

July 2026

Upcoming Events

- **National Pickleball Day**
 - August 8
- **Season Closing Tournament and Windup Party - SAVE THE DATES**
 - September 19 Tournament
 - September 26 Dinner/Dance

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Newsletter Contributions

Calling All Founding Members!

Were you one of the founding members of our club? We'd love to share your story! Your memories and contributions are an important part of our club's history, and we'd love to celebrate them with our members. Please send an email to our Communications Director, Jacqui Bayne, at [Communications](#)

- Tell us a little bit about yourself
- How you helped start our club
- A photo (optional)

Have an idea for the newsletter?

We're always looking for ways to make our newsletter even better. If there's something you'd like to see included, or if you think we're missing something, please let us know. We welcome your suggestions and feedback!

A Familiar Face

We're happy to welcome Nathan back to EPC for the summer! While some of the regular staff are enjoying well-deserved vacations, Nathan will be helping cover shifts throughout the season. If you see Nathan around the facility, be sure to say hello and welcome him back!

Equipment For Sale

From time to time, EPC has equipment and supplies that are no longer needed. We will be giving our members the first opportunity to purchase items that may include portable nets, water jugs, chairs, tarps, tape measures and other equipment.

Keep an eye on our message board for upcoming items—you may find something that's perfect for your pickleball setup!

EPC's Sanctioned Tournament

A big thank you to the volunteers who helped make our July 11 tournament a success!

The day started with perfect weather before a storm brought hail, high winds, and flooded courts. Thanks to an incredible volunteer effort with squeegees, play resumed after a two-hour delay, making this the first fully outdoor pickleball tournament completed in the Edmonton region this year.

We received fantastic feedback from players and referees, who appreciated the well-run event and welcoming atmosphere.

Thank you to our sponsors—Pickleball Superstore, FreshCo, and Rock On Athletic Balm—for their generous support, and to EPC, the Board, and our members for making this tournament possible.

Congratulations to all 67 participants and our gold medal winners:

- **Women's Doubles (3.499 & under):**
Christie Belok-Bunn & Chirihane Chidiac
- **Men's Doubles (3.999 & under):** Terry
O'Neill & Marc Driessen
- **Men's Doubles (4.0 & above):**
Lynden Beauchamp & Kodi Gudmundson
- **Mixed Doubles (3.499 & under):**
Janet Elliot & Doug Ewing
- **Mixed Doubles (3.5 & over):** Carrie
Seymour & Minh Tang

Congratulations to all participants, and thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a success.



Keep in touch! We'd love to hear from you! Find more information at edmontonpickleballclub.org or contact us at info@edmontonpickleballclub.org or join our chat community at <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FvyRrMNQhIHKqZW02wvnbO>.

2026 Rule Changes at a Glance

- **Rally scoring “freeze” removed:**
For rally scoring only, either team can now score the winning point.
Previously, only the serving team could score the final point (“the freeze”). This does **not** affect traditional side-out scoring.
- **Stricter legal serve requirements:**
A volley serve must **clearly** meet all three requirements:
 - Paddle moves in an upward arc.
 - Paddle head is below the wrist at contact.
 - Ball is contacted below the waist.
- In officiated matches, borderline serves are more likely to be called faults.
- **Spin on the serve clarified:**
Players still cannot use their fingers or hand to impart spin to the ball before striking it. Spin created by the paddle after contact remains legal.
- **Sportsmanship and conduct:**
Referees now have clearer authority to issue warnings or technical fouls before a match begins, including during the warm-up and pre-match briefing.

- **Outside assistance:**

Players are no longer permitted to consult spectators about line calls or other officiating decisions during a match.

Summary: For most outdoor club players who use traditional side-out scoring, the practical takeaways are:

- Scoring won't change.
- Pay extra attention to making your volley serve **clearly** legal.
- Expect a stronger emphasis on sportsmanship and respectful conduct.

Tip of the Month

Keep your eye on the ball even in the Sun!

Bright sunshine can make it easy to lose track of the ball, especially on high lobs or serves. Wearing a hat with a brim and sunglasses designed for sports can help reduce glare and improve visibility. Position yourself so the sun is at your side whenever possible, and remember to call "sun!" if you lose the ball to avoid collisions with your partner.



Code of Conduct

EPC has rules, policies and procedures that aim to make the club a better place to play. We may not all agree at times, but the volunteer Board is in place as a broad representation of the membership and makes decisions on the operation of the club accordingly. As outlined in our Code of Conduct, communication with staff, volunteers, and Board members is to be respectful and professional. We welcome constructive suggestions for consideration, and we also welcome members to put their names forward for future Board positions. Respect and camaraderie goes a long way in achieving our common goal.

Round Robin Update

We've introduced new Round Robin sheets! They feature a larger font for easier reading and an improved rotation format to help keep play running smoothly. We've also posted two copies of the sheets—one on the outside of the court and one on the inside. This makes it easier to check the schedule, reduces crowding, and gives players more space while waiting for the next round. We hope these changes make your Round Robin experience even more enjoyable!

Court Safety

As the weather gets warmer, please help keep everyone safe and comfortable by following these reminders:

 **Stay Sun Safe:** Wear a hat, stay hydrated, and apply sunscreen.

 **Sunscreen & Bug Repellent:** Please do not apply sunscreen or insect repellent on the courts or on the boardwalk. Apply before arriving or in the parking lot to help keep playing surfaces safe and clean.

First Aid & Emergency Equipment: The First Aid Kit, AED, and SMHeart Card are located in the green bin for emergency use.

Ice Packs are Available: When staff are on site, they will be stored in a cooler bag inside the green bin.

 **Protect Your Eyes:** As the saying goes, "It's all fun and games until someone loses an eye." Pickleballs and paddles can cause serious eye injuries. Protective eyewear is highly recommended for all players.

National Pickleball Day - Saturday, August 8, 2026

There will be a fun play format throughout the day, with plenty of opportunity to play, meet other players, and celebrate the sport we all love. Enjoy snacks, prizes and a great day of pickleball. Whether you're a seasoned player or just looking for fun, mark your calendars and celebrate with us!

Keep in touch! We'd love to hear from you! Find more information at edmontonpickleballclub.org or contact us at info@edmontonpickleballclub.org or join our chat community at <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FvyRrMNQhIHKqZW02wvnbO>.