Saint Joseph’s University Recreation and Intramurals
Pickleball Rules
www.sju.edu/recreation

**General Information**

**Eligibility:**
1. Each team captain must submit a completed Intramural Sports Roster with the required fee, to the Rec Office before the published date. All players must sign his/her name on the team roster/waiver.
2. Game time is forfeit time. Teams forfeiting will post a loss for that particular game and may be declared ineligible for the playoffs. Any team which forfeits twice will be banned from further competition in the league.
3. All participants must be a current student or faculty and staff member at Saint Joseph's University.
4. Participants can be on the roster of only one single sex team and only one co-rec team.
5. Teams may add new players to their roster prior to the mid-season point.
6. Players must participate in at least 2 games prior to the playoffs.

**All players are required to present a valid Saint Joseph's University ID prior to every intramural contest. Those who fail to show their ID will not be allowed to participate.**

**The Court:**
The size of the court is 20’ by 44’. The size will be slightly reduced in order to use the racquetball courts.

**The Serve:**
1. Player must have one foot touching the back wall when serving.
2. The serve must be made underhand. The paddle must pass below the waist.
3. The server must hit the ball in the air on the serve. The server is NOT allowed to bounce it, then hit it.
4. The service is made diagonally cross court and must clear the non-volley zone. Only 1 serve attempt is allowed, except if the ball touches the net on the serve and lands in the proper service court. Then the serve may be taken over.

**Double Bounce Rule:**
1. The receiver must let the ball bounce before returning the serve. The server must also let the return hit bounce before playing it.
2. After the 2 bounces have occurred, the ball can either be volleyed or played off the bounce.

**Volley:**
1. To volley a ball means to hit it in the air without first letting it bounce. All volleying must be done with player’s feet behind the non-volley zone line.
2. It is a fault if the player steps over the line on his volley follow through.

**Fault:**
1. Not clearing the net.
2. Stepping into the non-volley zone and volleying the ball.
3. Volleying the ball before it has bounced once on each side of the net as outlined in the ‘double bounce’ rule.

**Scoring:**
1. A player shall score a point only when serving. The game is played to 11 points; a player must win by 2 points.
2. A 2 out of 3 format will be used. The first player to win 2 games wins the match.

**Players and Equipment:**
1. Players cannot wear any jewelry, hats, or anything considered dangerous by an official.
2. All players must wear non-marking rubber soled shoes.

**Miscellaneous:**
1. The line is IN. If any part of the ball touches the line, it is in bounds.
2. The ball may be played off the back wall as long as it bounces before it hits the wall. When the ball bounces and then hits the back wall, the ball must be played over the net before it bounces again.