

Florida Pickleball League



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RULES OF CONDUCT OVERVIEW

The Florida Pickleball League (“League”) aims to provide a fair, competitive, and fun pickleball play environment for its participants. While 99% of the time there are no issues between players, captains, or spectators, this code of conduct is in place to address the 1% when a situation cannot be managed appropriately.

The code of conduct consists of rules and guidelines. Rules will be enforced as such by the League. Guidelines will not be enforced as such but may be used by the League in its determination to deny, limit, or otherwise condition a person’s participation in the League. The code of conduct applies equally to spectators who are invited by a player or team as well as to non-playing team members. Violations may be imputed to, and enforced against, the inviting person. The code applies in all situations that relate directly or indirectly to League play.

Rules

1. The League reserves the right to deny, limit, or otherwise condition the participation of any person in the League, including as a captain, player, or otherwise. Violation of a rule may result in censure, suspension, or termination of League privileges, at the discretion of the League. Violation of guidelines may also result in League action if the League determines, in its discretion, that action is warranted.
2. The League retains complete discretion in all decisions regarding its operation, including whether persons are allowed to participate and, if so, any conditions imposed thereon.
3. Under no circumstances shall a player threaten to physically touch, or actually physically touch, another player in an aggressive or unwanted manner. A player who feels insecure during a match shall notify his/her captain and, if the insecurity is ongoing in nature, the match shall be ended.
4. League Play Disagreement Resolution Procedures:
5. League play is a competitive endeavor. Competitive play will sometimes, albeit unfortunately, engender disagreements among players during a match. These procedures are intended to provide a framework for players to avoid disagreements and, if such disagreement cannot be avoided, to allow the matter to be resolved one way or another.
6. General rules regarding calls shall be in accordance with Rule 6.D. of the USAPA rule book – reproduced in their entirety in the attachment. To the extent that there are other complimentary or explanatory rules to the ones attached, their exclusion does not mean that they are not approved. Except where expressly contradicted by a League rule, all USAPA rules apply to League play.
 - A. In the event of a disagreement, the players will do their best in good faith to resolve the disagreement.

- B. Players may agree to replay a point as the resolution. It may not seem the “fairest” to one side or the other, but perhaps it is fairer than the alternative (when viewed from the perspective of both sides).
- C. If players cannot resolve the disagreement and the match cannot continue as a result, there will be a suspension of the League match until resolved.
- D. The captains (or persons delegated by captains to conduct captain duties on their behalf for certain matches) from each team will discuss the matter with their team's players from that court. If the captain is playing on another court, that court will suspend play (League suspension) until resolution of the disagreement. Captains are encouraged to help their players maintain perspective of the situation.
- E. The captains will discuss the matter with each other in private to determine if a resolution is possible. If the captains reach a resolution, that is the end of the matter. Players are to abide by whatever resolution is agreed to by the captains.
- F. If a captain is part of the underlying disagreement, another player from that team will be the “acting captain” and will assume the role of captain as set forth herein for purposes of this disagreement resolution procedure.
- G. In no event is a captain from one team to speak to the players from the other team in connection with the disagreement. In no event will spectators or a players who are not on the court to interact with players from the other team about the disagreement.
- H. Once the disagreement is resolved, the matter is complete and there shall be no further discussion about the matter between players or teams (players on a team are welcome to have whatever private conversations they wish to have – just not with the members from the opposing team about that subject).
- I. If the disagreement cannot be resolved by the players or captains, and the players cannot continue the match, the match shall be ended. For an ended match, the scores will be reported for any completed games. Any incomplete games or games that never began shall be reported as a double default.

Guidelines

The following are guidelines that every person who participates in the League agrees to abide by per the USAPA code of conduct:

1. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct or encourage others to do so.
2. I will not engage in any behavior that would endanger the health, safety or wellbeing of others.
3. I will not engage in the use of profanity.
4. I will treat others with respect.
5. I will exhibit fairness and honesty in my dealings with others.
6. I will not flaunt my position.
7. I will not use League records or materials for personal gain.
8. I will observe the Golden Rule doing unto others as I would have them do unto me.