



## Adult Mixed Doubles Pickleball League Rules Spring 2020

### ❖ Game Rules

- Games are self-officiated. All games will be played according to the International Federation of Pickleball (IFP) Rulebook.
- [CLICK HERE](#) for the rulebook.

### ❖ Registration and League Format

- Based on registration numbers, the League Director reserves the right to combine, divide and/or cancel divisions.
- Players may only play in one division per season.
- Mixed Doubles teams must consist of one female and one male player.
- Both partners of a doubles team must be individually registered prior to the registration deadline to participate in the League.
- Any players that do not have a partner should register in the "No Partner" section. The League Director will contact individuals if/when another individual is available to play.
- Participant's skill levels are listed with registration and are self-rated.

### ❖ Equipment

- HCRP staff will provide nets and balls for play
- Participants are required to bring their own paddles

### ❖ Schedules

- Schedules will be sent out at least a week prior to the start of season. **No adjustments will be made once the schedule is distributed to teams at the start of the season.**
- Teams may request dates that they're unavailable to play during the season within the registration process. Requests are not guaranteed.
- In the event a team has extenuating circumstances, consideration of reschedule will only be approved if the team notifies the League Director and opponent(s) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled games. Failure to notify will lead to forfeiture of games without reschedule.

### ❖ Game Format

- **Starting Time:** Games will start as scheduled. If a participant has not arrived by the scheduled game time, the Site Supervisor will give them 10 minutes before being forced to forfeit. For every minute a team does not have at least 2 players, the opposing team will be given 1 point. If a team does not have two team members present after 10 minutes, the game results will be listed as a forfeit.
- **Coin Flip:** Teams will flip a coin to determine which team will serve first.
- **Games:** Teams will play best two out of three games to 11 points (win by two points) against their opponents each week. Teams shall switch sides at 6 points (3<sup>rd</sup> game only).
- **Time Cap:** There is a 45-minute time limit on games. Site Supervisor will make a warning announcement when there is 5 minutes remaining in play. As soon as the 45-minute time has expired, the Site Supervisor

will announce clearly to both teams that they will need to complete their point in progress which will then end the game no matter the score.

- **Extra Time:** If teams finish games before the 45-minute time limit, they can use the remaining time for friendly play. Friendly games will not count towards league standings.
- **Time Outs:** Each team will be granted one 60-second timeout per match.
- **Game Scores:** Teams are required to report scores to Site Supervisor before leaving the facility/courts each week.
- **Substitution:** If a player is unable to attend a scheduled game, the team is responsible for finding a substitute player.
  - All substitute players should be of equal skill level and of the same gender as the player unable to attend the game.
  - Substitute players must check-in with the Site Supervisor before the start of the games to complete the one-day waiver.
  - Each partner of the registered doubles team must participate in at least 75% of the regular season games to qualify to play in the end-of-the-season tournament.
  - Substitutes cannot be registered for the same league.
  - No substitutes will be allowed to participate in the tournament.
  - If a team is unable to find a substitute player, the team will forfeit the scheduled game(s). Any team using an ineligible player shall automatically forfeit any game(s) in which the player participated.

#### ❖ End of the Season Tournament

- All registered teams are eligible to participate in the End of the Season Tournament, scheduled for the last day of the season.
- **Standings:** Based on the results (wins, losses, forfeits) of games played throughout the regular season. 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, 0 points for a loss.
  - Tie Breakers (if needed) – Ties in league standings will be broken based on overall record, head to head results, point differential, and then fewest points allowed.
- **Format:** Single or double elimination format will be used for tournament play based on how many teams are registered for the league.
- **Schedule:** Tournament schedule will be sent out after the final games of the regular season are completed.
- **Postponement/Cancellation:** The League Director reserves the right to postpone or cancel the End of the Season Tournament due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances. If the tournament is canceled, the winners of the league will be based on the standings of the regular season games.

#### ❖ Inclement Weather and Cancellations

- In the event of inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances the League Director reserves the right to cancel or reschedule games.
- Canceled games will be rescheduled at the discretion of the League Director.
- Delayed “sliding schedule” game starts are not possible.
- The inclement weather line will be updated at least one hour prior to the start of games.

**League Director:** Amanda Bartell; [abartell@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:abartell@howardcountymd.gov) or 410-313-1694

**Information:** [www.howardcountymd.gov/pickleball](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/pickleball)

**Inclement Weather Line:** 410-313-4451; Option 1 for Instructional Sports and then Option 5 for Pickleball Programs.