

# Delta Pickleball Assoc.



## Mission Statement

To grow the game of Pickleball across Delta for all ages, levels and abilities by creating and cultivating an inclusive respectful environment that promotes safety, health, social interaction, good sportsmanship and fun by providing the following:

- a playing schedule which provides fun competitive and recreational opportunities for players of all abilities
- continuing skill and mentoring programs to enhance organized recreational and competitive play
- a positive working relationship with the City of Delta as we seek to promote, organize play and maintain the public outdoor pickleball courts in Ladner, North Delta and Tsawwassen

## Etiquette

Fair play and sportsmanship are keys to success and enjoyment in any sport. To ensure safety and smooth sailing on the Pickleball courts, Delta Pickleball Club requests the following from those who play

1. Bring your own pickleballs each time you play. **Stay home if you have any of the symptoms of COVID-19 or are feeling unwell.**
2. \* Acknowledge your opponents at the beginning of the game. If you are playing unfamiliar players, introduce yourself. At the end of the game thank your opponents for the game.
3. If you hit a ball towards another court, loudly say "Ball on Court". Everyone should immediately stop play, to ensure no one trips on the ball. Return the ball to the correct court and re-play the point
4. Call out the score loudly before each and every serve to ensure all know the score and are ready to play.

5. 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”. Do not question the call. In social play if you are uncertain of the call, call it “In”, giving the benefit of the doubt to your opponent. If you disagree with your partner on a line call – the benefit of the doubt goes to your opponent. If both you and your partner are unsure about the call, ask your opponents’ especially if they had a better view. Never ask for, or accept, line calls from spectators.
6. During Open Play, (Mixed Skill Levels) play with everyone, no complaints. If a stronger player is on the court with you, hit to them and often. If you are playing with weaker players, work on shots they can return and learn from.
7. During Advanced Level of Play (3.75+) ensure that you are qualified to play by using the “Pickleball Skill Levels” chart which is on our website and is also posted. If you are still unsure, check with one of the directors of Delta Pickleball.
8. Call yourself if you or your partner land in the kitchen on a volley.
9. **Unsolicited coaching on the courts is not to be done.** If someone asks for your input, offer a tip or two after your game once you are off the court, so as not to detract from the flow of the game and/or distract your opponents. If however coaching is agreeable to all 4 players, keep comments brief especially if the courts are busy.
- 10.\* Be ready to go onto the court when it is your turn. Do not play past your scheduled time when another group is waiting. However, when another group is waiting and you're almost finished, they should wait until your game is over before entering the court.
11. Always exhibit good sportsmanship when playing or observing others. Refusing to play with a less experienced player is considered unsportsmanlike.
12. Don’t use the lob shot with players with limited mobility. Running backwards for a lob shot can be a serious safety risk
13. Be aware of where your partner is. If you are near your partner with an overhead slam opportunity where you may hit them, stop playing. Let the ball drop. Lose the point. Do NOT hit your partner.
14. Don’t cross the court behind a match until the play has stopped. When that happens move quickly

# Code of Conduct

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure a safe and positive environment by making members aware that there are appropriate behaviors that are expected from Delta Pickleball members at all times. These behaviors are consistent with our core values which include respect, fairness, integrity, honesty, transparency and safety.

**Every Delta Pickleball member pledge as follows:**

- 1. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct or encourage others to do so.***
- 2. I will not engage in any behavior that would endanger the health, safety or wellbeing of others.***
- 3. I will not engage in the use of profanity or harassment***
- 4. I will treat others with respect.***
- 5. I will exhibit fairness and honesty in my dealings with others.***
- 6. I will not engage in public criticism of other players or umpires***
- 7. I will not use or exploit Delta Pickleball members for business purposes or financial gain***

If complaints come forward to the Delta Pickleball Assoc. directors regarding inappropriate behavior, actions and language, the following procedures will be followed:

- The President of the club and one other director will create an action plan that is restorative in nature and directly deals with the parties involved. If resolution is not possible, the offense(s) may result in a written reprimand, suspension or cancellation of membership from the Delta Pickleball Assoc. by its Board of Directors.
- \* The board of Directors may use the policy guidelines developed by Pickleball BC for direction in dealing with a complaint.

[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)

## Definitions

- **Harassment** - Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as any behaviour or actions, visual material, unwelcome remarks, jokes, comments, innuendoes, written or verbal threats and/or any conduct directed towards an individual or group that undermines self-esteem, diminishes performance, and are offensive, abusive, racist, degrading, defamatory or malicious. This also includes any unwelcome sexual advances
- **Respect** - This involves consistently treating individuals fairly, equitably and reasonably. Demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, age, ancestry, colour, race, citizenship, ethnic origin, place of origin, creed, disability, family status, marital status, gender identity, gender expression, sex, and sexual orientation.