

Player Information & Pickleball Etiquette

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CLINICS: David McGinnis davidmcginnis1953@gmail.com (Upcoming Clinics will be posted on the website)

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PICKLEBALL ETIQUETTE:

- Be kind and have fun.
- If you are playing with a newer player, don't target and intimidate them. Work with them and help them improve. WE WERE ALL NEW PLAYERS ONCE!
- Follow the rules for lining up paddles and play your turn. Only when preparing for a tournament should you choose a partner.
- At this time, there are **no reserved courts** at the Y. If you have a group playing together when the courts are empty, that is fine. Once people begin to show up, please allow them to rotate onto your court.
- ALL players need to help clean up the gym and outdoor court area after play is complete. Please put the balls/nets away neatly in the storage closet in the gym, throw away trash, lower the basketball nets/outdoor umbrellas and leave the area ready for the next group to use it. Don't assume another group is coming in to play after you unless you are specifically told.

NEW MEMBERS: If you are new to pickleball and would like to schedule a clinic please contact David McGinnis: davidmcginnis1953@gmail.com 770 789-0751

HOURS OF PLAY: There is a gym calendar on the bulletin board outside the gym. There are times that we need to share the gym with basketball and other Y activities. We will keep you posted on the website or Spond, in addition to on the calendar. Outdoor courts are available during all open hours of the Bell Family YMCA.

DIVISION OF PLAY: The courts are divided by level of players. This makes for a much more enjoyable experience so that you are able to play with same level players on some days. There are also days designated to "play up" in order to challenge your abilities. Times and days are posted on signage behind each court, inside and out. PLEASE use common sense. If there is a large number of one group of players and courts are available on the other side, use them as they are available. (See below)

INSIDE COURTS:

- Nets and balls are located in the gym closet on the right hand side. The key is at the front desk.
- Nets MUST be taken down and stored after the last game is played. Return the key to the front desk.
- Play is divided by level of play:
 - ○ Advanced Players (3.5 and up) Courts: 3,4,5 on M,W,F
 - ○ Recreational Players (Beginners to 3.25) Courts: 1,2,6 on M,W,F
- ○ T, Th, Sat is open play when **lower level** players can move up to challenge themselves **by playing** with higher ranking players. **Higher players STAY ON THEIR COURTS. Lower players wanting to challenge themselves place their paddles on the higher player side in order to mix in with those players.**
- **Please DO NOT mix all level paddles together. The idea is to provide an opportunity for players who feel they are ready to move up to test themselves. Many lower players do not want to play higher players so PLEASE stay on your side.**
- **Again, please use common sense. If a group needs a fourth player and a higher player is asked to fill the spot for that game, go for it. The idea is to not inundate the lower player courts.**
- **By the same token, if you are a lower player playing up and you are consistently losing, you should go back to the other courts and keep practicing.**
- ○ Use common sense - if courts are available on either side and not enough players of that level are there to fill them, please use them for as long as they are available.
- ○ Players line up their paddles on the first row of bleachers (**or fence paddle holders**) on each side. This will determine who is next in line to play. If you pull your paddle because you don't want to play with a certain group you must put your paddle at the end of the line.
- Games are normally played to 11 points, win by 2. The side that loses comes out, and the next 2 players in line come in. The winning team will split and match up with the 2 new players.
- One ball per court/game. Multiple balls on a court create tripping hazards.
- If there are **7 or more paddles in line**, swap all 4 players to allow more people to play.
- If you win 3 games in a row you must come out and then 3 new players will go in.
- **WALKERS in the gym ALWAYS have the right of way. Do not serve another point until the walker(s) have passed. If a walker with a seeing assist cane approaches your court, stop all play, even in the middle of a point, to allow safe passage of a seeing impaired walker.**

OUTSIDE COURTS:

- The gate key is at the front desk. After the last game, the gate **MUST** be locked and the key returned to the front desk. Do not assume that someone may be coming to play after you.
- Outside balls are located in the area behind the front desk. Please return balls after use. The same paddle line up rules apply for outside play as for inside play except there are slots for paddles to be lined up on each fence outside the courts.

Advanced Players (at least 3.5 and up) Courts: 1 & 2

Recreational Players (Beginners to 3.25) Courts: 3 & 4

PICKLEBALL RESOURCES: Pickleball Central: A good place to buy all things Pickleball <https://pickleballcentral.com/> (<https://pickleballcentral.com/>) Learning about Pickleball: Mark Price: <https://www.markpricepickleball.com> (<https://www.markpricepickleball.com>) Selkirk (Paddle Co.): Has good equipment - tips - lessons. www.selkirk.com