligibility and all rules and regulations
 - C. Awards for the top male and female (or top 2 overall when warranted) in each league

OFFICIAL RULES: Virginia Beach Department of Parks and Recreation rules and regulations and the International Federation Pickleball Rules shall govern all leagues unless otherwise listed below. Players and spectators must abide by all rules, regulations, and bylaws.

PLAYER REGISTRATION: BSCRC will require a player registration fee (amount of which will be determined each season) from all participants. All players are required to have a valid Virginia Beach Community Recreation Center membership or day pass to participate.

1. Online registration (for credit card payments) is available on our website (www.VBgov.com/Pickleball).
2. In-person registration is accepted at any Virginia Beach Community Recreation Center (Rec. Center hours vary).
3. Late registration (if space is available) is accepted online or at any Virginia Beach Community Recreation Center with a \$10 late fee.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES: The league director assumes the following responsibilities:

1. Match site facilities and game balls
2. Management of player information
3. Authority to rule on player eligibility, rules, and regulations
4. Awards to the top male and female (or the top two overall when warranted) in each league

SCHEDULING OF MATCHES

1. Matches will be played in accordance with the schedule designed by the league director with sites and match times distributed as equally as possible.
2. A weekly schedule will be posted on the adult pickleball page at www.VBgov.com/Pickleball by 5:00 p.m. each Friday of the season
3. Matches will be scheduled for each Tuesday (September 25 – November 13) from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. at the Bayside Recreation Center.
4. Prior to the start of the season, all player bye week requests must be communicated to the league director by 5:00pm **Wednesday, September 19, 2018**. During the season, players unable to participate on additional specified dates are required to notify the league director by **5:00 p.m. each Wednesday**.
5. BSCRC reserves the right to arrange postponed matches at its convenience, and also reserves the right to cancel matches, if necessary, due to excessive inclement weather or conditions beyond our control. In the event of any misunderstanding or error, players are urged to contact BSCRC.

STANDARD MATCH PROCEDURE

1. Players will be placed in groups of four using a round robin scheduling system for match play. All players will play three doubles games in a round robin fashion with the other three players of the foursome. At the start of the match, players will decide who starts serving first and choice of side (coin toss). Players will change ends of the court when one team has at least half the number of points in the game to minimize the effects of any factors that may affect indoor play. Missed matches are not made up.
2. Players must provide their own practice balls, paddles, and other equipment they deem necessary. BSCRC will provide a game ball, which is not to be used for practice.
3. The Gym Supervisor is employed by the Parks and Recreation Department and will oversee game day operations. Players are expected to cooperate with the Gym Supervisor in every way possible. The Gym Supervisor will send match results to BSCRC at the completion of play each week.
4. It is the responsibility of each player to maintain proper conduct at all times.
5. Players scheduled for the next match shall not detract in any way from the match in progress.
6. Player absences – BEFORE WEEKLY SCHEDULE is posted

Players unable to participate on specified day(s) are required to notify BSCRC no later than 5:00pm each Wednesday before the weekly schedule is posted, which will enable groupings to be made accordingly. An absent player's most recent score will stand until the player returns. There is no penalty for being absent as long as the player notifies BSCRC before the deadline, unless a player is absent for more than 2 weeks during the season (see Inactive player below).

7. Player absences – AFTER WEEKLY SCHEDULE is posted

Players unable to participate after the weekly schedule is published and prior to the actual match are required to do the following:

A. Please notify the league director immediately so a substitute can be arranged. Scores may not be credited for the other 3 players in the group, if a substitute player is not secured.

8. Player absences – AT MATCH TIME

Players not present at match time are considered late. If a substitute player is available, play should begin as scheduled. A late player may enter the match at any time, and will assume the substitute's point total at that time. At the completion of the match, a late player's status may change to a "No Show" (absent for the entire match).

9. No Show

Players who fail to participate in a scheduled match without notifying the league director or securing a substitute will be considered a No Show, and will be subject to suspension from the ladder. If a player is a No Show for two matches in succession or three matches overall in a season the player may be subject to expulsion from the league.

10. Inactive player

Players may enter or leave a ladder at any time or miss a week or more for any reason, but are required to notify the league director BEFORE the match schedule is published for the upcoming week. Players not available for a period of more than 2 weeks will become Inactive and must notify the league director prior to 5:00pm the Wednesday before the schedule is posted in order to become Active and return to the ladder. Inactive players will re-enter the ladder at the ranking at which they left, but will become ineligible for league awards.

11. Bye/Sub

One bye week will be assigned per player at the discretion of the league director when a foursome cannot be filled. Byes are carried with any movement between ladders. Bye week players should be available as a substitute, if possible, in case a scheduled player cannot play. The No Show rule will also apply to Bye/Subs.

PLAYING RULES

1. A match will consist of three (3) games, all of which will be played and will count in the standings. All three games of the match will be to 15 points (cap), and will use the rally-point system. There is no time limit for any game or match. The objective of this format is to provide players approximately 40 minutes of court time (including warm-ups).
2. Starting time of matches/games:
 - A. Players should be at the match site 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time. A match may start earlier than the scheduled time if all grouped players agree and the assigned court is available. Time will be by the clock on the wall.

- B. Postponement or cancellation of matches is determined by the league director.
 - C. There will be no postponement of league matches to permit players to prepare for or participate in tournaments.
3. At the beginning of each match, grouped players will be recorded on the score sheet by the Gym Supervisor.

SCORES

1. Sub Scores

Substitute scores count if the substitute is one of the players listed on the schedule as a Bye/Sub – and the substitute played all 3 games. A substitute's score will not count if the substitute played a partial match (i.e. fills in for an injured player). A substitute's score will not count if the substitute played an assigned match PLUS agreed to substitute in another match.

2. Scoring for an interrupted match

Scoring for interrupted matches due to weather or injury will be as follows:

- A. If the match is **terminated before the start of the third game**, scores should not be recorded.
 - B. If the match is **terminated during the third game**, points for the third game will be assumed to be in the same ratio of the score up to that point. For example, if the score was 9 to 7 at termination, the winning team would get 15 and the losing team would get $7/9$ of 15 = 12 (rounded to the nearest point).
3. Scores must be reported to the Gym Supervisor at the completion of each game. Please provide the Gym Supervisor with the following information:
- Court #
 - Player Names
 - Scores

STANDINGS

1. Match scores will be entered weekly into a standings document that will be posted on the adult pickleball page at www.VBgov.com/Pickleball by 5:00pm each Friday.
2. Percentage Establishment: The standings will be configured for 15 points per game. Playing percentage is based on the number of points scored divided by the number of points possible (45 for a 3-game match of 15 points per game). Percentages are based only on the matches that are actually played.

PLAYER CONDUCT

1. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PROHIBITED BY LAW ON ALL CITY PROPERTY. SMOKING AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IS PROHIBITED INSIDE THE RECREATION CENTER AT ALL TIMES.** The penalty for this violation shall be ejection from the match. Players ejected must serve an automatic suspension from the next scheduled match. The Gym Supervisor is empowered to enforce these rules. Violations will be brought to the attention of the league director for additional disciplinary action.
2. **NO PROFANITY:** The use of profanity by players or spectators is prohibited. Any violation of this rule will result in suspension of the individual(s) involved.

3. All individuals must adhere to the rules and regulations of the facility.
4. Any player(s) ejected from a game by the Gym Supervisor for any reason shall automatically be suspended from the remainder of the games in that match, and from a minimum of the next scheduled match to be played. While serving a suspension, a player cannot substitute. No notice of this suspension shall be necessary. In the event a player deviates from this ruling, it will constitute a forfeit. The player will still be suspended from the next league match to be played.
5. Any player ejected from a game by the Gym Supervisor for fighting will automatically be suspended from the remainder of the games in that match, and from a minimum of the next two scheduled matches to be played. No notice of this suspension shall be necessary. **Note: based on the circumstances surrounding the ejection, this suspension can be as severe as a lifetime ban.** In the event a player deviates from this ruling, it will constitute a forfeit. The player will still be suspended from the next two or more matches to be played.
6. Any player or spectator who is guilty of striking another player, or staff in any manner on City property before, during, or after a match shall automatically be suspended indefinitely from participating in all leagues sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department.
7. The Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to deny an individual from participating in our programs or revoke an individual's privilege to participate in our programs if the player is suspended from participating in any other area recreation department's programs or tournament association's programs for abusive behavior. Furthermore, in the event any individual is suspended from participating in our programs for abusive behavior, a written notice of that suspension will be forwarded to all area recreation departments and tournament associations immediately. This action does not apply to one or two game suspensions but does apply to severe cases where abusive behavior warrants further suspensions.
8. Abuse of any kind (physical, verbal, or otherwise) towards City Employees and/or other players will not be tolerated.

PROTESTS

1. The only protest accepted by the league director is player eligibility. If players are participating illegally, they may be suspended. Suspensions range from player disqualification for the remainder of the season to player ineligibility for one year.

MATCH CANCELLATIONS

1. For information on match cancellations, call the weather cancellation line (385-0455).
2. If the first match is canceled due to facility closure or weather conditions, all matches for that day at that facility are automatically canceled and will be made up at a later date. This also applies if the first match is in progress and is halted.
3. Matches will not be canceled because of threatening weather. If hazardous weather conditions exist, all matches may be canceled in advance for that date. For information, call the weather cancellation line (385-0455).

INSURANCE

1. Players participating in the league should have their own accident insurance coverage. This is your responsibility. The

Parks and Recreation Department does not provide insurance for players.

2. The Parks and Recreation Department will not be liable for injuries sustained by any person or group participating in our program while playing, practicing or traveling to and from matches.

NOTE

Players: please be aware of the bylaws. Ignorance of any rule in the bylaws on the part of the player or spectators will not be tolerated.

The league director will impose penalties and suspensions upon players as necessary to insure the orderly conduct of the leagues, and has the authority to make final decisions on all bylaws, interpretations, and any matters concerning all adult sports.

PLEASE PARK IN AUTHORIZED PARKING AREAS ONLY