

## Code of Conduct

The aim of the club is to provide an environment where all players can play the game to the best of their ability and most importantly 'have fun' whilst doing so.

Our goal is to promote the growth and development of pickleball. The sport will succeed best if players embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Lead by example, display respect, and show self-control.

All members, and visitors, agree to conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner, on the courts or when observing others playing while awaiting your turn to play.

The Code below applies in all situations that relate directly or indirectly to club sessions and to every person involved in pickleball at Perth Pickleball Club (participant, official, volunteer, or spectator).

- **Do not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct or encourage others to do so**
- **Do not engage in any behaviour, or a style of play, which would endanger the health safety or well-being of others**
- **Do not engage in the use of profanity**
- **Treat the facility, staff, equipment, and others with respect**
- **Exhibit fairness and honesty in your dealings with others**
- **Observe the Golden Rule of doing unto others as I would have them do unto me**

Failure to abide by this Code may result in disciplinary action having to be taken by the Club.

**Always remember that pickleball is a game. At club sessions, play to have FUN.**

### Court Etiquette

Please help set up the courts for play and help take them down, if required.

Everyone was (or is) a beginner at one time and playing with people that are better than you or that are just learning will help all players, at all skill levels and will keep the sport of Pickleball growing.

Everyone appreciates the time given to 'assist' all levels of players with rules, set up, specific plays etc. If you are an 'advanced' player, please adjust your style when playing with, or against, beginners – you can work on your short game, ball placement, etc.

Offer advice and mentor beginners, encourage them to help improve their skills. Advice should only be given to an experienced player if they indicate they would like your guidance on strategy, positioning, shots etc.

Do not intimidate or target weaker players, partners or opponents if their skill level is lower than yours or their partner just to dominate and win a game. Save that style of play for tournaments and competitions. At club sessions play to have fun or play competitively if players are evenly matched.

Recognise and compliment your partner and opponents when they make good shots. Apologise for bad or inappropriate remarks immediately.

All members have a role to play in encouraging players to assume responsibility for their personal safety and the safety of others.

## How we play

The Club shall adopt the rules of The International Federation of Pickleball (IFP) – The IFP Rating and Rules.

We are a recreational club but we endeavour to play by the rules of the game. However, the sport of pickleball encourages fair play and good sportsmanship.

Call out the score every time you serve so that your opponents can hear the score. Call out your score first, then the opponents score and, finally, if you are the first server or the second server eg 5-3-2.

The first server at the start of a game is 'start' and therefore the first score called on the first serve is 0-0-start.

When your ball rolls onto a neighbouring court, do not chase the ball. Call 'ball' immediately you realise your stray ball is about to roll onto another court. No point is worth tripping over a ball and hurting yourself or other players. When retrieving a stray ball, it is best not to walk onto a neighbouring court – wait until play stops.

When a ball rolls onto your court, stop play immediately. Pick the ball up, look to see where it came from and return it as suggested above. Return the ball on the outside of your court – not through neighbouring courts unless all play has stopped. Make eye contact with the person that you are returning the ball to, then roll or throw the ball directly to them. When returning a ball to your opponent(s), ensure they are ready to receive the ball and that the ball is returned directly to them, to prevent the ball rolling on to another court and disrupting a game.

Be aware of your opponent's skill level and play at a level that will not compromise their safety.

Running backwards to get a ball is discouraged. Instead, turning then running or arranging for the doubles partner to retrieve those shots is preferable.

Ball retrieval close to a fence, railing, wall etc. is discouraged to avoid injury.

Hydration and fatigue avoidance is encouraged for your safety.

## Equipment

Good equipment ensures both enjoyment of the game and personal safety.

Players should wear court shoes that have a sole designed for the particular playing surface (indoor /outdoor).

Shoe bottoms should be cleaned of debris before playing.

Safety approved eyewear is recommended to avoid risk of injury and help protect a player's eyes from the newer hard-hitting paddles and ball return rallies by more competitive players. Players are urged to select durable lens material (polycarbonate lenses).

## Social Media

### WhatsApp

WhatsApp is used to communicate times and venues of play and to collate numbers each week. We will send reminders of sessions and will ask for a thumbs up if you wish to play. This allows us to organise the session for the numbers attending. Please add the day of the session if it is otherwise not clear and please let us know if you are bringing along any other players eg thumbs up-Fri +2.

### Facebook

The Facebook page is a public space that anyone can "like", "comment" and follow for updates, whether they are members of our club or not. Its purpose is to create public awareness for the club, rather than club-only communications.

However, you may message through the Facebook page if you have any comment or suggestions for the management committee.

## Photography

From time to time we would like to take some photographs, videos, etc to post on social media for the purpose of promoting the Club.

We will always ask permission of those present at these times before filming. If you do not wish to be filmed, please feel free to say.

No photography will be allowed, unless authorised by prior consent from the individual players.

We will not permit photographs, video or other images of young people to be taken without consent. If the child is under the age of 18, consent must be obtained from a parent/carer. The Club will take all steps to ensure these images are used solely for the purposes for which they are intended. If you become aware that these images are being used inappropriately, please inform us immediately.

If somebody is in violation of this code, please advise a member of the committee.

The Club will continue to attract new members and offer drop-in play for guests and visitors. Let us work together to make sure this is a safe, fun place for participants to play.

Aim to enjoy each session. No game or point is that critical to ruin your day or lose a friend. In summary, be a positive minded player. This is your Club. Support it and strive to make it better.

I have read the above and agree to abide by the Club's Code of Conduct

Name (print)

Signature

Date