

# Pickleball

Districts are encouraged to follow the technical information and guidelines found within this manual at all times. When changes are necessary at the District level, participants who qualify for Ontario 55+ Summer Games must be made aware that the following rules will be in use at Ontario 55+ Summer Games.

## A) FORMAT OF PLAY – DOUBLES

DIVISION	AGE CATEGORY	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Men 3.5 & 4.0+ skill level	55+ 65+	Two (2) per age group and skill level
Women 3.5 & 4.0+ skill level	55+ 65+	Two (2) per age group and skill level
Mixed 3.5 & 4.0+ skill level	55+ 65+	Two (2) per age group and skill level

Any person(s) not present at the scheduled commencement of play and throughout the competition are in default and are automatically disqualified from the competition. If there are extenuating circumstances, exceptions to this may be granted by the Event Convenor.

Competitors are expected to complete the competition regardless of their record. If a team defaults part way through the competition, the results of that team will be removed from the standings.

The organizers shall have an extra team available to play as a “floater” team in case there is an uneven number of teams or in case a team defaults. This team’s results will not count in the final standings.

**If there are any questions about rulings, the OSGA Summer Games Technical Manual will be considered correct.**

## B) ELIGIBILITY

EVENT	REQUIREMENTS
District Games	Any person 55+ living in Ontario <b>3.5 &amp; 4.0+ skill level</b>
Ontario 55+ Summer Games (Provincial Championships)	Gold Medal Winners – District competition

**NOTE:** Previous Ontario 55+ Summer Games and Canada 55+ Games winners are still eligible to compete at the District and Ontario 55+ Summer Games level qualifying tournaments.

### C) TOURNAMENT SET-UP

1. Teams will be placed in pools if numbers warrant.
2. Pool play will be Round Robin format, followed by a playoff.
3. If possible, playoffs will consist of a medal round and a consolation round. The split will be determined by the number of teams participating. No more than 8 teams will qualify for the medal round.
4. Games will be played to a score of eleven (11), with a maximum of 13 in the event of a tie.
5. A match in round robin will consist of 2 games with a time limit of 45 minutes for a match.
6. A match in playoffs will consist of best 2 out of 3 games.
7. The number of courts available and the number of teams entered will determine the number of pools used so that the round robin and playoffs can be completed in the allotted time.

### D) DETERMINING THE WINNERS

1. In the round robin, the winning team in any match will be awarded two (2) tournament points. The losing team will receive zero (0).
2. Placings in the round robin will determine seeding for the playoff format.
3. If at the conclusion of the round robin, there is a tie for placings, the following procedure will be used to break the tie:
  - a. Results of head to head games;
  - b. If necessary, the points scored for divided by the points scored against with the highest quotient winning
  - c. If necessary, then an extra game should be played between the teams that are tied.

### E) AWARDS

	Men's Doubles 55+	Women's Doubles 55+	Mixed Doubles 55+
<b>Gold (24)</b>	Men's Doubles 65+	Women's Doubles 65+	Mixed Doubles 65+
	Men's Doubles 55+	Women's Doubles 55+	Mixed Doubles 55+
<b>Silver (24)</b>	Men's Doubles 65+	Women's Doubles 65+	Mixed Doubles 65+
	Men's Doubles 55+	Women's Doubles 55+	Mixed Doubles 55+
<b>Bronze (24)</b>	Men's Doubles 65+	Women's Doubles 65+	Mixed Doubles 65+

### F) RULE SOURCE

USAPA rulebook will apply with the exceptions listed under "Tournament Set-Up" and "Pickleball Rules Summary."

Websites: [www.okpickleball.ca](http://www.okpickleball.ca) | [www.pickleball.com](http://www.pickleball.com)

## G) EVENT REQUIREMENTS

- Equipment**
1. Regulation nets are required (minimum of four).
  2. Regulation pickleball balls (adequate supply).
  3. For indoor play, ONIX Fuse Indoor ball in the colour orange (or equivalent) ball shall be used.
  4. Participants are responsible for providing their own pickleball rackets.
  5. Players must use paddles recommended by PAO (Ontario). Homemade paddles will not be allowed.
  6. It is recommended that participants wear protective eyewear while playing.
- Facilities**
1. The facility must have well marked, regulation size badminton courts, unless regulation pickleball courts are available, sufficient for each division.
  2. The facility should be wheelchair accessible.

## H) OFFICIALS

The OSGA requires, at minimum, the following major officials for Ontario 55+ Summer Games:

For District Games, the following are only a suggestion. Participation numbers and availability of volunteers may result in fewer officials being required. Districts are encouraged to try to have the necessary officials to run the event successfully.

1. One (1) Activity Convenor
2. One (1) Referee/Scorer per court
3. One (1) Master Scorer

The host committee will ensure that all major officials have the required qualifications as specified by the OSGA at least one (1) year prior to Ontario 55+ Summer Games. The host is also responsible for any other officials required to run this event.

## I) PICKLEBALL RULES SUMMARY

1. A medical examination two months prior to the event is strongly recommended.

### **BASIC RULES:**

#### **Serve:**

1. Serves must be underhand and bounce on the serve is permitted.
2. The paddle must pass below the waist. A legal serve must be below the waist, with the top of the paddle head below the wrist.
3. Only one serve attempt is allowed. There is no net serve, no reserve is allowed.
4. If the serve hits any line except the non-volley line (or kitchen) the ball is considered in play.
5. The player on the right side always serves first and then it goes in a clockwise rotation.

#### **Scoring:**

1. Games are normally played to 11 (win by two).
2. A team shall score points only when serving.
3. If the opposing player or team makes a winning shot then it is either considered a side-out or the next persons serve. There are no points awarded.