

DOGWOOD SENIOR SOCIETY PICKLEBALL SAFETY & PLAY ETIQUETTE

Fair play and sportsmanship are keys to success and enjoyment in any sport. To ensure safety and smooth operations on the Pickleball courts, we request you follow the below guidelines and rules.

COURT SAFETY - #1 PRIORITY

1. Wear proper court shoes that are dry. The Forum surface is extremely smooth, which is unsafe when wet.
2. Do NOT backup on the court, instead, turn and move sideways AND it's okay not to return a shot.
3. Do NOT run into other active courts when playing your ball.
4. Do NOT chase your ball through other active courts - wait for others to return your ball to you.
5. When retrieving a loose ball, look for players waving at you, when possible return the ball behind the courts.
6. STOP play immediately if a loose ball comes on your court or behind it - shout BALL ON; then replay your rally.
7. When going to and from a court be aware and stay well clear of other active players and courts.
8. Be Aware: Our Forum has NO Heat or A/C. Dress appropriately.
9. Take rest time; if required. Keep yourself well hydrated.
10. Communication with your partner is always important.
11. Should a player experience an injury or health incident on your court; immediately notify/call out for the Session Activity Lead.

COURT ETIQUETTE AND PICKLEBALL RULES

Pickleball is an enjoyable, recreational and social sport. Competition is also part of the game and we all need to play in a comfortable atmosphere.

1. At the beginning of the game introduce yourself, if not familiar with your partner or players.
2. Call yourself, if you or your partner land in the NVZ (kitchen) on a volley. Be cautious to call kitchen or foot faults on your opponents - let them call their own faults.
3. When you are playing in a non competitive situation take time to play with weaker players, they will be thrilled to have the experience. Try to mix teams equally where possible.
4. Remember if a stronger player is on the court with you, hit to them and often - it will make you a better player plus keep the game interesting for all who are playing. If

you are playing with weaker players work on shots that they can return and learn from.

5. If playing against mixed (level) partners, be courteous and not slam directly at Novice opponents. We all recognize that slamming is part of the game, however, should always be used in good judgement.
6. Once your game is finished, move quickly off the court, being aware of those neighbouring courts still in play.
7. Unsolicited coaching on the court is not to be done. If someone is new or asks for your input, do so briefly being mindful of the flow of the game.
8. When a ball is out of bounds, call "out" loudly, as well as using a hand signal with your hand/arm pointing out.
9. You must (normally the server) call the score, so your opponents can hear, before serving the ball.
10. The server must wait for the receiver to be ready before serving.
11. You do line calls on your side of the net and NOT the other side. If partners disagree, the ball is IN.
12. If you did not see where a ball bounced - in or out on your side of the net - it is IN.

DOGWOOD/FORUM PICKLEBALL PROCESSES

1. Dogwood/Forum Seniors' play is by rotation, with ALL players participating. (i.e. play should be with different partners upon rotation).
2. Understand and follow the Forum Bucket Play Process. If you win your game, your paddle gets placed in the Gold bucket. If you lose your game, your paddle goes into the silver bucket. Gold and Silver alternate for next available court.
3. Balls that are appropriate for the Forum are provided. You are required to bring your own paddle.
4. Please assist with the set up and take down of Nets at the appropriate session time slots. Ask for assistance if you're not sure of either Net set up or take down. Do not take out the poles from the end of the nets.
5. Promote our sport of Pickleball in the most positive and inclusive manner as possible AND remember to have FUN.
6. If you arrive 15 minutes late, or more, from your session start time, you could risk forfeiting your spot.
7. Any questions or concerns that cannot be resolved with your fellow players; notify your session Activity Lead.
8. The City of Coquitlam Code of Conduct can be located at: <https://www.coquitlam.ca/337/code-of-conduct>

Thank you,
Your Dogwood Pickleball Activity Lead Team