



Pickleball Basics

Basic Overview

Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis and table tennis. Pickleball is played inside or outside on a doubles badminton-sized court: 20' x 44'. Pickleball is a game for the whole family and players can either play doubles or singles but doubles is by far the most common.

The Serve

Serves are made diagonally, starting with the right-hand or even service-court and alternating each serve. The served ball must clear the seven-foot non-volley-zone (NVZ), also called the “kitchen”, in front of the net and land in the diagonal service court. If the ball touches the net but still lands within the appropriate service court, the serve is good. The server continues to serve, alternating service courts, until their team faults. Serves are always underhand.

Double-Bounce Rule

Each team must play their first shot off of the bounce. That is, the receiving team must let the serve bounce and the serving team must let the return of the serve bounce before playing it. Once these two bounces have occurred, the ball can either be volleyed or played off the bounce.

Scoring

Points are only scored by the serving side. The server calls the score before serving by saying their team's score first, then the opponent team's score and then saying 1 or 2 to indicate if that person is the first or second server for that team. A server that says “3-2-1” indicates that the score is 3-2 for the serving team and that the person serving is the first server for that team.

Volleys

To volley means to hit a ball in the air without first letting it bounce. In pickleball, this can only be done when the player's feet are behind the “kitchen” line and the person does not enter the “kitchen” after the volley. There is an NVZ, or “kitchen”, on each side of the net to prevent “spiking” in close proximity to the net.

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Faults

A fault is committed when the ball:

- touches any part of the “kitchen” on the serve (including the NVZ line).
- is hit out of bounds
- is volleyed from the “kitchen”
- is volleyed before the first bounce has occurred on each side

Fredericton Pickleball Club (FPC)

You must be a member to play with FPC. Members of FPC are also members of Pickleball New Brunswick (PBNB) and Pickleball Canada (PCO). Members pay the following Fees:

1. Annual Membership Fees for FPC, PBNB and PCO (**\$32.26 in 2023**)
2. FPC Court Fees

For details, see the **Fees** documents on the FPC website:

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

Executive Committee

President - Ann Marie Wood-Seems	annmarie.woodseems@gmail.com
Past President - Alden Briggs	alden.briggs@icloud.com
1 st VP - Gail Costello	pickleballgailnb@gmail.com
2 nd VP - Mary Jacobs	mary.jacobs@td.com
Treasurer - Thibeault Sanchez	fton.pickleball@gmail.com
Secretary - Ann Flynn	annelizabethflynn@gmail.com

Helpful Links

Fredericton Pickleball Club Website

<http://www.frederictonpickleballclub.com>

Fredericton Pickleball Club (Facebook)

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=fredericton%20pickleball%20club>

Pickleball Canada

<http://pickleballcanada.org/>