

# Pickleball Scotland League Rules



## 1. Title and Management

- 1.1 Pickleball Scotland (PS) organise the National Leagues each season.
- 1.2 These Rules of National Competition are ratified by the PS Board and are the rules, unless otherwise stated, which govern all matters arising from the organisation, running, and management of each National League.
- 1.4 With respect to all the following Rules, contact with the Competition organiser and Competitions Group should be made in the first instance by e- mailing [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org).
- 1.5 Any uncertainty arising from the Rules shall be arbitrated by the Competitions Group.

## 2. Competition Entry

- 2.1 Clubs are entitled to enter teams into the National League and must signify their wish to do so by completing the online registration and competition entry fee. Fees and team details must be returned by the date set by the Competitions Organiser.
- 2.2 Late entries may only be accepted at the discretion of the Competitions Group, which reserves the right to allocate a late entrant into the highest possible division which has spaces, regardless of the team's league status in the previous season.
- 2.3 Team Administrators must be contactable each season, which will be defined by the Competitions Group. If this person is not contactable, they must inform the Competitions Organiser with a suitable replacement. The Team Administrator information will be provided to the opposition via Pickleball Scotland division contact list.

2.4 All teams entering the Pickleball Scotland League must ensure that they have enough registered players for their level of play.

2.5 By entering a team into a National League, clubs agree to abide by the rules of the competitions and to abide by the decisions taken by the Competition Group.

2.6 When entering any competition, each club and its members agrees to abide by the anti-doping rules adopted by Pickleball Scotland in accordance with the anti-doping policy.

2.7 All players registered are required to be a full member of Pickleball Scotland - [PS Membership](#). PS reserves the right to refuse entry to any non registered member.

2.8 All players registered are required to be signed up to Pickleball Scotland DUPR club - [PS DUPR](#). PS reserves the right to refuse entry to any non registered member.

2.9 Players can not represent more than one club per season and PS reserves the right to refuse entry to any player who registers for multiple teams.

3.10 Each team is required to consist of a minimum of 3 Male and 3 Female players.

3.11 Each team is allowed to register up to 10 players for a team. Any of the 10 players can be used across the season's fixtures but only 6, 3 Male and 3 Female, can fulfill a fixture at any one time. The makeup of the registered team could consist of 6 Female and 4 Male players for example as this fulfills the minimum requirement.

## **3. League / Match Format**

3.1 All leagues shall consist of a maximum of 10 teams and a minimum of 5 teams. The Competition Organiser, with the agreement of Pickleball Scotland Board, has the right to restructure the leagues if deemed necessary.

3.2 All matches will be played to [World Pickleball Federation Rules](#) unless stated otherwise within these rules.

3.3 Each fixture will consist of 6 of the registered players, 3 Male and 3 Female, which are required to be declared a minimum of 24 hours before the first service of the arranged fixture.

3.4 Teams must identify each of the players to a specific number by email to [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org) before the fixture takes place. Both sides must register their team for each match at least 24 hours before the first service of the day,

<b>Player Number</b>	<b>Home Team</b>	<b>Away Team</b>
#1	Female Player 1	Female Player 1
#2	Female Player 2	Female Player 2
#3	Female Player 3	Female Player 3
#4	Male Player 1	Male Player 1
#5	Male Player 2	Male Player 2
#6	Male Player 3	Male Player 3

3.5 The following divisions will be offered at registration. The competition group has the right to amend the geographical divides to ensure the required number of teams are in each league. Example of league structure below based on team entries.

<b>Premier League (National)</b>		
Division 1 East	Division 1 North	Division 1 West
Division 2 East		Division 2 West
Division 3 East		Division 3 West
Division 4 East		

3.7 Each Regional Division 1 League winner will have the opportunity to have an end of season playoff to determine the promoted teams to the National division, The Competition Group will inform all teams of the playoff format once the leagues have been structured if teams want the opportunity to move up to National level. If no league winner wishes to move to National, no playoff will be organised.

3.8 Each match will have 9 team fixtures. All fixtures must be played in each match. The Format of each match will be as follows:

<b>Match Number</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Match</b>
1	Women's Doubles	Female 1 & Female 3
2	Men's Doubles	Male 1 & Male 3
3	Mixed Doubles	Female 2 & Male 2
4	Women's Doubles	Female 1 & Female 2
5	Men's Doubles	Male 1 & Male 2
6	Mixed Doubles	Female 3 & Male 3
7	Women's Doubles	Female 2 & Female 3
8	Men's Doubles	Male 2 & Male 3
9	Mixed Doubles	Female 1 & Male 1

3.8 Each team will be awarded 3 points for a match win and 1 point for a loss.

Example Points

<b>Match #</b>	<b>Fixture Score</b>	<b>Cumulative Score</b>
<b>Match 1</b>	Team 1 wins 15-10	1-0
<b>Match 2</b>	Team 2 wins 15-10	1-1

<b>Match 3</b>	Team 1 wins 15-10	2-1
<b>Match 4</b>	Team 2 wins 15-10	2-2
<b>Match 5</b>	Team 1 wins 15-10	3-2
<b>Match 6</b>	Team 2 wins 15-10	3-3
<b>Match 7</b>	Team 1 wins 15-10	4-3
<b>Match 8</b>	Team 2 wins 15-10	4-4
<b>Match 9</b>	Team 1 wins 15-10	5-4
<b>Total</b>	<b>Team 1 Wins 5-4</b>	Team 1 - 3 League Points Team 2 - 1 League Point

3.9 Each match will be played to 15 points with 1 (one) timeout permitted per team. Teams will switch sides at 8 points. This is Standard Point Scoring system and either won by 2 clear points or hitting a maximum of 21 points. Examples could be won with 15-10 scoreline, 16-14 scoreline or 21-20 scoreline.

3.10 Medical timeouts are permitted for 5 minutes per game. If a player is unable to continue then the game is forfeit along with any others this player is lined up to participate in.

3.11 In the event of two teams being on the same number of points in the league, the overall position will be decided on the number of games won, followed by the number of points won/lost differential across the fixtures played.

## 4. Fixtures

4.1 Fixture results should be submitted to [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org) within 72 hours of a fixture being completed with both captains in the email confirmation as a sign of agreement of the result.

4.2 Results of fixtures applied to each player who has participated in the fixture in DUPR.

4.3 Results of fixtures will be published in the leagues on League Republic and also shown on Pickleball Scotland's League Page - [Leagues](#)

4.4 If a player has removed themselves from the Pickleball Scotland Club DUPR this runs the risk of the match being awarded to the opposition team affecting the overall outcome of the fixture.

4.5 Cancellation of a fixture is to be communicated to the opposition team 72 hours before the starting time of the agreed date/time. If this isn't done, then the team will forfeit the fixture, and each game will be recorded as a 15-0 loss.

4.6 Fixtures which can not be mutually agreed between two clubs across the season will result in both clubs receiving zero points and the fixture being incomplete which will affect the overall position of each team in the league.

4.7 Home teams are required to offer suitable times and venues to the opposition i.e. not offering 7am on Wednesday morning as the only option available. If there is an impasse on the suitability of the times/venues and there has been multiple attempts by the home team to arrange a fixture the competitions team will arbitrate if the fixture is forfeit to the home team if it deems this as required.

4.8. In the event of illness/injury of a player within the 24 hour timeline for a fixture to be fulfilled. Teams are allowed to use one of their alternative players in the team but MUST communicate this to both the opposing team and [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org) before the fixture commences. The Pickleball Competitions team will monitor any abuse of this rule and decide if any action is required to avoid repeat offences.

## 5. Result Submission

5.1 All results should be submitted to [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org) with both captains in a copy of the email.

5.2 Results should be submitted no later than 72 hours after the fixture has been completed.

5.3 A sample of the submission is below but all teams have been emailed a copy of this.

### **Pickleball Scotland League Fixture**

Date -

Location -

Home Team -

Away Team -

#### Fixture Structure

Home Team Players

Away Team Players

M1 -

M1 -

M2 -

M2 -

M3 -

M3 -

F1 -

F1 -

F2 -

F2 -

F3 -

F3 -

#### Results of Fixture

Game	Winning Team (H/A)	Score For	Score Against
1			
2			
3			
4			

5			
6			
7			
8			
9			

Home Captain Signature -

Away Captain Signature -

5.4 If any team has misplaced or can not find a copy of this form, please contact [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org) and this will be resent across as soon as possible.

5.5 If there are any errors made with the submission of the fixture result teams must contact [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org) as soon as possible. In cases where this has been left too long to adjust/update the competitions teams reserves the right to advise no update is possible and the submission of this is set in stone.

## 6. Equipment

6.1 Fixtures should use USPA approved Pickleball nets if available.

6.2 Fixture venues must use Kitchen Lines, permanent or temporary, in order to fulfill the WPF court regulations for each fixture



6.3 All paddles used in the league must be USPA approved Paddles. Examples like the Joola Gen 3 are banned at the time of writing. The extensive list of approved paddles can be found here - [Approved Paddles](#)

6.4 The official ball for the leagues is the Head 26 Indoor model

6.5. Alternative balls for the fixtures can be used with advance notice to the opposition team whilst also being mutually agreed to be used by the opposition with this also notified to [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org). Communication of this must be done 21 days in advance of a fixture.

Balls approved need to be indoor and approved by USPA. The extensive list of approved balls can be found here - [Approved Balls](#)

6.6 If alternative balls are not mutually agreed in 6.5 then the fixture is to be completed with the official league ball which is the Head 26 Indoor model

6.7 Teams must print off a physical copy of the scoresheet and both team captains on the day of the fixture must sign this before and after the match.

## 7. Team Sponsorship

7.1 Individual team sponsorship is allowable to help towards any costs of a team within a league i.e. if Team A struck a partnership with Sketcher's as a team sponsor this would be permissible.

7.2 Sponsorship should not be from any individual or entity which promotes illegal activities or products. Pickleball reserves the right to refuse the use of a sponsor if it deems it unfit to be used.

7.3 If there is any uncertainty about a sponsor being permissible please contact [competitions@pickleballscotland.org](mailto:competitions@pickleballscotland.org) and this will be confirmed as being valid or invalid. Please note the value of the sponsor does not need to be included in the check.

7.4 Pickleball Scotland are not liable for any unpaid sponsorships for any team playing within the leagues and are unable to be an arbitrator in these cases.

