

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How do I join the Fredericton Pickleball Club (FPC)?

Go to the Pickleball Canada (PCO) website <https://pickleballcanada.org> and click on the JOIN-RENEW box in the upper right corner and follow the instructions. For convenience, the detailed instructions are shown on the last page on the **Fees** document which is on the FPC website **Document** page: <https://www.frederictonpickleballclub.com/documents>

How much does it cost?

FPC has both **annual Membership fees and Court fees**. See **Fees** document on the FPC website **Document** page for details: <https://www.frederictonpickleballclub.com/documents>
The preferred payment method for Membership and Court fees is via e-transfer to: fton.pickleball@gmail.com

Do I need to be fully vaccinated for Covid-19?

Yes, all players must be fully vaccinated for Covid-19 to play at a venue rented by FPC and at any outdoor event organized by FPC. In NB, fully vaccinated means at least 2 shots of an approved vaccine.

Can I try pickleball before I decide to join?

Yes, you can play at an FPC venue once for **free**. After that you must become an FPC Member and pay Court fees to play at FPC venues. Your membership to Pickleball Canada also provides insurance coverage. <https://www.pickleballcanada.org>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How often are 'Introduction to Pickleball' sessions held?

FPC offers free 'Introduction to Pickleball' sessions once a month. Check the times and locations that are posted on the Events page on the FPC website: <https://www.frederictonpickleballclub.com/events> During the COVID pandemic, FPC may not provide 'Introductions to Pickleball' sessions.

Can I play if I don't join the club?

Yes, but not at FPC venues. You must be an FPC Member and pay Court fees to play at venues rented by FPC.

Who, when and how do I pay?

Every player must **pay before you play**. The annual membership fee is paid on-line through Pickleball Canada. See section 1 of this document. Court fees are paid via e-transfers to **fton.pickleball@gmail.com** If you don't use e-transfer then you can pay by cheque, payable to 'The Fredericton Pickleball Club'. Contact the FPC Treasurer, Richard Doucet, if you have any questions.

Are there parking fees?

Only the UNB Currie Center charges for parking. A parking pass, which costs \$10 for one month or \$30 for 4 months, plus HST, can be purchased at the Currie Center lower-level entrance reception.

Do I need to buy my own paddle and pickleballs?

Not right away. FPC provides balls at FPC venues and events and has a few Demo paddles for use at an FPC play session. We do not loan out these paddles.

How much does a paddle cost?

Approximately \$100 - \$200 for a decent paddle.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What type of paddle should I buy?

This is a personal choice but FPC does not recommend a wooden paddle. Try the FPC or YMCA paddles, borrow or purchase one (on-trial) before you commit. Paddles differ by weight, shape, grip size and performance. A lot of players upgrade their paddle as they become more experienced.

Where can I buy a paddle and balls?

There are many options. In Fredericton, you can buy paddles at Cleves, McTavish for Sports, and Canadian Tire. You can also order on-line from many manufacturers. FPC recommends that you try various demo paddles before you buy one. Demo paddles are available for you to try. This 'try before you buy' practice is a great opportunity for you to find a paddle you like before you purchase one.

Where and when can I play?

See FPC website for play Calendar and play Locations:
<https://www.frederictonpickleballclub.com/play-calendar>

October - May

FPC indoor play will be at various indoor FPC rented venues which may include Journey Wesleyan Church, Marysville Baptist Church, UNB Currie Center, New Maryland Elementary School, Nashwaaksis Field House, Fredericton High School, Gibson-Neil School, Devon Middle School and Connaught Street School.

June - September

We also play outdoors at Queen's Square, but this is a public facility so FPC does not control who can play, therefore, play times are only suggestions. FPC also plays at the Nasis tennis courts by the Nasis Middle School as they are lined for 8 pickleball courts, but you need your own portable nets and balls. Four dedicated outdoor pickleball across the road from the Nasis tennis courts will be available in the summer of 2022. FPC also plays at the Leeds tennis courts as they also have lines 8 pickleball courts, but you need your own nets and balls.

Do I just show up and play?

Yes. Check the play Calendar. Ask someone to show you the ropes. We are a friendly group!! Intermediate sessions (3.0 and above) are for experienced players and NOT recommended for beginners.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Do I need a partner?

No but we play doubles the vast majority of the time and have a system to determine the next 4 players to go out when a court becomes available. The system ensures you switch partners on a regular basis.

Will I only play with beginners?

No but you can if you choose. FPC schedules play and practice sessions for those either new to the sport, designates certain courts for less experienced players and uses a skill rating system to match players of similar skill levels. Check the "Ratings Guide" document on the FPC website Documents page to determine your level of play.

<https://www.frederictonpickleballclub.com/documents>

FPC also schedules:

- For players rated 2.0, 2.5 and 3.0. **Not recommended for 3.5 and above.**
- For players rated 3.0, 3.5, 4.0. **Not recommended for 2.0 and 2.5.**
- Open Play: For all skill levels but may have assigned courts.
- Organized Play: Designated courts, round robins, shootouts, ladder play etc. This may be for specific skill levels or open to all with assigned courts.

Do I need to take lessons before I play?

No, but you would be more comfortable after learning some basic rules, safety issues, and get the feel of the ball at an **'Introduction to Pickleball'** session

Does FPC give lessons?

Yes. We currently offer lessons once a week for two different groups of skill levels. One group has players rated 2.0, 2.5 or 3.0 and the other group has players rated 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0. These training sessions are for FPC members only and they are free. See play Calendar for times and locations. During the COVID pandemic, FPC may not provide lessons.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is a shootout?

A shootout is play where players compete in round-robin play against players that are of similar skill level. Players must register in Pickleball Brackets in advance to play. Typically, there are 5 or 6 players per court which is assigned by the Shootout Director. The number per court depends on the number that registered. Initially the assignments are based on the player's self-rating and over time the assignments are based on their rating from the shootout results.

Is there anything else I should know before I try it?

Safety:

Wear proper court shoes.
Warm up slowly before you play vigorously.
Wear safety glasses.
Stay hydrated
Don't go backwards on the court.

Court Etiquette:

Don't walk behind, alongside, or into a court while play is in session.
Use the system in place to determine who plays next.
The team receiving the ball determines whether if the ball is in or out.
The opposing team **always** gets the benefit of any doubt on a line call.
The opposing team does **not** challenge the call.
When a game ends, acknowledge your opponents at the net and leave the court promptly.
Don't take the game too seriously.
Pickleball involves strategy that takes a while to learn.

Most important - have fun and meet a bunch of nice pickleball addicts!