

City of Chandler Adult Sports: Pickleball League Rules

- I. GENERAL. The following rules apply to all City of Chandler Pickleball Leagues unless otherwise specified. All City of Chandler leagues will follow current USA Pickleball (USAP) rules other than those noted in our Adult Sports Rulebook.
- II. MATCH PROCESS. To begin a match, the visiting team chooses to serve, receive, or end (visiting team will be marked on the league schedule). Each lineup of doubles teams will play three games to 11 (win by 2), or first to 15.
- III. MATCH SCORING. Matches are 55 minutes. No new rallies will start after 55 minutes except for a tie. Team who earns next point wins that game. Two team points are awarded for each game won by a doubles team. If the losing team scores 6 or more points in a game, they are awarded 1 team point. No team points are awarded for a score of 5 points or less. Whichever team earns the most team points in all the games played in a match, will be the winner of the match and will be awarded a win in their standings.
- IV. BREAKS. A break of one minute is allowed between games.
- V. TIME OUTS. A single one-minute time out is allowed per game per team. Water breaks are not meant to be time-outs and should be limited to 10 seconds with no talking. Bathroom breaks should be taken between matches. One medical time-out is allowed per player per match, limited to 5 minutes.
- VI. SUBSTITUTIONS - If a player is unable to play their regularly scheduled match (whether due to an emergency, previously scheduled commitment, etc.), they are allowed to call a substitute from their established roster. If unable to find a sub, the score will be recorded as a forfeit, and the team will be penalized in accordance with the forfeit rule. (See forfeit rules)
- VII. PLAYOFF RULES - Seeding for playoffs will be determined by the total wins throughout the regular season. If there is a tie for total wins, points earned will decide seeding. Playoffs will follow the regular season. Scoring format will follow the regular season format.
- VIII. FORFEIT RULE - A 15-minute default rule is in effect. The clock will start at match time. Time is kept by the site supervisor. A forfeit is officially charged when a player and/or team is 16 minutes late to the court. In a round-robin style doubles match, an absence without prior notification to the league coordinator is a forfeit. The team that was unable to play will receive zero (0) points and the opposing team will receive six points (two for each game) and a win for the match. If both teams are unable to play the match or are not on the court within 15 minutes of the scheduled match time, a double forfeit will occur, and 0 points

will be awarded to both teams. Both teams will be penalized in accordance with the forfeit rule.

- IX. RETIRING RULE - If one or more players are unable to finish the game due to injury or emergency, the team retiring will get credit for any points won and the remaining team will get 2 points for the remaining game. If a team retires, it will not be considered a forfeit. A player on the established roster is allowed to substitute, if they are onsite at time of retirement. Once player has retired from a match, they can't return for the remainder of the night's scheduled leagues.
- X. LEAGUE PLAY: LEVEL PROGRESSION AND REGRESSION - Advancement by "domination": If the total points scored by a team are 95%+ at the end of the league, the team will automatically advance to the next division. Substitutes and forfeits are not calculated towards a team "domination". However, the team must have played at least 80% of the matches to qualify. Advancement to the next level of league play must occur after the third league win within a 12-month period. Teams below the required 50% obtainable points will be placed on watch. However, any team at 40% or below obtainable points will automatically regress one level of play. If the team has been put on watch for two leagues/two seasons, the team will automatically regress one division.
- XI. MISCELLANEOUS –
 - a. Balls will be provided by the league coordinator. No altered paddles allowed.
 - b. Line calls are made by players on the side of the ball.
 - c. No outside coaching, feedback, or line calling.
 - d. If a dispute occurs and can't be resolved by players, the site supervisor will determine how play will resume.
 - e. Cancellations due to inclement weather will be made up at the end of the season, which will push back league play for one week.
 - f. Alcoholic beverages of any nature are prohibited at Tumbleweed Pickleball facility. This includes the courts, in the pavilions, and parking lot. Violation may result in criminal prosecution.
 - g. Play must be continuous. Please be courteous. Only league participants will be allowed on court during matches. Guests are not permitted on the court during matches but are encouraged to view from the seating area.
 - h. Smoking is not permitted inside the facility.
 - i. League champions will receive an award at the end of league play.