

HKCTA Pickleball League 2025 Rules and Regulations

Administration

1. All communication will be communicated through the team captains and the club/team representatives. All communication from teams should come through team captains and/or the club/team representatives only.
2. HKCTA reserves the right to modify the rules.

Entries

3. Division 1 has no restriction on the DUPR rating of player entries.
4. Division 2:
 - a. Players must have a DUPR rating below 3.8 at entry deadline.
 - b. Team Pairing average cannot exceed 3.5 based on the DUPR rating at entry deadline.
5. Players with no DUPR Rating will be assigned a default rating of 3.5
6. If players are found to have multiple DUPR accounts, rating will be based on the DUPR account with the highest reliability score.
 - a. Results will be submitted under the DUPR account listed on the entry form.
 - b. Players that wish to merge multiple accounts can contact DUPR by filling in the form https://dupr.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=22866866563476
7. There is no limit on the number of registered players per team, however players must be registered prior to entry deadline.
8. Players are required to have a HKCTA Tournament Software account. HKCTA Membership is not required.
 - a. Registration for the account can be completed at <https://hkta.tournamentsoftware.com/member/createorganizationaccount.aspx?id=3ACB6CCD-F25D-4844-8DAF-4EB5BAE8D46D>

Eligibility

9. Preference of registration will be given to teams that can provide their own courts.
 - a. Teams are required to have a minimum of 1 court available per team on the match day, when they are identified as the home team.
 - b. Courts should have at least an additional 5ft of space from the baselines and sidelines.
 - c. Teams using courts not owned by them, must have written proof that the venue they will use will allow courts to be used for any potential home games for the duration of the league in order to be able to be considered as having courts.
10. Teams must have adequate insurance against claims for personal injuries suffered by players playing on their courts.
11. Players must hold a valid Hong Kong Identity Card.
12. No unregistered player may be allowed to play.
13. No individual may represent a team in any Playoff Match unless he/she has played for the team for 4 games. Being named as a team member in a walkover match shall not be counted as an occasion for eligibility to represent a team in a Play-off Match.

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Format of Play

14. League will be a mixed format and participating teams can select to have their home matches take place on the following days/times:
 - a. Friday – 7:00 PM; Saturday or Sunday – 4:00 PM, 5:00PM, 6:00PM, or 7:00 PM.
 - i. Teams must indicate their selected day and time for their home matches on the registration form.
 - b. First game shall start within 15 minutes of start time. subsequent games shall start 2 minutes after the conclusion of the previous match.
 - c. Each player can only represent one team/division per season.
 - i. Players in Division 2 may substitute for their Division 1 team up to 2 times per season.
 - ii. If the club/team has multiple Division 1 teams the substitute player may only substitute for one of the Division 1 teams.
 - d. No additional player shall be allowed after the entry deadline except in the case of an injury replacement/prolong absence.
15. Unless otherwise stated, USAP Rules will be used.
16. Each match will consist of 4 games played to 21 points using USAP rally scoring rules. Change sides at 11 points.
 - a. Match consist of the following games:
 - i. Game 1: Women’s Doubles
 - ii. Game 2: Men’s Doubles
 - iii. Game 3: Mixed Doubles
 - iv. Game 4: Mixed Doubles
 - A player may only participate in one mixed doubles game per match.
 - b. All Games must be played.
 - i. In the event of a game walkover, the score will be recorded as 21-0 for the winning team.
 - ii. In the event of a retirement the score will be recorded as 21 for the winning team and the losing team score will be the score that they have at the time of retirement.
17. Points Awarded will be as follows:
 - a. Win - 2 Point
 - b. Tie - 1 Point
18. Ranking will be based on:
 - a. # of Points
19. In the event of tie the following will be used as the tiebreaker:
 - i. Matches Won
 - ii. Head-to-Head
 - iii. Games Won
 - iv. Points Difference
 - v. % of Points Won

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20. Team list should be written down on paper or electronic device and both teams shall reveal the list at the same time prior to the start of the match by the captain/designated representative.
 - a. If an official is on site the team list shall be given to the official 10 minutes prior to the start of the match.
21. The captain of the winning team must submit the score including a picture of the score card with signature from both teams within 3 days of the completed matches.

Equipment

22. Paddles – USAP and UPA-A Approved Paddles
 - a. List of Approved Paddles can be found:
 - i. UPA-A: <https://upaa.unitedpickleball.com/approved-paddles/>
 - ii. USAP: <https://equipment.usapickleball.org/paddle-list/>
23. Approved Balls – USAP Only: <https://equipment.usapickleball.org/ball-list/>
 - a. Indoor: Gamma Photon Indoor, Franklin FS Pro Indoor, Franklin X-26
 - b. Outdoor/Indoor: Franklin X-40 (Yellow), ONIX Dura Fast 40, GoSports GS40, Selkirk Pro S1, Vulcan VPRO Flight, Joola Heleus, INFMARC TW-40, Franklin FS PRO OUTDOOR, Everyday Social THE ASAMA CLASSIC BALL, Diadem Official, Wowlly Comet

Replacement Players

24. During the League season should a player who already has played at least two matches in a team become unavailable to continue to play due to:
 - a. injury or sickness, or
 - b. prolonged absence from Hong Kong,

the club may submit an application for a replacement player on the following conditions

- i. the replacement player rating is eligible for the division, and
- ii. such application is made in writing by the Club/Team Representative and counter-signed by the outgoing and replacement players for whom the application is made, and
- iii. such application is substantiated by documentary proof acceptable to the HKCTA pickleball committee.
- iv. the replacement has not been registered for any club.

Unless a replacement player has played at least two previous matches for his/her team, he/she shall not be permitted to compete in a Playoff Match in a multi-group Division or any of the final two fixture matches in a single-group Division.

An administration fee, to be determined by the HKCTA pickleball committee from time to time, will be charged for the processing of each replacement player.

(Note: This rule does not apply to default due to injury or sickness sustained by a player during a fixture match for which no replacement is allowed for that match.)