

OROMOCTO AND AREA PICKLEBALL CLUB (OAPC)

FAIR PLAY AND SPORTSMANSHIP

A big part of having fun, whether playing socially or competitively, is fair play and good sportsmanship. Here are some guidelines:

Do:	Don't:
Introduce yourself to players you don't know and welcome new players.	Don't forget the fun and social side of pickleball.
Be respectful of all skill levels and abilities.	Don't talk down, criticize or yell at other players.
Support your partner, show respect for their skills and acknowledge effort.	Don't swear nor use offensive language or negative non-verbal gestures.
Play fairly and honestly, accepting wins and losses gracefully. Control your mood.	Don't throw your paddle or hit the ball too hard out of frustration or anger.
As a stronger player in social play, be willing to play with people who aren't as skilled as you.	Don't "slam" the ball at or hit the ball excessively to your weakest opponents.
As a new or less experienced player in social play, stay positive and be prepared for the learning curve. Challenge yourself to play with better players and improve.	Don't get discouraged. Don't hesitate to ask for help.
When playing opponents where there is a stronger player, play to both players. Hit shots to the lower skilled player that will help improve their skills.	Don't hit ALL the balls at the lower skilled player and 'freeze out' the stronger player.
During competitive play, welcome all players who wish to challenge themselves. Be prepared for a faster-paced game with harder shots.	Don't adjust paddles or suggest to a player that they should move to the social side.
If you are playing with someone who needs extra assistance, accommodate them in any way you can. Play to their strengths. Help with keeping score and rules, retrieving balls, etc.	Don't take advantage of a person's physical limitations. Don't focus on their weaknesses (e.g., if a person is physically unable to go back for a lob, don't hit it).
Call lines and faults honestly, giving the benefit of the doubt to the opponent when unsure.	Don't ignore the honour system for line calls and faults.
At the end of your game, thank your partner and opponents. Find something positive to say, even if it's just "thank you for the game".	Don't insult, argue or storm off the court at the end of the game.
Tread lightly when giving advice. Provide coaching only when requested. Keep it brief and positive.	Don't offer too much feedback unless asked. Don't overwhelm new players.
As a spectator, show your appreciation for well-played rallies. Be respectful with comments.	Don't distract the players on the courts or make disparaging comments.