

Start Times --Just in case you don't know where to check your start times go to Pickleballbrackets.com and locate this specific tournament. Scroll to lower middle portion of tournament details screen and click on “Start Times”. This page also provides access to additional tournament information. You are responsible for checking your start times, the events you are playing in and the days you are scheduled to play.

Drop Out -- If you must drop out or if your partner is dropping out, let tournament operations know as soon as possible. If you are looking for a new partner also inform us. Requirements for a new partner are the potential partner must already be registered in the tournament, and they must be able to play in the same age and skill bracket as you were originally scheduled.

ANIMALS – Per guidelines set by Opelika Parks and Recreation, no pets are allowed inside the court pavilions unless they are officially identified (card and vest) service animals.

R/V – No R/V parking is allowed on-site per policy of Opelika Parks and Recreation.

Player Profile -- We will be using texting to advise you when your bracket has started and what court your match is being played on. Please bring your cell phone fully charged and keep it with you. Remember, the **FIRST matches of every day will start at 8:00 a.m.** You should receive an early text stating to report to your court. Use this message to find out what court you will be playing on at 8:00 a.m. Your balls and scoresheets, starting-server bands will all be on the court for the FIRST rounds of the day. REMEMBER - Charge your phones. There will be a phone charging station at the tournament desk.

You are required to check-in each day you play.

Match Briefing/Orientation –

You are responsible for reading the following information prior to your first match:

Except for the first match of the day, one player from each team reports to the tournament desk to pick up balls, scoresheet, basket and starting

server bands when applicable. The player from the first team will be given one ball and the second team player will receive the second ball, clipboard, scoresheet, starting server bands, if necessary, and basket.

Your match format is noted on the scoresheet. **All matches are "WIN BY 2"**. There are two 1-minute timeouts per team per game. There are two minutes between games. In the last game of a match or if the match only has 1 game there will be an indication on the scoresheet when to switch ends. Matches played 2 out of 3 to 11, switch ends if the third game is required, switch ends at 6. If playing one game to 11 switch ends at 6 and a game to 15 switch ends at 8. You have one minute to switch ends.

Be sure your paddle is on the USA Pickleball approved paddles list and that there is a manufacturer's applied "USA Pickleball Approved" (or similar) mark.

Starting Server Bands are required in all doubles matches and will be issued by the tournament. These starting server bands must be visible to the other team and if a match is refereed, visible to referee. To avoid confusion, the starting server should not wear anything similar in color or design to the starting server identification that makes it hard to distinguish.

The team picking up the basket with the scoresheet should ask a player from the other team to pick a "1" or a "2" which is on the back of the scoresheet. The winner of that choice will be the first to select "serve, receive, end, or defer." After the first choice is made, the other team cannot defer and must choose from the remaining option(s). Once a team makes its choice, it cannot be changed.

It is the team/players responsibility to call their own line faults and foot faults and non-volley zone infractions. Please resolve all disputes or contact a court monitor to have an official come to the court.

All matches may request a referee and may do so at any time prior to or during a match.

If **medical attention** is needed, please seek out a yellow vested court monitor or tournament official.

When the match is over, orient the scoresheet with the winning team on the top, clip to left. Circle the winning teams' name and write the scores on the

area provided on the scoresheet. We will be using “Simple” scoresheets for all non-refereed matches. There are sample scoresheets in each basket with examples of 2 out of 3 matches to 11 on one side and a match to 15 on the other. Once the scoresheet is filled out and the losing team verifies the score by initialing the scoresheet, return both balls, basket, and scoresheet to the tournament desk in a timely fashion. Please remain at the tournament desk until the scoresheet has been verified.

You have 10 minutes from when the match start times are texted out to report to the court and begin playing. If a team has not reported to the court within 10 minutes from the match start time, they will forfeit the first game and if you are not on court within an additional 5 minutes you will have forfeited the match.

It is your responsibility to have read and that you understand the current USA Pickleball Rules.

Safe travels,

Jim Young – Tournament Operations
Donna Angarano – Desk Operations