



Rules and Regulations

2025 Edition (v2.1)

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HKPL Regulations

Unless otherwise stated in the HKPL rules and regulations 2025, rules of the latest edition released annually in January by the USA Pickleball (USAP) will apply.

[USAP Official Rules](#)

HKPL reserves the right to modify rules at any time during the season, if necessary.

1.0 Team Registration & Eligibility

1.1 General Requirements

- Any registered Club/Association or Team with court access in Hong Kong may apply.
- Each Club/Association may enter multiple Teams, provided each Team has a unique name (e.g., Team A1, Team B1, Team B2).
- All communications must go through the team's registered Captain or Co-Captain.
- Player registrations are only accepted via official roster form (no WhatsApp/email additions) submitted to HKPL via our digital portal.
- **Team registration deadline: 27 July 2025.**
- Home match day(s) must be determined at registration (Monday to Friday evenings).
- Teams should indicate their home court location on the registration form. A home court is required, with standard dimensions of 13.4m x 6.1m. It is recommended to maintain a minimum clearance of 1.3m from the baseline to the boundary and 1m from the sideline to the boundary.
- Each team must register a minimum of 2 male players and 2 female players, who meet the DUPR rating requirements for their specific division. Teams **MUST** ensure player availability for each weekly match to prevent forfeiture.

1.2 Division Eligibility

Division	DUPR Rating Requirement
A	No restrictions
B	3.599 or below as of 1 Aug 2025

1.3 Player Management

- **Deadline for registering players is 15th August.**
 - Division B additions must maintain ≤ 3.599 DUPR (as of 1 Aug 2025).
 - **Additional window to add players to roster: 1-7 September 2025 only.**
- Limit of 20 players per Team
- Date of new additions must be marked on roster form.
- DUPR Requirements:
 - Must register using DUPR-registered full name.
 - Accounts: mydupr.com/signup.
 - Players with multiple accounts: Higher rating applies.
 - Unrated players: Assigned 3.5 rating.

1.4 Match Scheduling

- Days: Monday-Friday (exc. public holidays).
 - Start time: 7:00 PM.
 - First game begins by 7:15 PM.
- Subsequent games: 2-minute warm-up.

1.5 Player Rules

- Players may only register for one team.
- Substitutions:
 - Div B \rightarrow Div A: Max 3 matches/season.
 - Max 3 subs total per team.
 - Each substitute from Div B to Div A is limited to 3 matches. Maximum of 3 substitutes from Div B to Div per Club
- Penalty: Forfeit any games with unregistered players.

2.0 Match Format

- Each team is limited to a maximum of 5 men + 5 women and a minimum of 2 men + 2 women on match day.
- Matches will consist of:
 - GAME 1: Women's Doubles
 - GAME 2: Men's Doubles
 - GAME 3: Mixed Doubles – 1
 - GAME 4: Mixed Doubles - 2
 - GAME 5: Mixed Doubles – 3
- No repeating pairs across Mixed Doubles games.
- Before commencement of play, both teams need to provide their lineup and record on the score sheet.
- Once submitted, no changes unless due to injury during play.
- If a player is involved in two consecutive matches, the rest periods should not last more than 5 minutes.

2.1 Game/Match Scoring

- USAP Rally scoring will be used for each game to 21 game-points.
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=puNUwsm-lqs&pp=ygUUYVXNhcCBYWXseSBzY29yaW5nIHZpZGVV>
- Teams change sides when one team reaches 11 game-points.
- First team to 21 game-points win. NO win-on-serve required
- At 20/20, the next point will be played as “**sudden death**” game-point.
 - NO win-by-2. NO win-on-serve.
- 2 League Points awarded to match winner.
- 1 League Point to the loser.
- 0 League Points for match forfeit, walkovers and no-show.

2.2 Timeouts

- 1 timeout per game per team (1 minute).

2.3 Injuries / No Show

- In the event of an injury during a game, a player may take a 10-minute injury timeout. A player may only take 1 injury timeout per match.
- If the player is unable to continue the game, the team will lose that game. The opposing team will be awarded 21 points, and the retired team's score will be the score at the time of retirement. At least 1 point must have been played to be counted as a loss otherwise the game is counted as a forfeit.
- If there is a 3rd player, he/she may substitute the injured player for the next game. Mixed doubles rules still apply.
- If there is a no-show/walkover by a team, the opposing team will be awarded 2 points.

3.0 Match Protocol/Conduct

3.1 Pre Match Requirement

Home team must provide:

- 1-week advance notice of Location, surface, ball color.
- Designated Captain or acting Captain, if necessary.

Home teams are advised to allocate 150mins for Home games if only 1 court is available. If 2 courts are available, it is recommended that Home teams allocate 120mins for Home games.

3.2 Equipment Check

- Paddles – USPA/UPA approved.
- Challenges only permitted before first game.
- USPA approved balls relevant to court surface.

3.3 On Court Conduct

- Prohibited:

- Non-Player Interference.
- Unapproved music/recordings.
- Use of mobile phones on court.
- Video recording unless agreed by both teams.
- Coaching (except during time-outs).
- Checking ball marks on opponent's court.
- Clothing matching ball color.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Foul/abusive Language.

4.0 Score Submission

- Home team submits photo of signed score sheet and inputs scores digitally on HKPL website (if applicable) and sends by WhatsApp to Division representative within 3 days after the match.
- Must include all players' DUPR registered names & numbers.

5.0 Dispute Resolution

- Must be emailed by Captain/Co-Captain within 48 hours to HKPL.
- No late submissions will be accepted.

6.0 Weather Policy

In case of adverse weather on the competition day, the home team and away captains have the right to decide whether the games can continue in a safe manner. Either captain can request a postponement due to unsafe weather and court conditions that could lead to injury.

Any unfinished games will be replayed at a later date; this must be completed before or during the season's rain-off week, before playoffs. Both teams must agree on a date that can accommodate players.

6.1 Postponements

- Outdoor matches:
 - Decision made 2 hours pre-match.
 - Requires mutual agreement.
 - Automatic for Typhoon 8/Black Rain alerts.

6.2 Rescheduling

- Home team proposes 2 dates within 48 hours.
- Away team responds within 48 hours.
- Completion deadline: Season's rain-off week.

6.3 Suspended Matches

- Only completed games count.
- Unfinished games restart from 0-0.

HONG KONG PICKLEBALL LEAGUE

7.0 Rankings

- i. The team with the highest total of League Points will be the winner of their division.
- ii. If 2 teams have won the same League Points, the winner of their head-to-head match will be ranked higher.
- iii. If more than 2 teams have the same number of League Points, the rankings will be determined by the head-to-head MATCHES won between the effected teams.
- iv. If the winner remains undecided, the ranking will be determined by most GAMES won in the head-to-head matches (even if the match was a loss) between the effected teams.
- v. If the winner remains undecided, the rankings will be determined by most NET-POINTS (game-point differential) in the head-to-head matches (even if the match was a loss) between the effected teams.
- vi. [Calculating Formula: NET-POINTS = winning game-points – losing game-points]
- vii. If the result is still the same, a re-match for the teams concerned will be arranged.
[This item only applies to teams in the preliminary round].

7.1 Semi-finals and Finals

- Playoff arrangements and schedules will be shared at a later date.
- For games hosted at a neutral venue by HKPL, both teams need to accommodate; otherwise, they will be counted as forfeiting the match.
- For non-HKPL hosted games, the higher ranked team will be considered as the Home Team, unless their match day falls on a holiday.
- Players must have played at least 1 match in the season to play in the playoffs.
- Div B players playing for Div A playoffs are not eligible to play in Div B playoffs.

8.0 Dress Code

- Appropriate attire required.
- Non-marking shoes mandatory.
- No ball-color matching clothing worn on court (home team declares ball color).

9.0 Liability Waiver

- HKPL and its Sponsors assume no liability for injuries/damages.
- By participating, players agree to:
 1. HKPL rules and regulations 2025.
 2. Media/promotional use of images.
 3. DUPR data sharing for ratings.
 4. **PLAYERS PLAY AT THEIR OWN RISK AND HKPL WILL NOT HOLD ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY INJURIES AND/OR DAMAGES.**

Contact:

Email: info@hkpl.com.hk

Website: www.hkpl.com.hk