

HYDE PARK PICKLEBALL MANUAL

Pickleball Leadership:

The 2025 Hyde Park Pickleball committee is
Pearl Garrison: osageprairie10@hotmail.com
Kellie McCann: kelliedph@sbcglobal.net
David Swain: shoebank2@gmail.com

Contents

1. Mission and Purpose
2. Hyde Park Pickleball Committee
3. Orientation to Pickleball at Hyde Park
4. Guidelines of Play
5. Open Play
6. Private Play
7. Pickleball Etiquette

1. Mission and Purpose

The mission of the Hyde Park Pickleball Committee is to allow all residents equal opportunity to enjoy this great, fun, and social resource our community has and to build a framework for play and use of the facility into the future.

Hyde Park developers included indoor and outdoor pickleball courts as part of their global vision for the resident Clubhouse. This foresight meets the goal of providing a social sport for residents of all levels of ability to enjoy.

The pickleball courts have become one of the most utilized part of the Clubhouse on a regular basis. There are about 25-30 "regular" resident players using the courts, as of February 2025.

In accordance with growth and increasing demand for the courts, the Hyde Park Homeowners Association Board of Directors formed a Hyde Park Pickleball Committee in October 2021. This annually appointed Committee reports directly to the HOA Board and has responsibility for the oversight of the pickleball facility.

The guidelines contained in this Pickleball Manual are approved by the HOA Board. Per the HOA Covenants Article III, Section 3, Part D: "Each Owner shall have a right and easement of use and enjoyment in and to the Common Area which shall be appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to each Lot, subject to the right of the Homeowners Association to suspend the Owner's right to use of the facilities for the Owner's infraction of the Homeowners Association's published rules and regulations".

2. HP Pickleball Committee

The Committee is responsible for providing guidelines regarding play and operational issues for the pickleball facility with the primary goal of enjoyment and equitability for all residents.

The Committee is comprised of regular Hyde Park pickleball players appointed by the Homeowners Association Board of Directors, in consultation with the current Pickleball Committee, that have an enthusiasm to serve their resident community. The Hyde Park Pickleball Committee is appointed annually by the Board of Directors after the HOA Annual Meeting. Terms are one year.

Residents wishing to serve on the Committee should submit their name and desire to serve to any Committee member. The Pickleball Committee will submit nominations for the next Committee to the Board for approval.

The Committee meets at least once per quarter and provides regular updates as needed to the HOA Board. The Committee meetings are open to all residents.

Committee members are generally of varying play levels and both genders.

Residents should feel free to contact any Committee member for issues regarding Pickleball at Hyde Park.

Email is the preferred method of contact for tracking concerns or issues that may need the Committee's attention.

Pearl Garrison: osageprairie10@hotmail.com

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David Swain: shoebank2@gmail.com

3. Orientation to Pickleball at Hyde Park

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country. It is a sport that can provide continuing enjoyment and a social network for players of all abilities and mobility levels. Hyde Park has many regular players/neighbors of all abilities who will gladly introduce resident newcomers to the exciting sport of pickleball.

Should a resident not be sure who to contact, feel free to contact any Pickleball Committee member for orientation in the right way to pickleball at Hyde Park.

Hyde Park has a long-standing pickleball website where you can find great information on the sport along with some helpful links on the game and private court reservations. This manual is posted on the Pickleball Calendar webpage. The website links are in the Monday Morning Memo.

4. Guidelines of Play

The Hyde Park Homeowners Association Board of Directors welcomes residents at all levels of play to enjoy the outdoor and enclosed, climate-controlled pickleball courts. The following guidance should be followed as a condition of use.

1. Good sportsmanship must be observed at all times. Resolution of any disputes will be made by the Pickleball Committee.
2. The building and courts are open 24/7.
3. A resident code is required to open the indoor court door. The code may not be shared with non-residents. The outdoor court gate code is 8450.
4. Residents should not “prop” the exterior Clubhouse door open.
5. Residents are required to escort any guests into the building and remain with all of them.
6. Heat and AC units should be adjusted as makes sense, lights turned off, and door locked upon departure.
7. Pickleball is the only activity allowed on the courts unless a variance is approved by the HOA Board.
8. Appropriate shoes are required. To prevent damage to the floor, shoes worn on the street are not allowed on the courts. Only non-marking shoes are permitted. No black-soled shoes are allowed.
9. No GUM, alcoholic beverages, food, or glass are permitted.
10. Pets are not allowed.
11. No resident may earn income using the courts per HOA policy.
12. The guidelines contained in this Pickleball Manual are approved by the HOA Board. Per the HOA Covenants Article III, Section 3, Part D: “Each Owner shall have a right and easement of use and enjoyment in and to the Common Area which shall be appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to each Lot, subject to the right of the Homeowners Association to suspend the Owner’s right to use of the facilities for the Owner’s infraction of the Homeowners Association’s published rules and regulations”.

5. Open Play

1. Open play times and rules are set by the Committee and may change based on resident feedback.
2. Open play times are listed in the Monday Morning Memo and can be found on the Pickleball tab of the Hyde Park calendar of events.
3. A link to the pickleball reservation site is in the MMM.
4. Residents may bring 2 guests per household to open play provided there are no more than 10 residents already playing. This allows resident play to be a priority.
5. There is no limit to the number of residents allowed during Open Play.
6. Open play is generally for all skill levels and available several days each week. There are also "Easy" Play session for Open Play which allow for residents to play less aggressive and less intense games.
7. Open Play is available all day on New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.
8. There may be Pickleball Committee sponsored events from time to time.
9. Games go to 11 points, win by 2, using traditional pickleball scoring. If there are more than 12 total players, games should be shortened to 8 points so everyone can play without excessive waiting.
10. When finishing a game, if others are waiting to play, all 4 players are to leave their court and put their paddles in rotation if they wish to continue play.
11. The PB Committee, in conjunction with resident player input, will determine which balls will be used for Open Play. Balls will be changed based on playability. Players will be asked to donate money when it's time to replace balls.

6. Private Play

RESIDENTS:

1. Private play is intended and encouraged for residents and their family members. Family members are to be accompanied by the residents.
2. Courts must be reserved in advance and may not overlap Open Play times. Even last-minute play is reserved.
3. Each resident household may have up to 2 active reservations at a time. Once a reservation is used, the resident can immediately book another reservation if there are no more than 2 upcoming reservations at a time on the calendar for that household.
4. There are no Private Play reservations allowed on New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving nor Christmas. This allows all residents Open Play on those days.
5. Reservations shall be left on the online calendar after the fact to allow tracing should there be contact needs.
6. Reservations are limited to 2 hours per day. Play time may be extended if no one is waiting for a court. (Check pickleball calendar for last-minute reservations.)
7. A reservation is considered cancelled if players do not appear within 10 minutes of the set time.
8. Players may use any pickleball during private play and return all balls to their original configuration upon departure.

GUESTS:

1. Non-family guests are allowed on a limited basis for private play.
2. Each residential household may have up to 4 non-resident, non-family guests per reservation up to 1 time per calendar week.
3. Residents are responsible for their guests.

7. Pickleball Etiquette

1. Good sportsmanship is the rule. Yes, you love the game, but it is only a game. Respect all players.
2. Begin each game by acknowledging the other players and introducing yourself if you don't know them. If you do know them, use whatever is appropriate to let them know that you know they are there and are saying "hey."
3. If the ball is "out" and it's on your side, call it out. If it's close, give the benefit of the doubt to your opponent. This is hard to do when the game is close but do it anyway.
 - A. Only make line calls on your side of the pickleball court and always strive for accuracy.
 - B. Only call "out" balls when space is clearly visible between the line and where the pickleball lands.
 - C. Call "out" balls promptly.
 - D. Use voice and / or hand signals to call "out" balls.
 - E. Give the benefit of doubt to your opponents.
 - F. If you and your partner disagree, the ball is "in".
 - G. Spectators should not make any line calls.
 - H. Do not question opponents' line calls. You may ask the opponent's partner to verify the call.
 - I. You may ask your opponents to make a line call on your side of the net (but you give up your right to make the call and, if your opponents cannot make the call, the call will be "in").
 - J. An "out" call prior to the pickleball bouncing will be deemed partner communication and not a line call.
 - K. You may overrule a line call that is to your disadvantage (and in favor of your opponents) at any time.
4. If you step into the kitchen on a volley, or if your partner does, call it. Be very cautious about calling kitchen or serving faults on others. (Most of us are at an age where our vision is questionable.)
5. Sometimes spectators comment on the plays. While this is normal and fun, ask them not to if their comments are loud, disruptive, argumentative, hostile or combative.
6. The following is not something that needs to be enforced, but it falls under the realm of basic pickleball etiquette:

Lower-level players don't necessarily like playing with advanced players

as they get beat up. And advanced players don't like playing with lower-level players because they don't get challenging play. Both points of view are valid. Unfortunately, at some point the advanced players simply refuse to play with "lesser" players. During open play, this behavior is discouraged. Why? Because we are a group of many skill levels. Refusing to play at all with "lesser" skilled players slows learning.

As you know, one of the best ways for people to learn is to play with better players. (Remember when you started out?) Yes, advanced players have the right to expect competitive games during same-skill-level periods but do not necessarily have the right to refuse to play when there are open-play, mixed skill-level periods. (Recommendation: use our Reserve-Court program.)

Think about it... if every experienced player plays at least one game with a lesser skilled player, that less experienced player would have had several competitive games and hopefully increased his or her learning curve.

7. If you agree to helping improve less experienced players with a game or two, here are some tips:

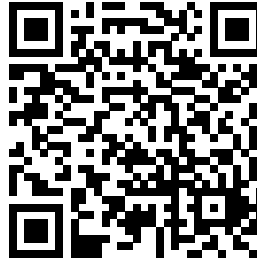
If you are playing against a team where there is a significantly stronger player, play against the stronger player—you may learn something. If you are the strongest player of the foursome, play to the weakest players in a way they can handle the shot and learn. (Sometimes you can even ask people what they are working on — e.g. drop shots, lobs, etc. If they tell you, hit shots they can use to work on those shots.) Good sportsmanship includes (for maybe just a couple of games) splitting up your foursome and inviting others to join you for a game.

8. At the end of each game, find something positive to say to the other team at the net. "Nice game" isn't always appropriate if despite your efforts at sportsmanship you have won 11-0. Find something encouraging to say -- at least, "Thanks for playing with us!" is nice. But never leave a game without acknowledging the other team.
9. Don't take advantage of a person's physical limitations when you play them socially. If someone can't go back for a lob when they're at the line because of physical limitations, for instance, why lob over their heads? You won't learn anything by doing it, you're not proving anything, and you certainly will not be respected for it.
10. While playing on the courts, play under control so that you are not running onto the other courts playing the ball. Stop! You don't want to run into the players on the other court. Control is needed also when trying to return a ball near the wall. Please don't use the wall to help stop your momentum — it is damaging to the wall.

11. NEVER yell at, swear at, or say a hostile or sarcastic word to any player. Abusive language will not be tolerated on or around the courts.
12. Remember, during the open play session we are trying to get members to mix up so that the various level of players can mix in and hopefully get a better understanding of what it takes to move up in skill level. All players like to improve. It bears repeating — the better, more experienced players should occasionally make themselves available to play with or against the less experienced players. Remember, we are all in the same group.
13. If you want to bring a foursome to play, it would be best to reserve a court for the four of you in the afternoon time slot.
14. If you are near your partner with an overhead slam opportunity where you may hit him or her, stop playing. Let the ball drop. Lose the point. Do NOT hit your partner. Stay conscious of where your partner is.
15. If you hit a ball into another court, immediately yell “Ball on Court!” If a ball is going towards another court, do not chase it onto the other court. Stop, yell “Ball on Court”, and let the other people stop play and retrieve the ball. No point is worth tripping over a ball and hurting yourself or other players.
16. Don’t overplay your current physical condition. (“Just one more game” has caused way too many accidents!)
17. Hydrate. This means “drink water.” Drink BEFORE you are thirsty, otherwise dehydration starts to set in.
18. Stretch before and after playing. We know ... we all say we do it, but do you?
19. If you see someone who displays signs of dizziness, weakness, or lack of concentration, keep an eye on him or her. Recommend a time-out if you think it is necessary.

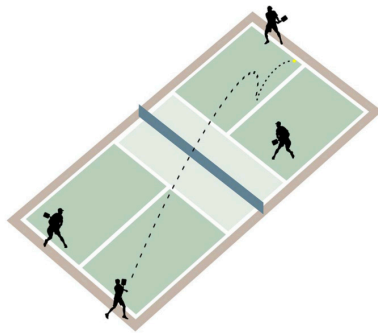
This link will download the 2025 Official Rulebook

<https://usapickleball.org/docs/2025-USA-Pickleball-Rulebook.pdf>



How to play Pickleball

<https://usapickleball.org/what-is-pickleball/official-rules/rules-summary/>



Printable Pickleball Rules

<https://usapickleball.org/docs/USA-Pickleball-Rules-Summary.pdf>

Basic Rules Summary

Basic Rules Summary

Rev. 9/2025

The following is an abbreviated form of the rules to give a quick overview of how the game is played. A complete copy of the official rules can be found on the USA Pickleball website at usapickleball.org. If there is a conflict between this summary and the official rules, the official rules prevail.

Basic Rules Overview

- Pickleball is played either as doubles (two players per team) or singles; doubles is most common.
- The same size playing area and rules are used for both singles and doubles.

The Serve

- The server's arm must be moving in an upward arc when the ball is struck.
- Double bumps with the ball must not be made above the waist level.
- The head of the paddle must not be above the highest point of the wrist in contact with the ball.
- A single bump is also permitted in which the head of the paddle is in contact with the ball.

As subsequent points are scored, the server continues switching back and forth until a fault is committed and the first server loses the serve. When the first server loses the serve the partner then serves from their correct side of the court (except for the first service sequence of the game).

The second server continues serving until his team commits a fault and loses the serve to the opposing team.

Once the service goes to the opposition (at 10:00 ball), the first serve is from the right-hand court and then players on that team alternate courts every 20 serves and every player must serve before anyone else serves.

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