

# Campbell River Pickleball Association



## Play Etiquette & Safety

### Court Etiquette

- At the beginning of the game introduce yourself if you are not familiar with your partner or opponents. At the end of the game thank your opponents and your partner for the game.
- Be ready to go onto the court when it is your turn. Do not play past your scheduled time when another group is waiting.
- Don't cross the court behind a match until the play has stopped. Once play has stopped, vacate the area quickly.
- The Server must call out the score before every serve to ensure all players know the score and are ready to play.
- Refrain from calling the score if you are not the server. If the Server is unsure, he/she may seek confirmation of the score from the other players.
- If the ball lands on or close to the out line, the receiving team has the final say on calling the ball IN or OUT. The serving team may not question the call. In social play if uncertain, it should be called as IN, giving the benefit of the doubt to your opponent. If the receiving team partners disagree on a line call, the benefit of the doubt goes to the opponent. Spectators must refrain from making line calls and players should neither solicit nor accept unsolicited line calls from spectators.
- During open play with mixed skill levels, be gracious and play with everyone, without complaints. If you are playing with weaker players work on shots that they can return and learn from. Refusing to play with a less experienced players is considered unsportsmanlike.
- Unsolicited coaching on the courts is not to be done. If someone asks for your input, you may offer advice and coaching only once the game is over and you are off the court. This is necessary so as to not detract from the flow of the game and/or distract your opponents. However, if all four players are agreeable and there aren't others waiting to play, brief coaching comments are allowed.
- Be honest and call a foot fault if on a volley shot either you or your partner lands in the non-volley zone NVZ (aka kitchen).

- Refer to the “Pickleball Skill Levels” chart (available on Pickleball BC website at <https://www.pickleballbc.ca/ratings.html>) to assess your skill level. This will help you in determining the appropriate group to play with and is also required if entering tournaments.

## Court Safety

- To avoid slip & fall injuries and to protect the court surface, wear proper court shoes.
- Never run backwards on the court.
- If the ball gets away from you do NOT chase it through other active courts. Shout BALL ON to ensure the other players are aware that a ball might be underfoot. Wait for them to return the ball to you. Raise your paddle so they know where to return the ball.
- STOP play immediately if a wayward ball comes onto your court. Shout BALL ON to alert everyone and wait for the ball to be safely returned before replaying your rally.
- Be aware of where your partner is. If you are near your partner with an overhead slam opportunity where you may potentially hit your partner, do not take the shot. It is better to lose the point than to risk hitting your partner.
- For the health and well-being of all players, you must follow all health directives from the BC Health Officer as well as all rules set out by the management of the facility at which you are playing. Stay home if you are ill and potentially contagious.

## Dispute Resolution

If complaints come forward to the CRPA Directors regarding inappropriate behavior, actions or language, the following procedures will be followed:

- The President of the club will appoint two individuals, who are not close friends of the parties involved, to investigate the complaint and create an action plan that is restorative in nature and directly deals with the parties involved.
- If resolution is not possible, the offense(s) will be examined by the whole board of directors and may result in a written reprimand, suspension or cancelation of membership from the CRPA.
- The Board of Directors may use the policy guidelines developed by the BC Pickleball Association for direction in dealing with a complaint.

Refer to

[https://www.pickleballbc.ca/uploads/2/3/2/5/23255642/pbc\\_discipline\\_and\\_complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.pickleballbc.ca/uploads/2/3/2/5/23255642/pbc_discipline_and_complaints_policy.pdf)