



ASI INTRAMURAL SPORTS

PICKLEBALL RULES

GENERAL INTRAMURAL RULES

The USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) will govern play with the exceptions of the rules below.

1. ELIGIBILITY

- a. Only LBSU Students, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni
- b. All participants must be **active members of the SRWC** and have a current Fusion Play account.
- c. Participants must present a CSULB Picture I.D. before the start of the game.
- d. Alumni may use Driver's License for picture I.D
- e. NO EXCEPTIONS! NO I.D., NO PLAY.

2. ROSTERS

- a. Players cannot play until they pay their \$20 league fee.
- b. Players MUST BE on the Fusion Play roster in order to play.
- c. The minimum amount of players on a roster is 2.
- d. The maximum amount of players on a roster is 4.

3. TRADES

- a. Teams are allowed to add to their roster and trade players between teams up to the first game on the 4th week of games.
 - a. There will be no exceptions for this rule.

4. APPROPRIATE TEAM NAME POLICY

- a. All team names must be appropriate and respectful for a diverse campus recreation environment. Team names may **not** include language or references that are:

- a. Offensive, vulgar, or contain profanity
- b. Sexually explicit or suggestive
- c. Discriminatory or derogatory toward any individual or group (including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ability, etc.)
- d. Promoting violence, illegal activity, or substance abuse
- e. In violation of university policies or community standards

5. FORFEITS

Purpose

Our season is short, and every scheduled game matters. Forfeits reduce playing opportunities for teams and participants who look forward to competing each week. To protect the integrity of the league and the experience of all players, the following forfeit policy applies.

a. Defaults

- a. A default is recorded when your team forfeits the game by notifying the league supervisor that they are unable to attend the game at least **6 hours** prior to game time.
- b. If a team records two defaults in a single season, it qualifies as one forfeit.
- c. If a team records three defaults in a single season, they are disqualified from playoff contention

b. Forfeits

- a. A forfeit is recorded when your team does not notify the supervisor at all (no call no show) or notifies them but fails to do so at least **6 hours** before game time.
- b. Forfeit Penalty Structure

1. The first and second forfeit will result in a \$10.00 penalty that needs to be paid at the Intramural Desk one day prior to the team's next game. If the fee is not paid, the team will be removed from the schedule until the fee has been paid
2. The third forfeit will result in elimination from playoff schedule

c. Playoff Implications

- a. Teams that accumulate any combination of **three (3) forfeits and/or defaults** during the regular season will be **removed from playoff contention** and become ineligible for postseason participation.

6. SPORTSMANSHIP

- a. Teams must display good sportsmanship throughout the intramural season in order to qualify for playoffs.

- b. Teams that fail to display good sportsmanship throughout the season can potentially be eliminated from the playoffs at the Recreational Sports Manager's discretion

7. PLAYER CONDUCT

- a. Actions that are potentially dangerous to participants, spectators, game officials or supervisors and/or conduct that is detrimental to the mission of the Intramural Sports Program will not be tolerated.
 - a. No players may physically intimidate or verbally abuse Intramural Sports Staff. Violations of this nature are considered unsportsmanlike conduct and at the discretion of the game official or supervisor may result in an ejection.
 - b. Acts of aggression or physical violence will not be tolerated. These include but are not limited to throwing a punch, kicking an individual or any other aggressive act. Any player guilty of such an act immediately before, during, or after an Intramural Sports contest shall be expelled from further participation in Intramural Sports.
 - c. Leaving the Bench Area or Defensive Position to participate in an altercation: A player, coach, or bench personnel shall be ejected if s/he leaves the bench or coaching area to participate in an altercation. In addition, any player who leaves his position to participate in an altercation, regardless of his/her intentions, shall be ejected.
- b. In any case, if you are ejected from the game for any reason, you are **SUSPENDED** for one week league play. The Recreational Sports Manager has the final say on the matter and can extend suspension if deemed necessary.

8. PLAYOFF SEEDING AND FORMAT

- a. Playoff seeding and postseason formats will be determined by the Intramural Sports staff and/or Intramural Supervisor based on league size, facility availability, scheduling limitations, and overall league operations.
- b. Depending on the league and number of participating teams, postseason formats may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. All teams qualifying for playoffs
 - b. Only the top teams qualifying (ex: Top 4, Top 6, or Top 8)
 - c. Play-in games prior to the official playoff bracket
 - d. Single-elimination or modified bracket formats
- c. Regular season standings, sportsmanship ratings, forfeits/defaults, and overall team eligibility may all be considered when determining playoff qualification and seeding.
- d. The Intramural Supervisor reserves the right to adjust playoff structures, tie-breakers, and scheduling as needed in the best interest of league operations and participant experience.

THE GAME

1. START TIME

- a. Game time is start time. If the minimum number of players are not present at game time, there will be a five-minute grace period. After five minutes, the game will be forfeited. All players must check in with the ASI Intramural League Supervisor with their student ID card.

2. THE PLAYERS

- a. All matched will be doubles format.
 - a. If at any time during the game a team has does not meet the player requirement, the game is over.
- b. Any team may pick up current rostered player(s) from another team in the same league (nomad) to play to avoid a forfeit. (See nomad section)

3. TEAM SPOKESPERSON

- a. The team manager is the only person who may address the official and is the spokesperson for the team.

4. THE COURT

- a. Games will take place in the MAC Gym of the Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

5. EQUIPMENT/ DRESS CODE

a. UNIFORM

- a. A player with blood anywhere on their uniform will be instructed to leave the game until the uniform has been changed or approved after an evaluation by an ASI Intramural Sports supervisor or an ASI facility supervisor.

b. DRESS CODE

- a. Closed-toe shoes must be worn at all times during play.
- b. Athletic attire must be worn at all times during play.
- c. Wearing a hat is not allowed during play.
- d. Intramural officials can remove a player for improper dress code at their discretion.

6. JEWELRY

- a. Jewelry is not permitted; players must remove all jewelry before the start of a game.

- b. If jewelry is not removed, an administrative technical foul will be assessed.

PICKLEBALL RULES

1. All matches will be self-officiated by league participants in accordance with the rules below. Once matches are completed, results will be reported to intramural staff. Intramural staff will be present to provide clarification to leagues rules if necessary.

2. GAME LENGTH

- a. All matches will be doubles format and will be self-officiated.
- b. Teams will be playing best of 5 with a time limit of 50 minutes
 - a. At the end of the 50-minute period, if the best of 5 is not completed, the winner will be declared by the amount of games won and if needed the amount of points scored at the end of the time limit.

2. THE SERVE

- a. The server's arm must be moving in an upward arc when the ball is struck.
- b. Paddle contact with the ball must not be made above the waist level.
- c. The head of the paddle must not be above the highest part of the wrist at contact.
- d. A 'drop serve' is also permitted in which case none of the elements above apply.
- e. At the time the ball is struck, the server's feet may not touch the court or outside the imaginary extension of the sideline or centerline and at least one foot must be behind the baseline on the playing surface or the ground behind the baseline.
- f. The serve is made diagonally crosscourt and must land within the confines of the opposite diagonal court.
- g. Only one serve attempt is allowed per server.

3. SCORING

- a. Points are scored only by the serving team.
- b. Games are played to 11 points, win by 2. There is a hard cap of 15 points for all games.
- c. When the serving team's score is even (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) the player who was the first server in the game for that team will be in the right/even court when serving or receiving; when odd (1, 3, 5, 7, 9) that player will be in the left/odd court when serving or receiving.

4. **TWO-BOUNCE RULE**

- a. When the ball is served, the receiving team must let it bounce before returning, and then the serving team must let it bounce before returning, thus two bounces.
- b. After the ball has bounced once in each team's court, both teams may either volley the ball (hit the ball before it bounces) or play it off a bounce (ground stroke).
- c. The two-bounce rule eliminates the serve and volley advantage and extends rallies.

5. **LINE CALLS**

- a. A ball contacting any part of any line, except the non-volley zone line on a serve, is considered "in."
- b. A serve contacting the non-volley zone line is short and a fault.

6. **NON-VOLLEY ZONE**

- a. The non-volley zone is the court area within 7 feet on both sides of the net.
- b. Volleying is prohibited within the non-volley zone. This rule prevents players from executing smashes from a position within the zone.
- c. It is a fault if, when volleying a ball, the player steps on the non-volley zone, including the line and/or when the player's momentum causes them or anything they are wearing or carrying to touch the non-volley zone including the associated lines.
- d. It is a fault if, after volleying, a player is carried by momentum into or touches the non-volley zone, even if the volleyed ball is declared dead before this happens.
- e. A player may legally be in the non-volley zone any time other than when volleying a ball.
- f. The non-volley zone is commonly referred to as "the kitchen."

7. **FAULTS**

- a. A fault is any action that stops play because of a rule violation.
- b. A fault by the receiving team results in a point for the serving team.
- c. A fault by the serving team results in the server's loss of serve or side out.
- d. A fault occurs when:
 - i. A serve does not land within the confines of the receiving court
 - ii. The ball is hit into the net on any serve or any return
 - iii. The ball is volleyed before a bounce has occurred on each side

- iv. The ball is hit out of bounds
- v. A ball is volleyed from the non-volley zone
- vi. A ball bounces twice before being struck by the receiver
- vii. A player, player's clothing, or any part of a player's paddle touches the net or the net post when the ball is in play
- viii. There is a violation of a service rule
- ix. A ball in play strikes a player or anything the player is wearing or carrying
- x. A ball in play strikes any permanent object before bouncing on the court

8. **DETERMINING SERVING TEAM**

- a. A game of rock, paper, scissors will be played before each match to determine which team serves.

NOMAD POLICY

Purpose: To establish a guideline for teams short of the minimum number of participants required to participate in a scheduled intramural game the opportunity to field a competitive roster without compromising the integrity of the league.

NOMAD DEFINITION: Any current LBSU student/faculty/staff/alumni with an active SRWC membership and eligible Fusion Play account; rostered and playing an intramural sport

HOW IT WORKS: Any team may pick up current rostered player(s) from another team in the same league to play for their team to avoid forfeit and play competitively. Teams must be scheduled for a sanctioned intramural game and have at least one less player than the required minimum per sport. Teams may only add enough nomads to bring their team roster up to the required minimum needed to participate.

TEAM ELIGIBILITY:

- i. Teams must announce nomads to officials and opposing captain during pregame captains meeting
- ii. Teams may only pick up enough players to field the minimum required participants as defined by sport
- iii. If at any time during the game a current rostered player signs in, a corresponding nomad must sign out.
- iv. Teams are responsible for the sportsmanship/actions of entire team
- v. Teams may NOT use nomads during the playoffs

NOMAD ELIGIBILITY

- vi. Nomads must be eligible to participate in LBSU Intramural Activities
- vii. Nomads must prove that they have a current Fusion Play account
- viii. If a nomad is currently not on a roster, they will automatically be added to the first team they play with.

- ix. Nomads cannot play in playoffs
- x. Any sportsmanship/behavior penalties will carry over to Nomads current team