

Abbotsford Pickleball Association Orientation

Safety, Expectations, Etiquette, General Rules

Abbotsford Pickleball Association strives to provide a welcoming, respectful, safe and sportsman like environment. Fair play and sportsmanship are key in providing success and enjoyment in Pickleball.

To aid APA to achieve the smooth running of pickleball at the AgRec centre, we request that you follow the guidelines provided.

Safety

- wear proper court shoes, non slip, non marking
- eye protection is highly recommended
- do not back up on the court, turn and move sideways
- do not run into an adjacent active court when playing your ball
- **Call Ball!** and stop play immediately if a ball strays onto your court. Replay the rally after returning the ball
- return ball by determining who's it is and do so by means other than smacking it with your paddle
- if your ball strays into another court do not run into the court to retrieve it. Alert the other player(s) and wait for them to return to you
- do not hinder other players by being too close to the side / base lines when not playing
- When your game is finished, leave promptly. Do not run through the back of an active court - wait until play has stopped, let the players know you are exiting (safety and etiquette)
- keep well hydrated. Rest, do not become over tired

Etiquette

- introduce yourself to other others before play if you are not familiar with them. Acknowledge those that you do. If you are new to the game, inform the other players
- in non competitive games more advanced players should be willing to play with newer players when the situation arises. Do not attempt to over power them, use this opportunity to practice your shots and placements

- do not “hog” the courts, rotate so that others waiting can play. Mix it up when appropriate
- be courteous to each other, no foul language, aggressive comments or behaviour. Give positive feedback and encouragement
- avoid giving unsolicited coaching. If someone asks for your help do so keeping in mind the flow of the game, perhaps wait until the game is finished
- follow the directions given by the host of your session. Remember that they are a volunteer helping the flow of the session run as smoothly as possible

Rules

Note: some rules may be included in etiquette

- all pickleball play is to follow the rules as set forth in the official PCO / USPA Pickleball Rule Book. The following rules are pertinent to the smooth flow of play:
- always call the score before serving. Ensure the receiver is ready before serving
- you do line calls on **your side of the court and not the other side**
- make line calls to the best of your ability. If you did not see where the ball bounced on your side of the court (in or out) then it is considered **in**
- you may ask the opposition to help with a line call but their decision is final
- if you are aware that you or your partner has committed a foul (fault), call it (rule and etiquette)
- in non officiated recreational play non volley zone faults may be called by any player on either team. The call should be accepted according to PB rule 9.G.A. (Remember the game is for fun)
- when a ball lands out of bounds call OUT! loudly and signal by raising your arm up

AgRec Expectations

- arrive on time for your session. Make sure host knows you are present
- **follow Player Etiquette**
- do not arrive in your court shoes, change upon arrival in the lobby area. This helps keep the floor clean and slip free
- learn where the equipment is stored, how to correctly set up the nets, learn the court set up procedures

- help with set up / take down. Keep area safe - clean up spills, etc. Place bags, bottles, towels away from the playing area
- report any damages, equipment failure, possible unsafe conditions to the host