

WELCOME TO PICKLEBALL AT THE ELLEN GIBBS MATSON PICKLEBALL COURTS AT LAKESIDE COUNTRY CLUB

Our two pickleball courts are now open for member play each day from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.. Time slots for 1 ½ hours of play are available. Please sign up at the Pro Shop or call (315) 536-7252 to schedule your time slot.

- **Please sign in at the Pro Shop prior to play.**
- **Clean court shoes or tennis shoes (non-black soled) are required for your safety and to protect the court surface.**
- **Rackets are available for rent at the Pro Shop, balls must be purchased (if not providing own equipment).**

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

(USAPA website for more detail and videos - <https://www.usapa.org/rules-summary/>)

- **Rules** – Game is played either as doubles (4 people) or singles (2 people) using the whole court.
- **Serving the ball** – Standing behind the baseline of the right side of the court, the serve must be made underhand to the opposite corner with the hand remaining below the waist. NOTE: At the beginning of each new game only one partner on the serving team has the opportunity to serve before faulting, after which the service passes to the receiving team. From there on, each partner has an opportunity to serve before faulting to the other team. As each point is scored, the server switches to the other side of their court.
- **How to return a serve** - Each team must play the first shot off of a “bounce” which is why this is called the 2 bounce rule. After the ball has bounced once on each side, both teams can either volley the ball in the air or play it off the bounce. To volley a ball means to hit it in the air without letting the ball bounce.
- **A Fault** - A fault is committed when the ball: touches any part of the non-volley zone on the serve (including the line), is hit out of bounds, does not clear the net, is volleyed from the non-volley zone, is volleyed before a bounce has occurred on each side, or if there is a failure to return a serve or a volley.
- **Keeping score** - Points are scored only by the team that is currently serving. Games are normally played to 11 points, but your team must win by 2 points (so the final actual scores may be higher). Tournament games may be to 15 or 21, but also must be won by 2. A “fault” by the receiving team results in the serving team receiving a point, and a team fault by the second server results in losing the serve to the other team.
- **Line calls** - A ball contacting any line, except the non-volley zone line on a serve, is considered “in.” A serve contacting the non-volley zone line is short and a fault.
- **The “kitchen” rules** – The kitchen is the 7-foot green space “non-volley” space on either side of the net. A player may legally step in the non-volley zone but not when volleying a ball. Players cannot step inside the kitchen or on the kitchen line to volley a ball back to the other side before it bounces. Once the ball bounces in the kitchen, this rule does not apply and it can be hit and returned. You can reach into the kitchen “air-space” to volley the ball, however it is a fault if the player steps in the non-volley zone, including on the line, and if after volleying, a player is carried by momentum into or touches the non-volley zone, even if the volleyed ball is declared dead before this happens. It’s a unique part of the game!
(<https://pickleballkitchen.com/pickleball-rules-what-is-the-kitchen-rule/>)

THE MOST IMPORTANT RULE: HAVE FUN!!!!

Pickle primer

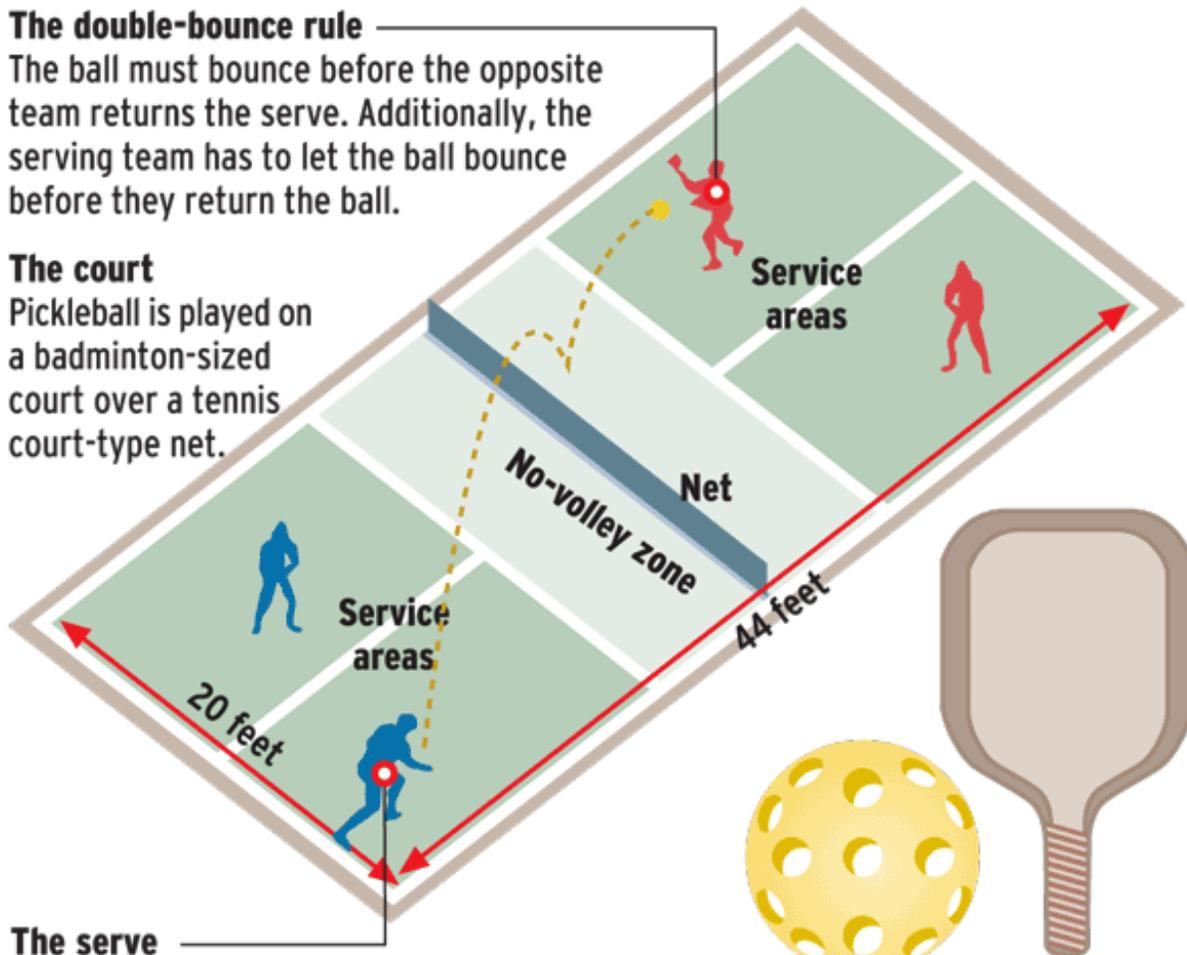
Created in Washington state in 1965, pickleball was named after the pet dog of one of its originators, who used to take the ball and run off with it when it was hit near him. Pickleball borrows from badminton in its rules and playing field:

The double-bounce rule

The ball must bounce before the opposite team returns the serve. Additionally, the serving team has to let the ball bounce before they return the ball.

The court

Pickleball is played on a badminton-sized court over a tennis court-type net.



Server must stand behind the line to serve before moving forward.

The serve

Serves in pickleball are underhanded and must contact the ball below the player's waist. Serves have to land in the diagonally opposite court from the server.

Scoring

Only the serving team can score points. Points are earned by serving a ball that the opposing team does not touch, or if the opposing team faults during play. The game is played to 11 points; however, a team has to win by two points.

The equipment

Pickleball is played with a wiffle ball and a solid paddle, usually 8 inches wide and 15 inches long.

Faulting

Faulting occurs when the ball is hit out of bounds, if the ball doesn't clear the net, if a ball is returned by a player inside the no-volley zone or if the double-bounce rule is violated.

Source: USA Pickleball Association

Brian Moore / The Register