

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)?

- You must be an FPC member and pay court fees to play at venues rented and scheduled by FPC.
- To become an FPC member, register and pay through the Pickleball Canada website. Annual membership fees are \$32.26.
 - 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 are on the FPC website Documents tab. ([Documents | freddypickleball \(frederictonpickleballclub.com\)](#))
 - Current fees are in the **Court Fees - 2024** document on the FPC website Documents tab ([Documents | freddypickleball \(frederictonpickleballclub.com\)](#)). Court fees are paid by e-transfer to fton.pickleball@gmail.com.

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 seven days per week.
- Access to time for drills and training.
- Many opportunities to play either socially or competitively.
- Participation in social events, both during play and outside of pickleball.
- We guarantee you will have fun.

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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 ([Play Calendar \(frederictonpickleballclub.com\)](https://frederictonpickleballclub.com))

Places to play pickleball between October and May:

- Journey Church
- Bridge Church
- UNB Currie Centre (parking pass required weekdays)
- Connaught Street School
- Hanwell Park Academy
- Abony Family Tennis Centre

Public facilities to play outside between June and October:

- Nashwaaksis Middle School
- Nashwaaksis Middle School tennis courts (nets are required)
- Lian-Valcour Neighborhood Park
- Queen's Square
- Willie O'Ree Place (to be completed summer of 2024)
- High Point Ridge Park (to be completed summer of 2024)

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.

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- **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.

7. I am visiting Fredericton and would like to play indoor pickleball. Can I pay a visitor fee?

- Yes. The FPC allows visitors to the Fredericton area to pay and play in our indoor venues. The visitor fee is \$10.00 per day. The preferred method to pay a Drop-in fee is by e-transfer to fton.pickleball@gmail.com.

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” or our 4-week Beginner Training.
 - Introduction sessions are held monthly. Pre-registration is required and the cost is \$20. The times and locations are posted on the Play Calendar or the FPC Facebook page. FPC supplies all equipment for the session. Participants need indoor court shoes and comfortable clothing.

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- 4-week Beginner Training is held twice monthly. Pre-registration is required and the cost is \$50. The times and locations are posted on the Play Calendar or the FPC Facebook page. FPC supplies all equipment for the session; however, participants are encouraged to purchase a paddle. Participants need indoor court shoes and comfortable clothing.
- Training sessions are also available to members periodically through Taylored Pickleball Academy

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.
- FPC uses an app call Pickleball Brackets for Ladder play. 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.

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.

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- 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.
- Paddles differ in weight, shape, grip size and performance.
- You also need a good pair of court shoes and protective eyewear is 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?

- The FPC follows the COVID-19 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 | freddypickleball \(frederictonpickleballclub.com\)](#)).
- Continue to check the website or Facebook page for upcoming social events and fun mixers. Pickleball players love to socialize!!
- There is lots to learn about pickleball but the most important aspect is to have fun and meet a bunch of pickleball addicts!

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