

# OPEN PLAY

Pickleball at the JCC Rockland is a recreational and social activity which is open to members of all skill levels. When the full gym is in use, the right side is suggested for beginner to lower intermediate play and the left side is for higher intermediate and advanced play. Players rotate among available courts to ensure equal access for everyone. Stacking may be used to allow groups of people with similar skills to play together while still allowing rotation among all players.

## **JCC PICKLEBALL ROTATION ETIQUETTE**

Paddles are placed in the paddle rack starting from the left. The next player's paddle goes to the right of the first paddle. Once the rack is full, new paddles are placed in the rack starting again at the left side. The sliding pickleball is moved to indicate which paddle is up next. People play in the exact order in which the paddles were placed in the line unless all players agree to split to ensure a fairer game.

*Games are 11 points, win by 2.* Maximum of 15 points when people are waiting. When more than 8 players are waiting, games should be played to 9 points, win by 1

Paddles are always added in the following sequence:

**Arriving Players (AP), Winners (W), Runner Ups (RU)** when 1-4 players are waiting winners may remain on the court with next 2 players on when 5 or more players are waiting begin 4 on/off

### EQUIPMENT

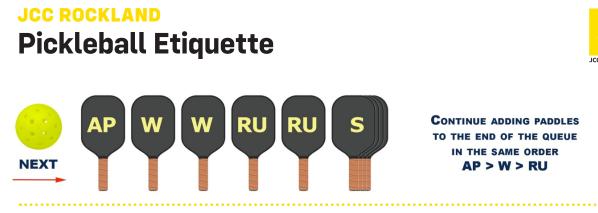
All players are expected to supply their own pickleballs and paddles. All players should have balls available. Please do not rely on other players to provide balls.

### **PICKLEBALL SAFETY:**

- If you hit a ball onto the other court, call out "Ball on court."
- Do not run onto another court unannounced.
- Come prepared with proper footwear court shoes/sneakers. Running shoes are discouraged.
- Stretch before and after you play.
- Never dive in order to hit a ball.

#### **RESERVATION SYSTEM**

All pickleball reservations are posted on the Technogym App. JCC Rockland requires reservations for Pickleball. Reservations open three days prior to the date you want to play. We can allow up to 40 players per reservation when all 4 courts are available (full gymnasium), and up to 20 when two courts are open (half of the gymnasium). Once players arrive, they follow the signage to determine which is the appropriate side of the gym to play on based on their skill level. They then follow the sections on "JCC Pickleball Rotation Etiquette," and stacking for details.



#### STACKING

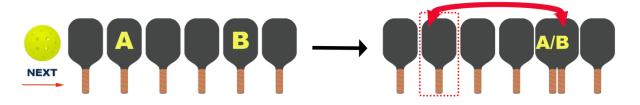
To address the various skill levels of all the players a process that involves stacking is used. This allows groups of people with similar skills to play together while still allowing rotation among all players.

Paddles should be "stacked" together by placing paddles in the same colored section in the paddle rack.

If there are less than 4 paddles in front of a stack of paddles(S) it is up to the stacked players to either break up or allow other players to jump ahead. As a courtesy to all players if there are not enough players of similar skills please volunteer to jump in with the other players or stacking should stop. To ensure this is fair and not used to "jump ahead": People who want to play together stack their paddles together with the player's paddle that is farthest from the next up (ball) indicator.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

If player A agrees to play with player B (whose paddle is in line behind player A's paddle, player A must move their own paddle and place it with player B's paddle.



If four players choose to play a game together, all four players will place their paddles with the paddle belonging to the player of the group that is farthest from the Next indicator.

\*\* When the group of four finishes their game please do not stack the same four paddles at the end of the line, player rotation is key for open play.

The protocols described are intended to allow court time for as many players as possible. Also, please note many players do not stay for the full length of their reservation.

Similarly, if you book a timeslot and decide not to play, kindly unbook yourself. It is vital to the continuation of the program that the JCC have an accurate accounting of who is playing at the facility.