

Pickleball Rules

Tournament Structure

- Preliminary matches followed by single elimination tournaments.
- One day event.
- Divisions
 - Women's Singles
 - Women's Doubles
 - Men's Singles
 - Men's Doubles
 - Coed Doubles
 - Faculty/ Staff
- Location: All matches will be played at the Sarkeys Fitness Center.

Pickleball Information

- All participants must provide a valid OUID (with picture) prior to each contest.
 - No OU ID = No Play

The Game

- 1) Each match is best of three games.
- 2) The first person to 11 points, while winning by 2, wins the game.
- 3) Points can only be scored while serving.
- 4) There are no time outs during the course of a game.
- 5) Teams are responsible for keeping score.
- 6) Any dispute during the game must be resolved between the two teams within 30 seconds Failure to resolve issues will result in an automatic forfeit by both teams (OU Intramural Sports Staff judgment).
- 7) Any participant ejected from a game (including pre and post game) is automatically removed from the tournament.
- 8) Players must keep one foot behind the back line when serving.
- 9) The serve is made underhand. The paddle must pass below the waist.
- 10) The server must hit the ball in the air on the serve.
- 11) The ball may not be bounced and then hit.
- 12) The service is made diagonally cross court and must clear the non-volley zone.
- 13) Only one serve attempt is allowed, except if the ball touches the net on the serve and lands in the proper service court. Then the serve may be retaken.
- 14) Each side must play its first shot off the bounce.
- 15) The receiving team must let the serve bounce, and the serving team must let the return of the serve bounce before playing it.
- 16) From that point forward, the ball can be either volleyed or played off the bounce.
- 17) If the fault is made by the receiving team, a point is scored by the serving team.

Doubles Modifications

- 1) While the serving team wins a point, its players will switch courts and the same player will continue to serve.
- 2) When the serving team makes its first fault, players will stay in the same court and the second partner will then serve.
- 3) When they make their second fault they will stay in the same courts and turn the ball over to the other team. Players switch courts only after scoring.

Faculty/ Staff Modifications

- 1) Faculty and Staff teams must consist of at least one male, and one female.

For rules not specifically mentioned above refer to International Federation of Pickleball Official Rules.