

El Segundo Pickleball League Rules – Updated December 2025 Premier, 4.5, and Men’s Doubles Leagues

Welcome to the El Segundo Pickleball League. The league is here to provide fun, friendly competition on a weekly basis during the season. Good Sportsmanship is essential at all times in order to keep the spirit of the game alive.

League Fees:

The league fees are based on the number of weeks played, division format and may vary between divisions. The fee is due in full at registration or the established deadline.

League Format:

- Round robin, doubles format
- Dependent on the size of the division teams will either play 2 or 3 teams weekly, 6 games total
- Results will be available online
- Games have 2-hour court block time
- All games are tracked and count towards standings and seeding into playoffs

Primary Divisions:

- MD 3.5+ = Advanced Intermediate 3.75-4.0
- MD 4.0 = Advanced 4.0 – 4.49
- 4.5 = Advanced + 4.4 – 4.8
- Premier = Expert 4.8 and above

Roster Requirements:

- Players must be 18 years of age and above
- A player may only roster on one team in Premier, 4.5 and MD divisions
- Players skill levels must be within the range of the division
- Teams have a minimum/maximum number of rostered players allowed for these leagues
 - Min 2 players / max 5 - recommend a roster of at least 3

Team Paperwork:

- Roster changes are allowed through the end of week 4.
- No roster changes week 5 and beyond
- Players must be listed on the team roster in order to play
- Non-rostered players games will be counted as a forfeit

- Weekly games – captains will enter their team lineup online 30 min prior
- Scorecards will be printed once lineups have been entered

Rules & Regulations:

- Games to 11, win by 1.
- If playing 3 games against a team
 - Game 1 home serves, away selects side
 - Game 2 away team serves, home selects side
 - Game 3 home team serves, away selects side and switch at 6
- If playing 2 games against a team
 - Game 1 – home team serves, away selects side
 - Game 2 – away team serves, home selects side
- No official time outs except medical.
- Players may not delay games for strategy discussions – keep games moving

Incorrect server/receiver –

- If players are not in the right position, correct when discovered and continue the game.
- Foot Faults MD 3.5+ / MD 4.0 –
 - Serves – don't call minor foot faults – just give a heads up – UNLESS flagrant
 - Kitchen Line – any player on the court can call a foot fault at the kitchen. The offender, their teammate or the opposition.
 - If the offender doesn't agree it was a foot fault – then a replay is done
 - DO NOT CONTINUALLY DELAY GAMES WITH FOOT FAULT CALLS – we have a 2-hour time limit for play
- This is a non-sanctioned league and is non-officiated play. If ongoing issues are occurring during play or there are “perceived” illegal serves, advise the league coordinator who will observe and determine next steps.

Playoffs

- In order to be eligible to participate in playoffs, players must have played two weeks during the season
- Playoff seeding/rankings will be determined by games won during the season.
- Head-to-head is the first tie breaker
- Point differential is the second tie breaker

Division Movement and Player Eligibility:

- Players observed to be playing in the wrong skill division may be removed mid-season or limited in the number of games played weekly

- Relegation and Qualifiers are held for these leagues. Teams will be notified IF they will be required to participate in qualifiers for the next season. Teams do NOT automatically move up/down divisions due to season outcome.

Officiating:

- The USA Pickleball Official Rules will be used to guide league play.
- The ES league is a non-sanctioned event, and the non-officiated rules will apply.
- ES has the option to modify rules to better align with the program
- Ethical line calling is mandatory and close calls should be called IN

Equipment & Clothing:

- Players provide their own paddles
- League provides game balls which must be returned
- League does NOT provide warmup balls
- The Franklin X-40 is used for play – Optic color

PADDLES:

- Paddles must be USAP approved and appear on the current official list.
- **Knockoff and delisted paddles may NOT be used**

Etiquette:

- Good sportsmanship is required at all times
- Ethical and respectful play is a foundational requirement