

How to Play the Game of Pickleball

The Serve

Serves are to be made diagonally, the first server serves from one corner alternating corners after each serve until he or she faults. The serve must clear the net and the seven foot 'no-volley' zone (also known as 'the kitchen') 7' in front of the net and land in the diagonal service court.

Serves should always be done underhand with the paddle below the waist, and the server must keep both feet behind the serve line when serving. The ball should be hit into the air without being bounced. The first server will continue to serve until he/she faults, at which point the serve will be given to the opposing side (so only one person serves on the starting side.)

However, if the ball touches the net but still lands within the appropriate service court, the serve may be done over. Both of your opponents will take their turn serving before the serve comes back to your side where your partner then serves, you get the next serve and continue to rotate serves.

When each person serves they need to say the following numbers out loud: Their own score, their opponents score, and whether they are server #1 or server #2. The starting side server is server #2 because only one person serves on that side.

Example: If I am the first server I would say; zero, zero, two. If we made that point I would say; one, zero, two. If I faulted on the next serve the serve would go to the other team and the first server would say; zero, one, one.

Scoring

Points can only be scored by the side that serves. The first side scoring eleven points and leading by at least two points wins.

Volleys

To volley means to hit a ball in the air without first letting it bounce. In Pickleball, this can only be done when the player's feet are behind the no-volley zone line (Kitchen). At no point can the foot go over the line even if the other side misses the ball before your foot goes over the line.

Double-Bounce Rule

Each team must play their first shot off of the bounce. That is, the receiving team must let the serve bounce and the serving team must let the return of the serve bounce before playing it. Once these two bounces have occurred, the ball can either be volleyed or played off the bounce.

Fault

A fault is committed when the ball:

- *Is hit out of bounds
- *Does not clear the net
- *Is volleyed from the no-volley zone
- *Is volleyed before a bounce has occurred on each side

Determining Serving Team

The serving team may decide who will serve first with a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss will have the option to choose whether or not to serve first.