

Parkland Pickleheads Pickleball Club Player Etiquette

The goal of articulating players' etiquette is to create an environment where all members can be safe, learn new skills, and most importantly "have fun"!

1. Play to have fun; it's just a game.
2. Learn and play by the official rules of pickleball as set out by the IFP (International Federation of Pickleball).
3. Be punctual for scheduled play.
4. If you hit a ball into another court, immediately yell "BALL ". If you are the person to whom the ball needs to be returned, indicate this by putting your paddle up in the air.
5. If a ball rolls onto your court, call out "BALL". If you hear "BALL" called out **STOP PLAY AT ONCE!** When returning the ball to the appropriate court, don't swat or kick the ball back. Pick it up and return it with control to the correct person.
6. It is unsportsmanlike to over-celebrate points won, or to taunt or degrade a player when they miss a shot or lose a point.
7. When mentoring others, offer advice kindly and respectfully.
8. More advanced players should adjust their style when playing with beginners so as not to intimidate or dominate them. Consider it an opportunity to work on your short game or ball placement.
9. In recreational play, players should strive to hit the ball to both opponents equally. It is unacceptable to concentrate on hitting to the weaker partner.
10. Refusing to play with a less experienced or lower rated player is considered unsportsmanlike.

Line Calling Etiquette*

1. Players call the lines on their side of the court.
2. Spectators should not be consulted, nor offer an opinion, on any line calls.
3. A player should not question an opponent's call.
4. If a player asks his opponent's opinion on a line call, then the opponent's opinion must be accepted.
5. All "let" or "out" calls must be made instantly, otherwise the ball is presumed "in" and still in play. Instantly means before the ball is hit by the opponent or before a dead ball is declared.

6. If an “out” call is made **before** the ball bounces, it is considered player communication. If an “out” call is made **after** the ball bounces it is considered a line call.
7. The opponent gets the benefit of the doubt on the line calls made. In doubles play, if one player calls the ball “out” and the partner calls it “in”, then doubt exists and the ball must be declared “in”.
8. Line calls should be promptly signaled by hand or voice, regardless of how obvious they may seem.
9. All players should strive for accuracy in making line calls.

*From the USAPA & IFP Official Tournament Rulebook

Effective date: April 8, 2019 2