Pickleball waiver

Participation in pickleball

I voluntarily choose to play, or give permission for the player named in this form to play, pickleball at or through **[Pickleball Facility Name]**.

Pickleball activities may include:

- Open play, drop-in sessions and court rentals
- Lessons, clinics, drills and ball machine sessions
- Leagues, ladders, round robins, tournaments and social events
- Warming up, cooling down and using shared courts, walkways and spectator areas

I understand that participation is voluntary and that the player may stop at any time.

The facility may refuse, restrict or end participation if it reasonably believes that a player cannot play safely, has failed to follow instructions or presents a risk to themselves or others.

Bookings, memberships and fees remain subject to the facility's cancellation and refund policies.

Player eligibility

I confirm that the player meets the facility's minimum age and participation requirements.

Where I sign for a minor or another person who cannot legally provide their own consent, I confirm that I am their parent, legal guardian or otherwise legally authorised to provide consent on their behalf.

I confirm that the player is physically and mentally capable of the quick starts, stops, lunges and reaching that pickleball involves, except for any condition or limitation disclosed to the facility before participation.

I understand that pickleball can be more strenuous than it appears, and that the player should choose a level and pace of play that suits them.

Pickleball risks

I understand that pickleball involves quick changes of direction, hard-hit balls and players working close together at the net.

I understand that injuries may happen at any level of play and even when the rules are followed.

Possible risks include:

- Trips and falls on the court, including backward falls when moving back for a lob

- Wrist, hip, shoulder, head and facial injuries from a fall
- Rolled ankles, torn or ruptured Achilles tendons and calf strains
- Knee and lower back injuries
- Elbow, shoulder and wrist overuse injuries
- Being struck in the eye, face or body by a ball, including a ball from an adjacent court
- Being struck by a paddle swung by a partner or opponent
- Collisions with a partner, opponent, net post, fence, bench or wall
- Heat illness, dehydration or a cardiac event during exertion
- Serious injury, permanent disability or, in rare cases, death

I understand that the facility cannot eliminate every risk associated with pickleball.

I voluntarily accept the ordinary and inherent risks of participation.

Kitchen line, net play and court awareness

I understand that fast exchanges at the non-volley zone line, known as the kitchen line, place players within a short distance of one another, with little time to react.

I understand that a ball struck at close range may hit a player’s eye or face, that partners may collide when moving for the same ball, and that players may fall or stumble into the net when reaching forward.

I agree to:

- Call out and agree which partner is taking a middle ball
- Avoid running backward at speed for a lob where a safer turn and run is possible
- Stop play and call out when a stray ball or a person enters the court
- Wait until a point on an adjacent court has finished before crossing behind it or collecting a ball
- Keep my paddle under control and avoid deliberately aiming at a player’s head or face

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Open play and shared courts

I understand that open play and drop-in sessions often mix players of different ages, abilities and playing styles, and that a staff member may not be supervising each court.

I understand that players in open play are responsible for choosing a suitable court and game, and that they may ask to change court or sit out at any time.

I understand that other players' actions can cause injury and that the facility does not control every shot or movement.

I agree to respect the facility's paddle rotation, court booking and court etiquette rules, and to warn others about any hazard that I notice.

Eye protection, footwear and equipment

The facility recommends that every player wears protective eyewear suitable for paddle sports. Everyday glasses and sunglasses may not provide the same protection.

If I choose not to wear eye protection when it is recommended, I understand that this may increase the risk of serious eye injury. The facility may require eye protection for certain players or events.

I agree to wear court shoes with good lateral support, and I understand that running shoes and worn or unsuitable footwear can increase the risk of slips and rolled ankles.

I will check my paddle for loose grips or damage. I will use only approved balls and equipment and will not use the facility's ball machines or nets unless I have been shown how.

Courts and environment

I understand that court surfaces may become slippery from moisture, dust, sweat or leaves, and that indoor and outdoor surfaces may differ in grip.

Outdoor play may involve heat, sun and glare, wind, rain, uneven surfaces or fading light.

I will inspect my court before playing, keep it clear of loose balls, water bottles and bags, and stop play and tell staff about any wet patch, damage or other hazard.

Spectators must remain in the areas provided, and children must stay with a responsible adult and off the courts unless they are playing.

I accept that the facility may close courts or stop play because of weather or surface conditions.

Player conduct

I accept responsibility for my conduct during participation.

I agree to:

- Warm up before playing and stop if I feel pain, dizziness or chest discomfort
- Follow the instructions of coaches, supervisors and staff
- Stay hydrated and take breaks as needed

- Treat other players, staff and guests with respect

I may be charged for damage caused deliberately or through misuse.

I understand that a serious breach of the rules or aggressive behaviour may result in removal without a refund.

Physical condition and health

I agree to inform the facility about any condition that may affect safe participation, including:

- A current injury or physical limitation
- Ankle, Achilles, knee, hip or back problems
- Shoulder, elbow or wrist problems
- Heart, circulation or blood-pressure conditions
- Osteoporosis or a history of fractures
- Dizziness, fainting, seizures or loss of consciousness
- Limited vision, a previous eye injury or balance difficulties
- Asthma or breathing difficulties
- Recent surgery or medical treatment
- Pregnancy or possible pregnancy
- Medication that thins the blood or affects coordination, judgment or alertness
- A restriction recommended by a healthcare professional

I understand that staff are not medical professionals unless expressly stated otherwise.

I will stop and inform a staff member if I experience pain, dizziness, breathing difficulty, unusual weakness or another concerning symptom.

Alcohol, drugs and impairment

I will not participate while impaired by:

- Alcohol
- Recreational or illegal drugs
- Medication that affects judgment, coordination or alertness
- Fatigue, illness or another condition that makes participation unsafe

I understand that the facility may refuse or end participation if it reasonably believes that a player is impaired.

Personal belongings

I understand that clothing and personal belongings may become dirty, wet, damaged, lost or stolen.

I am responsible for protecting phones, jewellery, glasses, clothing and other personal property.

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the facility is not responsible for ordinary loss or damage to personal belongings unless caused by liability that cannot legally be excluded.

Emergency assistance

If the player becomes ill or injured, I authorise the facility and its staff to:

- Provide reasonable first aid
- Stop the player from continuing
- Contact an emergency contact
- Contact emergency medical services
- Arrange transportation to an appropriate healthcare facility
- Share relevant information with emergency responders
- Take reasonable action to protect the player’s immediate safety

I understand that the facility cannot guarantee that an emergency contact will be reached before assistance is provided.

I accept responsibility for medical, ambulance and treatment expenses unless applicable law or legally established liability requires otherwise.

Assumption of risk

I knowingly and voluntarily accept the ordinary and inherent risks associated with pickleball.

I accept responsibility for injuries, losses or complications caused or materially contributed to by:

- Relevant information I concealed or provided inaccurately
- A health condition or limitation I failed to disclose
- My failure to follow court rules or staff instructions
- My decision not to wear recommended eye protection

- My unsuitable footwear or equipment
- My reckless, unlawful or prohibited conduct
- My participation while impaired or medically unfit

Liability release

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, I release **[Pickleball Facility Name]** and its owners, directors, coaches, instructors, court supervisors, league organisers, employees, contractors and representatives from claims arising solely from:

- Ordinary and inherent pickleball risks knowingly accepted in this form
- Relevant information I concealed or provided inaccurately
- My failure to follow reasonable safety rules or instructions
- My decision not to wear recommended eye protection or suitable footwear
- My reckless, unlawful or prohibited conduct
- The conduct of another player where it was outside the facility's reasonable control

This release does not exclude or limit liability that cannot legally be excluded or limited.

It does not apply to fraud, intentional misconduct, gross negligence, reckless conduct, breaches of mandatory safeguarding duties, violations of mandatory consumer rights or any other liability that applicable law prohibits the facility from waiving.

Privacy and recordkeeping

I understand that the facility may collect and retain information where reasonably necessary to:

- Register and identify players
- Confirm consent and eligibility
- Manage bookings and activities
- Understand relevant health or support needs
- Maintain safety and incident records
- Respond to injuries, complaints or legal claims
- Meet insurance, safeguarding and legal obligations

Information will be handled according to the facility's privacy notice and applicable data-protection laws.

Final declaration

By completing and signing this form, I confirm that:

- I have read and understood the entire waiver.
- The information provided is complete and accurate.
- I understand that pickleball may cause injury, including serious injury.
- I understand that the facility recommends eye protection.
- I understand and accept the ordinary and inherent risks.
- I agree to follow all court rules and staff instructions.
- I will wear suitable court footwear.
- I will not participate while impaired or medically unfit.
- I authorise reasonable emergency assistance where necessary.
- I had an opportunity to ask questions before signing.
- Participation is voluntary.
- I understand that this form does not remove rights or protections that cannot legally be waived.

Player completion

Contact details

First name *

Last name *

Phone

Email *

How you will play *

- [ ] Open play or drop-in
- [ ] Lessons or clinics
- [ ] League or ladder
- [ ] Tournament
- [ ] Private court rental

Experience level

- ◯ New to pickleball
- ◯ Beginner
- ◯ Intermediate
- ◯ Advanced

- [ ] I have read, understood and agree to the Pickleball Liability Waiver and Assumption of Risk above. I confirm that the information provided is accurate, that I am authorised to sign for the player where applicable and that I voluntarily accept the risks of pickleball. *

Signature *