

SINGAPORE PICKLEBALL OPEN 2024

RULES & REGULATIONS



1. Rules

- 1.1 The tournament shall be governed in accordance with the General Rules and Regulations of the Singapore Pickleball Open 2024 set out herein, the SPA Sanctioned Tournament Structure and Tournament Participant's Code of Ethics (*Appendix A*).
- 1.1 Tournament is open to Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and Valid Pass Holders only, excluding Short Term Visit Pass.
- 1.2 Unless otherwise stated, we shall be adopting the latest edition of the USA Pickleball Official Rulebook.
- 1.3 Scoring system shall follow the SPA Rally Scoring System. Players may refer to *Appendix B* for Rally Scoring Rules.
- 1.4 We shall be using USA Pickleball approved **Franklin X-26 (Lime Green)** for this tournament.
- 1.5 Any queries can be sent to info@singaporepickleball.com.sg.

2. Event Details

Venues	¹ Bedok View Secondary School, ¹ Chongfu School, ¹ Clementi Sport Hall ² Riverside Secondary School Note - Tournament venue is a multi-purposed sports hall with multiple court lines, Non-Volley Lines shall be marked with removable vinyl court tapes. ¹ Timber Flooring ² Vinyl Carpetted Flooring
Dates	20, 21, 27, 28 April 2024
Time	8 am to 10 pm
Registration Open/Closing	11 March 2024 / 25 March 2024; or when specific divisions are filled, whichever is earlier.
Registration Fee	Per Player Per Division
Subscription to SPA Individual Membership can be found on the SPA Website. Note that processing is at least one (1) week.	\$40 (Member) and \$50 (Non-Member) Fee includes one complimentary event T-shirt per person only for the entire tournament, regardless of number of divisions registered. T-shirt size shall be subjected to stock availability.
Skill Level	Open. No restriction in Skill Level.
Participant Briefing	Briefing Slides will be sent out by 9 April 2024.

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3. Tournament Venue(s)

Venue	Address
Bedok View Secondary School	6 Bedok South Ave 3 Singapore 469293
Chongfu School	170 Yishun Ave 6 Singapore 768959
Riverside Secondary School	3 Woodlands St 81 Singapore 738524
Clementi Sport Hall	518 Clementi Ave 3, Singapore

4. Division Details

There is a total of 14 divisions, played over the tournament dates, at one or more of the stated tournament venues. Their respective maximum capacities are detailed in the table below, on a first-come-first-served basis. There shall be no waiting list. Depending on the final registration numbers and court schedule, Organiser may at their own discretion adjust the participation capacities.

Division Capacity					
Age Group	Men's Doubles	Women's Doubles	Mixed Doubles	Men's Singles	Women's Singles
Open	32 pairs	16 pairs	20 pairs	16 players	16 players
35+	32 pairs	16 pairs	20 pairs	16 players	12 players
50+	16 pairs	12 pairs	32 pairs	12 players	NA

Division Acronym					
Age Group	Men's Doubles	Women's Doubles	Mixed Doubles	Men's Singles	Women's Singles
Open	OMD	OWD	OXD	OMS	OWS
35+	35MD	35WD	35XD	35MS	35WS
50+	5MD	5WD	5XD	5MS	

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5. Age Grouping

Age Groups (based on year of birth)	Open	13 years of age and above
	35+	35 years of age and above
	50+	50 years of age and above

6. Tournament Format

- 6.1 Round 1 shall be Group Play in Round Robin format; and Round 2 onwards, shall be Single Elimination format.
- 6.2 Round Robin Groups shall be arranged by chance draws. The Tournament Committee reserves the rights to move players according to skill level.
- 6.3 The number of singles/doubles per Round Robin Group shall be min 3, max 5.
- 6.4 If a Division has 4 or less entries, the Division shall be withdrawn and the participants shall receive a full refund.
- 6.5 For all Divisions, only the top 2 performers in the individual Round Robin groups shall proceed to play Single Eliminations in Round 2. All other players in the group shall be eliminated.
- 6.6 The Organisers and Tournament Committee shall have the right to modify the Divisions and Match Format.
- 6.7 The first player/team to reach the stated points below shall be the winner,

Matches	Number of Games per Match	Rally Scoring
Group Play Round Robin	1	21 points with deuce at 20-20. After which win by 2 consecutive points. Maximum point shall be 30 points.
Elimination Round	Best of 3	15 points with deuce at 14-14. After which win by 2 consecutive points. Maximum point shall be 21 points.

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- 6.8 In the Group Play, all players/teams shall play each other in Round Robin format. Group Winners are determined based on the number of matches won. If two or more teams are tied, ties shall be resolved by comparing won/loss differential in the following order,
- 1st Tie Breaker – Comparing Overall Match Differential (where applicable)
 - 2nd Tie Breaker – Comparing Overall Game Differential
 - 3rd Tie Breaker – Comparing Overall Point Differential
 - 4th Tie Breaker – Winner of the Head to Head Match
- 6.9 Only Semi-finals and Medal Matches shall be Officiated. Therefore, all other matches shall be Non-Officiated, and Players shall track and call their own scores in accordance to the guidelines spelt out in the Official Rulebook.
- 6.10 Losers of the Semifinals shall share the Bronze Medal. Only winners of the Semifinals shall play the Championship match.
- 6.11 The Tournament Committee may at their sole discretion assign or add officials to officiate any match. This can be done before the match commences and during the match.

7. Prize Money and Medals

Medals (Gold, Silver & Bronze) and Prize Money shall be awarded for all the Divisions listed.

8. Supplementary Rules

- 8.1 The tier level for this Tournament shall be Tier 3.
- 8.2 The skill level for this Tournament shall be **Open**,
- 8.3 There is no restriction on the number of divisions an individual can register. However,
- 8.3.1 Where Divisions are available under Open and 50+ age groups, participants may only register for one of the Divisions, e.g. though a senior player is eligible for to play in both Open Men's Doubles and 50+ Men's Doubles, he must decide which division to register, and may only register for one.
- 8.3.2 It is the onus of the participant to check for schedule clashes.

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- 8.4 For registration of doubles events, please note that details of both players are required. Player details required are,
- 8.4.1 Full name
 - 8.4.2 Date of Birth
 - 8.4.3 Gender
 - 8.4.4 Valid Email Address
 - 8.4.5 Contact Number
 - 8.4.6 Unisex T-shirt size
 - 8.4.7 Mailing Address (of main registrant only, for mailing of the T-shirt)
- 8.5 Incomplete registrations shall be rejected immediately and the slots reopened for registration.
- 8.6 There shall be no transfer of registrations across divisions. Therefore substitution for Singles shall not be allowed.
- 8.7 Substitution of up to one (1) player in Doubles shall only be allowed for medical or compassionate reasons only. If both players need to be replaced, it shall be deemed a withdrawal and the slot will be reopened for registration.
- 8.8 After the Participants' Brief is published, there shall be no more changes to the players. Singles/Doubles affected for whatever reason shall have to withdraw.
- 8.9 Falsified registrations shall be immediately deemed incomplete even if registration fees are paid. There shall be no refund and the slot shall be reopened for public registration again.
- 8.10 Participants requesting refunds shall write in to info@singaporepickleball.com.sg. Note that should a refund be done, there shall be an administrative and bank charges amounting to \$10.50 deducted.
- 8.11 Players may use any USA Pickleball approved paddle that are posted on the USA Pickleball website. Players are to note that non-approved or irregular paddles shall be subjected to compliance checks and non-compliant or irregular paddles shall not be allowed.
- 8.12 Apparels and/or clothing (shirt and shorts) of similar colour to ball shall not be allowed.
- 8.13 Late Reporting:
- 8.13.1 10 mins - 1st Game Forfeit of Multiple Game Match / Match Forfeit for Single Game Match.
 - 8.13.2 15 mins - Match forfeit for Multiple Game Match.

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- 8.14 The Organisers and Tournament Committee reserves the right to amend the rules and regulations or schedule the fixtures of the tournament as deemed fit. Participants shall be informed before the competition, and such decisions shall be final.
- 8.15 Any protest shall be made in writing accompanied by a protest fee of \$150.00 and must be lodged in person to the Organisers.
- 8.16 The Prize Presentation Ceremony shall be held with the conclusion of each Division. All prize winners or nominated personnel must be present in neat attire (no singlet, slippers and sandals) to receive the prize. Failing which, the Organisers reserves the right not to award the medal, prize money (if any) and trophy to the winner.
- 8.17 All media or photographs taken in the Tournament by the Organisers will belong to the Singapore Pickleball and may be used for general publicity for the further promotion of the sport.
- 8.18 Marketing Consent - all registrants shall note that their contact details as listed with the tournament registration may be shared with Event Sponsors, and they may be contacted by means of post, voice calls and/or electronic transmission via email/messaging app, sms/mms.

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Appendix A

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANT'S CODE OF ETHICS

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Pickleball was created to be a fun, competitive, and highly social sport. It embodies an ethic of good sportsmanship that includes respect, fair play, and graciousness in winning and losing. We hope all players in Singapore will help promote these foundational values and maintain a positive environment for all.
- 1.2 Ethics refers to the generally accepted norms of right or wrong behaviour, often based on universal values. Ethics is not about legality nor is it meant to be legalistic.
- 1.3 Athletes during Tournament, due to the strong pressure to win, and exposure to the public, are potentially vulnerable to various forms of ethical issues and concerns.
- 1.4 In order to maintain fair and reasonable standards of conduct by participants and players, to protect their respective rights, the rights of the public and the integrity and image of sport and that of pickleball, the Singapore Pickle-Ball Association has drawn up the Code of Ethics set out herein.

2 RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUAL

- 2.1 Treat and respect everyone equally, regardless of race, language, religion, culture, gender or physical ability.
- 2.2 Shall not use objectionable language directed at another person.
- 2.3 Shall not use profanities of any sort (audible or visible) for any reason.
- 2.4 Shall not argue aggressively with the officiating team, opponents, or spectators that disrupts in the flow of play.
- 2.5 Shall not make taunts, threats, or challenges of any nature toward or against any person.
- 2.6 Shall not use ethnic, religious, racial, sexist or homophobic slurs.

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3 INTEGRITY IN ACTIONS AND SPORTSMANSHIP

- 3.1 Protects the image of Pickleball and Sports in general, such as avoiding making a scene in public view.
- 3.2 Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others.
- 3.3 Not disrupt the flow of play, e.g. taking time between rallies unnecessarily, repeatedly appealing line calls, challenging the referee's interpretation of a rule to lose the challenge subsequently, requesting for medical time out without a valid medical condition, etc.
- 3.4 Not abuse the ball, purposely breaking or stepping on the ball.
- 3.5 Shall not portray unsportsmanlike behaviour, such as making repeated questionable "OUT" calls that, upon appeal, are overruled by the Officiating Team.
- 3.6 Always exhibiting "Best Effort", that not deliberately playing down, defaulting, forfeiting or not giving best effort in matches, whether for their own benefit or otherwise.

4 SAFETY

- 4.1 Consider the safety of other participants, spectators and general public in the same venue space.
- 4.2 Shall not aggressively or recklessly throw a paddle, or striking a ball in frustration or anger, with negligent disregard of the consequences.
- 4.3 Shall not strike any other person, damage or vandalise venue property and fixtures.
- 4.4 Shall not get into fights, or cause injury to player, official or spectator at any time during the tournament.
- 4.5 Shall not spit or cough on a person.

5 PROHIBITIONS

- 5.1 Consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly not allowed in the venue.

6 SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND CIVIC-MINDEDNESS

- 6.1 Dispose waste in proper manner and keep the tournament venue clean.
- 6.2 Shall not damage or vandalise venue property and fixtures.



Appendix B

SPA RALLY SCORING SYSTEM

Introduction

In Rally Scoring, points are awarded for every rally. The side that wins the rally, scores a point as well as the right to serve. The first side that reaches the game point wins the game. Each side shall have only one serve before Side Out.

In any game of Doubles, after Side Outs, when serve is won back after a rally for any side, the server will be alternated from their previous server.

There shall be only ONE time out of 60 seconds per side, per game.

Before the Game

- Chance Draw to determine side to serve/choose ends.
- In Doubles, both sides Starting Server and Starting Receiver shall wear the Starting Server ID

Singles

- As long as the side holds serve, after scoring each point the server will alternate serving from the right/even and left/odd sides of the court.
- If the side's score is even (0, 2, 4 ...), the serve must be made from the right/even serving area and be received in the right/even service court by the opponent.
- If the side's score is odd (1, 3, 5 ...), the serve must be made from the left/odd serving area and be received in the left/odd service court by the opponent.
- When the receiving side wins a rally, a point is scored and the serve is passed to them. The subsequent serve is then made from the service court with reference to the score.
- The side to reach the game point first wins the game.

Doubles

- As long as the side holds serve, after scoring each point the server will alternate serving from the right/even and left/odd sides of the court. There is no restriction on the position of the partners of the correct server and receiver as long as they are on their respective team's side of the net. They can be positioned on or off the court.
- If the side's score is even (0, 2, 4 ...), the serve must be made from the right/even serving area and be received in the right/even service court by the opponent.
- If the side's score is odd (1, 3, 5 ...), the serve must be made from the left/odd serving area and be received in the left/odd service court by the opponent.

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- When the receiving side wins a rally, a point is scored and the serve is passed to them. In Doubles, the receiving side never change their service courts.
 - The side to reach the game point first wins the game.