

# Pickleball Fact Sheet

## History:

- Originated at the home of Joel Pritchard (U.S. Congress) in Seattle, Washington in 1965.
- The game began as a family activity when Congressman Pritchard and family could not find enough good badminton equipment to use. Pickleball was formed after modifying rules and replacing the racquets with paddles.
- The name came from the Pritchards' cocker spaniel, Pickles, that kept running away with the ball whenever it landed off the court.

## General Rules:

- The serve must be hit underhand and each team must play off the first bounce.
- After the ball has bounced once on each side, both teams can either volley the ball in the air or play it off the bounce.
- To volley a ball means to hit it in the air without first letting it bounce.
- No volleying is permitted within the 7-foot non-volley zone.
- Both players on the serving team are allowed to serve, and a team scores points only when serving.
- A game is played to 11 points and a team must win by at least 2.
- Points are lost by hitting the ball out of bounds, hitting the net, stepping into the non-volley zone and volleying the ball, or by volleying the ball before the ball has bounced on each side of the net.
- A ball landing on any line is considered good.
- If a fault is made by the receiving team, a point is scored by the serving team.
- Player in right hand court serves the ball first.
- Both servers must have at least one foot behind the baseline while serving.

## Doubles Play Rules:

- When the serving team wins a point, its players will switch courts and the same player will continue to serve.
- When the serving team makes its first fault, players will stay in the same court and the second partner will then serve.
- When the serving team makes its second fault, it will stay in the same court and turn the ball over to the other team.
- Players switch courts only after scoring.

## Court Dimensions:

