

Mount Hebron Viking Backers (VBPP) Spring 2022 Pickleball Program Rules

Revised 05/15/2022

- A. The USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) rulebook will govern all pickleball play unless otherwise stated by the Mount Hebron Viking Backers Pickleball Program Team (VBPP). Please refer to both the rules summary and detailed rules provided on the Viking Backers website.
- B. Pickleball is played on a court sized: 20' x 44.' Up to 8 courts will be lined and numbered within the space of the Mt. Hebron tennis courts. Lines will be evident and laid out as perfectly as possible. Court assignments for each match will be defined by the league schedule and cannot be changed.
- C. Players can determine who will serve first by coin toss, or full consensus. Teams should decide BEFORE PLAY whether or not to switch ends halfway through the game. Due to the number of concurrent games being played during league night, this detail must be managed between teams without intervention by VBPP staff.
- D. The VBPP league will be split into two divisions: Beginner and Intermediate/Advanced. Teams from each division will not normally play each other but may be asked to do so to accommodate schedules, at the discretion of VBPP.
- E. Each game will be played for 15 minutes.
- F. Teams may use an infinite number of substitutes across the season. Two players, however, must be defined and play an entire game. A team of 3 can rotate play during a single night of play but cannot rotate play within a single game. A sub may only play for one team per day.
- G. Each court will be self-regulated by the players. Please do your best to ensure that you are calling balls in and out of bounds fairly. Each team calls their own balls in or out on their own side of the court. If your team is unsure or did not see the ball, then the opponent gets the benefit of the doubt on the line calls made. All disputes must be settled within the two teams competing and if no agreement can be made, a redo is allowed.
- H. Teams are subject to disqualification for inappropriate behavior. The purpose of this league is to provide fun, friendly competition and to promote enjoyment of the sport! Please report any concerns to VBPP staff immediately.
- I. The VBPP takes the health and safety of its players very seriously. The VBPP staff has full authority to ask a player to remove themselves from competition if exhibiting symptoms of a concussion, heat related illness, or any other health risk to the player or those around them. As a player, and a teammate, and a member of our community, all players share responsibility to report any health concerns immediately and to act accordingly, as agreed to when signing the playing waiver, and to abstain from attendance if they are not able to participate as outlined in our waiver.
- J. Forfeits. In the event a team does not provide at least 2 players, each game not attended will be counted as a forfeit; a win for the team present and a loss for the team absent.
- K. Substitutes are allowed to substitute for more than one team, however, a Sub may only play for one team per week.
- L. Weather and Cancellations: The VBPP has sole discretion in the decisions to postpone or cancel play due to weather. The VBPP will communicate via email no later than 30 minutes ahead of the planned start time when a weather related cancellation is able to be reasonably predicted. Canceled Tuesday night games will be postponed to the following day (Wednesday). Canceled Wednesday night games will

be permanently canceled, and no scores captured. During play, VBPP staff will act to make final decisions. Note:

- a. Play will not be allowed when the Accuweather “Real Feel” is 95 degrees or higher
 - b. Play will not be allowed when the courts are wet from a prior or currently occurring rain
 - c. Play will not be allowed when there is thunder or lightning – any observance of this will result in game play stoppage of 30 minutes; participants must seek shelter and a decision will be made by the VBPP whether and how to proceed.
- M. The VBPP will be acting in good faith and consistent with HCPSS policies that govern outdoor play for the other athletic programs.