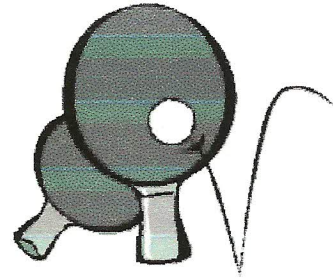


# Table Tennis

The game of table tennis can be played by two people (singles) or four people (doubles). The game begins with a volley for serve. The winner of the volley will serve first and is called the server. The loser of the volley will receive first and is called the receiver. A game of table tennis is 21 points and the winner must be ahead by at least two points. A game of 11-0 is a shutout win.

Each player will serve five points in a row. The server always begins serving from the right hand service court. The server must make the serve bounce once in his right hand service court and then in his opponent's right hand (diagonal) service court. If the serve bounces twice on the server's side, does not bounce on the table or lands in the wrong service court, it is a fault serve and the receiver gets the point. If the serve hits the net and lands in the correct service court, it is called a let serve and the serve is replayed. A serve that is a fault serve or a let serve cannot be played. The server must switch service courts after each point. Both the server and the receiver can score points.



After the ball is served, players may hit the ball only one time on their side of the table. The ball may be hit with the paddle only and must be returned over the net onto the opponent's side of the table. If the ball does not hit the table, a player may choose to play the ball. If the ball hits the net on a volley and goes over, it is good and must be played. A player may not touch the top of the table or reach over the net during play.

How a player can lose a point:

- Serving player fails to make a good serve
- Receiving player fails to make a good return
- A player causes the ball not to land on the table
- A player hits the ball before it bounces on his or her side.
- A player touches the table.
- A player touches the net.
- A player moves the playing surface while the ball is in play.
- A player hits the ball twice successively
- A player allows the ball to bounce twice successively
- In doubles, a player strikes the ball out of sequence.