

Lacey Doubles Pickleball League: Summer, 2026

DETAILS

LOCATION: Rainier Vista Community Park

DAYS: Tuesdays (Men), Wednesdays (Women), Thursdays (mixed)

DATES: 06/16 – 08/06

TIMES: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM



LACEY PARKS
CULTURE & RECREATION



OFFICIAL LEAGUE RULES & FORMAT

A. PLAYERS/TEAMS

1. Team Size: Teams consist of two (2) primary players. Each team may have up to two (2) substitutes on their roster. Teams wishing to add more than two (2) substitutes on their roster must seek approval from the league coordinator.

2. Rosters/Waivers: All players must sign their team roster/league waiver before playing in their first match to be eligible to participate. Roster sheets will be available for signing at the courts on the first day of games.

>2.1: All matches with players who have not signed a team roster will be ruled a forfeit.

3. Substitutes: Substitutes can be added to the roster until the last two-weeks of the season (July 16). You MAY NOT add substitutes for the playoffs or the last week of the season. Substitutes MUST play in at least two (2) matches prior to the last week of the season to be eligible to participate in the playoff bracket. Players may only be added late in emergency circumstances and must receive approval from the league coordinator before gaining eligibility.

>3.1: Players may be on multiple team rosters as a substitute. Substitutes on multiple rosters may participate in the playoff bracket, but ONLY for one team through-out the WHOLE tournament. Substitutes may not play for multiple teams during the playoffs.

>3.2: Teams must play one (1) primary player in each game. Two (2) substitutes may not play in the same game. Teams may compete with a minimum of 1 player through-out the whole match, but this player MUST be one (1) of the two (2) primary players. If both primary players are present and healthy, they MUST play, even if a substitute is present to play for them.

4. Age: All players must be 15 years of age or older.

B. FORMAT/SCORING/STANDINGS

1. Official USA Pickleball rules are used except for the modification outlined below.

2. Regular-season matches will consist of two (2) games, first to 11 points. All matches are scheduled in 30-minute timeslots.

2.1: Teams must win by 2 points, with a cap at 15 points (i.e., the first team to 15 points wins regardless of score differential).

3. Games are self-officiated.

3.1: Scoring Disagreements: In the event of a disagreement regarding score, teams will replay the point. Disagreements regarding rule interpretations will be ruled on by the on-site league supervisor. IN THE EVENT AN AGREEMENT TO REPLAY THE POINT CANNOT BE REACHED, THE ON-SITE SUPERVISOR MAY END THE GAME, WITH THE WIN BEING AWARDED TO THE TEAM WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE BEFORE THE PLAY IN QUESTION. All decisions made by the on-site league supervisor are final.

4. Grace Periods- There will be a five (5) minute grace period at the start of each match for late arrivals. Teams not present after the grace period forfeit the match. There will be no grace period for matches scheduled to start 7:30 pm or later.

5. There are three (3) leagues: men's, women's, and mixed. There is one (1) competitive and one (1) recreation division for each league. When determining which division you belong in, please consult section C. **PLAYER RATINGS.**

5. Standings: Individual game outcomes will be used to determine division standings. I.e., if a team has two matches and wins 3 out of 4 games, their record in the standings would be 3-1.

6. Playoffs: Each division will have a double elimination playoff tournament held the last two weeks of the season (08/05 – 08/14). Seeding for the tournament will be based on the regular season standings.

6.1: In the case of a tie in the standings at the end of the regular season, the league will use tie-breakers to determine playoff seeding. Tie-breakers will be used in the following order: 1) Wins & losses, 2) Head-to-head record, 3) Point differential, 4) Points allowed, 5) Points scored, 6) Coin flip

C. PLAYER RATINGS

Player Skills Ratings are a measurement of a player's abilities and experience. Use the general guide below to help you determine whether you should be in the recreation or competitive divisions. For a more details, visit the link to the USA Pickleball Skills Rating Definitions in the "HELPFUL SOURCES" section of this document.

-Recreation Ratings: 1.0 – 2.5.

-Competitive Ratings: 2.5+

-Ratings Guide:

>1.0 – 2.0: Basic understanding of the game

>2.5 – 3.0: Improved stroke development with moderate shot control.

>3.5 – 4.0: More consistent and strategic gameplay.

>4.5+: Solid and consistent fundamentals, can consistently execute all shot types accurately.



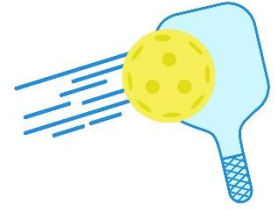
D. CANCELLATION POLICY

1. League Cancellations- If matches are cancelled due to inclement weather, teams will be contacted by the league coordinator. Reasons for cancellation include, but are not limited to, poor air quality due to fires, heavy rain, thunder and/or lightning, and extreme heat. League cancelled matches will be rescheduled to the best of the league coordinators abilities.

2. If a team is unable to attend a match and cannot find adequate substitutes, they must contact the league coordinator ahead of time so the opposing team can be alerted as soon as possible. Games will not be rescheduled for teams that are unable to attend and will be ruled as a forfeit.

E. HELPFUL SOURCES

1. Thurston County Pickleball Club: "How to Play" Skills Tutorials
<https://tcpcwa.com/play/how-to-play/>
2. USA Pickleball: Complete Rule Book
<https://usapickleball.org/docs/2025-USA-Pickleball-Rulebook.pdf>
3. USA Pickleball: Player Skill Rating Definitions
<https://usapickleball.org/player-skill-rating-definitions/>



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

May I appeal to the league coordinator on a ruling made by the on-site supervisor in regards to rules or scoring disagreements?

All rulings made by on-site supervisors in regards to rules and scoring disagreements are final. However, you may contact the league coordinator at any time if you have concerns. We are always looking to improve the player experience in our leagues and are open to any suggestions on ways we can do just that.

Our substitute played in two matches, but they were not on the same day. Are they still eligible to participate in the playoff bracket?

Yes! As long as a substitute has played two (2) matches in total before the end of the season, they are eligible to play in the playoffs (if needed). However, substitute players are still only eligible to play if one of a team's primary players is not present.

I have a conflict on one of my match days. Am I able to reschedule?

No, this year games will not be rescheduled if your team is unable to attend. Teams are encouraged to find substitutes if they are unable to make a game. If no substitutes can be found, please reach out to the league coordinator as soon as possible so your opponent can be alerted. Only games cancelled by the league due to inclement weather or other extenuating circumstances will be reschedule

Why can't I reschedule my games?

Every team that signed up made a commitment to the same rules and schedule. We try to schedule teams at least two games per week so everyone can get the most out of their experience. Constant rescheduling can diminish a teams enjoyment of the league and puts more strain on the league coordinator to keep up with every request.

Why I am scheduled to play one team twice, but do not play another team at all?

Our league schedules all matches by the constraints of the days and times for each league. Ideally each team would be able to play all others at least once. However, these scheduling constraints may prevent this from happening in some cases.



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