

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



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## Section 1: Playing with the Fredericton Pickleball Club

### 1. How do I join and play with the Fredericton Pickleball Club (FPC)?

- On the Pickleball Canada website. [Pickleball Canada – Advancing Pickleball for All, for Life!](#) Click the Join-Renew box in the upper right corner and follow directions. Detailed instructions can be found on the FPC website Fees document through the Documents tab. [Documents | Frederictonpickleballclub.com](#)
- Joining the FPC includes paying an annual membership fee (\$32.26) and a monthly court fee, also identified in the Fees document.
- Your Pickleball Canada and Pickleball NB membership is included when you join the FPC.
- The annual membership fee is paid online through the Pickleball Canada website.
- The court fees are paid by e-transfer to [fton.pickleball@gmail.com](mailto:fton.pickleball@gmail.com) Payment can also be made by cheque payable to “The Fredericton Pickleball Club.”
- You must be a FPC member and pay court fees to play at venues rented and scheduled by FPC.

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## 2. Why should I join the Fredericton Pickleball Club

Benefits of joining the FPC include:

- Membership with Pickleball Canada and Pickleball NB.
- Access to multiple facilities, dozens of times per month. Essentially you can play six days per week and sometimes seven.
- Access to free training and additional training at a modest cost.
- Many opportunities to play either socially or competitively.
- Participation in social events, some during pickleball play and some outside of pickleball.
- We guarantee you will have fun.

## 3. Can I try pickleball before joining the club?

- Yes! You can play at any indoor venue once for free. Outdoor venues are always free.

## 4. Where can I play?

- Play times and venues can be found on the monthly FPC calendar on the FPC website or the FPC Facebook page. [Play Calendar](#) ([frederictonpickleballclub.com](http://frederictonpickleballclub.com))

Here is a list of places to play pickleball between October and May:

- Journey Church
- Bridge Church
- UNB Currie Centre (parking pass required, available from lower level reception area - \$10.00/month or \$30.00 for 4 months plus HST)
- Connaught Street School
- Fredericton High School

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Here is a list of public facilities where you can play outside between June and October:

- Queens Square
- Nashwaaksis Middle School
- Leeds Drive Tennis Court in Skyline Acres. Nets are required.
- 6 new dedicated pickleball courts are under construction near the Willie O'Ree Place with completion expected in the summer of 2023.

### 5. Who can I play with?

- For indoor play, check the FPC play calendar on the Fredericton Pickleball website: [Play Calendar \(frederictonpickleballclub.com\)](https://frederictonpickleballclub.com) and select the appropriate play time and session for you.
  - **Social play:** open to all club members regardless of skill level – a great place to meet fellow club members.
  - **Designated play:** open to club members of the same skill level however there is an opportunity to mix skill levels.
  - **Rated play:** open to players with a rating of 2.0-2.5 or 3.0-3.5 or 3.5-4.0 or whatever rating is specified. Only players with these ratings will be at the venue.
  - If this is your first time playing pickleball your best options are Social play or Rated play (2.0-2.5).
  - When you show up to play, someone will kindly show you the ropes!

### 6. What if I am experienced at Racket Sports?

- If you are experienced with racket sports but not pickleball, it is recommended that you show up during social play, rated play of 2.0-2.5, or designated play (Social or 3.0). You will quickly see where your skill level is and where you should be playing.

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### 7. I am visiting Fredericton and would like to play indoor pickleball. Can I pay a drop-in fee?

- Yes. The FPC allows visitors to the Fredericton area to pay and play in our indoor venues. The drop-in fee is \$6.00 per day up to a maximum of \$60 over a 30-day period. The preferred method to pay a Drop-in fee is by e-transfer to [fton.pickleball@gmail.com](mailto:fton.pickleball@gmail.com). If that is not an option for you, ask to speak with a member of the executive and pay them with a cheque. Cash is not accepted.

## Section 2: Training

### 1. How can I learn to play pickleball?

- You will feel more comfortable playing pickleball after learning some basic rules, safety guidelines and getting a feel for the ball at an “Introduction to Pickleball” session.
  - The free Introduction sessions are typically held once a month.
  - The times and locations are posted on the FPC website on the Play Calendar or the FPC Facebook page.
  - Pre-Registration is required.
  - FPC supplies the paddles and balls for the session.
  - You need indoor court shoes and comfortable clothing for playing sports.
- Beginner Mentoring sessions are available once you have the basic pickleball fundamentals and a “feel for the sport”. For Members Only!
  - Check the calendar for these weekly sessions.
- Lessons and training are periodically offered (when an instructor is available) to members over a 4 week period but are not included in your membership/court fees.
- Training sessions are also available to members rated at a 3.0 skill level and above. Check the monthly calendar.

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## 2. What is a Ladder?

- A Ladder in pickleball is an organized event in which players with relatively similar skills compete against each other in a competitive, structured and, regular format.
- Pickleball Brackets ranks players by skill level and then you generally play two rounds in groups of 4 or 5 players depending on the number of players signed up for the Ladder.
- After the first round you may move up the Ladder or down the Ladder, to a new group depending on your wins/loses (hence the term Ladder)
- Ladders are competitive, fun ways to improve your pickleball rating. Check the calendar for scheduled Ladder play. You can generally sign up 2 days ahead to play in the appropriate skill level Ladder.
- The FPC currently has both a Novice Ladder for players with a skill level of 3.25 and below and an Intermediate/Advanced Ladder for players above 3.25.
- FPC uses Pickleball Brackets for Ladder play.

## Section 3: Equipment and Safety

### 1. What equipment do I need to play pickleball?

- You do not need to buy a paddle right away! Most experienced FPC members have several paddles and do not mind providing a paddle for you to try. It is however, advisable to e-mail the club to let us know when you plan to attend, and we can make certain there are paddles for you to use. Trying several paddles before buying one is recommended.
- Paddles can be purchased at Fredericton sports stores. Paddle prices range from \$100.00 - \$250.00+.
- You can also order paddles from on-line manufacturers.

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- Paddles differ in weight, shape, grip size and performance.
- You also need a good pair of court shoes and protective eyewear are recommended.
- Safety
  - Wear proper court shoes.
  - Warm up slowly before you play vigorously.
  - Protective eyewear is recommended.
  - Stay hydrated.
  - Don't run backwards on the court.
  - Beware of your surroundings and where loose balls are at all times.

### Section 4: Additional Information

#### 1. What else should I know before I play?

- COVID 19 Protocols.
- The FPC follows the protocols as set out by the NB Provincial Health Dept. We will inform all members if public restrictions on sports clubs change our operations.
- Review the pickleball etiquette document on the FPC website. [Documents | Frederictonpickleballclub.com](#).
- Continue to check the website or Facebook page for upcoming social events and fun mixers. Pickleballers love to party!!
- There is lots to learn about pickleball but the most important aspect is to have fun and meet a bunch of pickleball addicts!

For any further questions, please email: [fton.pickleball@gmail.com](mailto:fton.pickleball@gmail.com) and we hope to see you out on the courts!