



FILA Country Club:

PICKLEBALL OPEN 2025

EVENT NAME : FILA Pickleball Championship Series 2026

DATE : 04 Sept

VENUE : Pickle By The Sea

DAY/ DATE	CATEGORIES	PARTICIPANTS	GROUPS
SATURDAY (29 Aug)	Novice Men Doubles	32	16
	Novice Mixed Doubles	32	16
	Novice Women Doubles	32	16
	Intermediate Men Doubles	32	16
	Intermediate Mixed Doubles	32	16
	Intermediate Women Doubles	32	16
	Advanced Men Doubles	32	16
	Advanced Mixed Doubles	32	16

Remark: Each Player able to join multiple categories.

DAY/ DATE	CATEGORIES	TIME TABLE
SATURDAY (29 Aug))	Novice Men Doubles	06:00 PM – 9:00PM
	Novice Mixed Doubles	09:00 AM – 12:00PM
	Novice Women Doubles	06:00 PM – 9:00PM
	Intermediate Men Doubles	06:00 PM – 9:00PM
	Intermediate Mixed Doubles	09:00 AM – 12:00PM
	Intermediate Women Doubles	04:00 PM – 07:30PM
	Advanced Men Doubles	02:00 PM – 05:00PM
	Advanced Mixed Doubles	09:00 AM – 12:00PM

Remark: **Must Register 30 Minutes** before your Round Robin stage game start.

Tournament Format

Category – Novice/ Intermediate/ Advanced/ Open

	Round Robin	Quarter Finals	Semi Finals	3 rd /4 th Place	Finals
Format	Scoring Rally				
Score	15 Points	21 Point			15 Point
Sets	1 Set				3 Sets
Time-out	1 time per Team (1 Min)				
Deuce	Sudden Death (No Deuce)				

- Group Stage: Round Robin within each group per category.
- Top 2 teams advance to single elimination knockout rounds.
- Slight adjustments to the format may be made in-line with participation numbers.

Tie-Breaking Criteria (Group Stages)

In two or more teams have the same win-loss record at the end of group play, standing will be determined in the following order:

1. Total Point Differential – The difference between total points scored and total points conceded across all group matches.
2. Head-to-Head Result – If exactly two teams are tied, the winner of the match between the two teams will be ranked higher.
3. Coin Toss – If the head-to-head match was cancelled, not played, or inconclusive, the Tournament Director will conduct a coin toss to determine the higher-ranked team.

Grand Tournament Qualification

This tournament forms part of a qualifying series leading to the Grand Tournament. The **Top Four (4) teams in each category** shall qualify for and advance to the **Grand Tournament**.

Upon qualification, the teams concerned **shall be deemed ineligible to participate in any remaining qualifying tournaments within the same series**.

 **QUALIFICATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE GRAND TOURNAMENT IS COMPLETELY FREE OF CHARGE FOR ALL QUALIFYING TEAMS.**

 **All qualified teams are required to wear FILA attire during the Grand Tournament.**

Tournament Brief – Rules of Conduct, Officiating Rules & Dispute Resolution:

All rules and procedures outlined in this Player Handbook & Tournament Regulations shall take precedence for the duration of the event. For any matters not explicitly covered herein, the tournament will refer to the USA Pickleball Official Rulebook (USAP) as the guiding authority.

Punctuality

- Players must register 30 minutes before the game start.
- Failure to register after the assigned match start may result in a forfeit for the whole matches

Player Conduct

All participants must demonstrate good sportsmanship and respect for tournament officials, point guards, event crew and spectators and of course, other players.

Prohibited behavior includes:

- Swearing, taunting, racist remarks or trash talk
- Slamming paddles or balls in anger
- Persistent Arguing with Point Guards or other players
- Deliberate delays or unsporting tactics

Role of Referee

Each court will have an assigned Referee throughout the match, responsibility:

- Call the score clearly before each serve.
- Monitor faults and non-Volley Zone violations.
- Track the score and who's serving.
- Maintain fairness and control, stepping in for rule issues.
- any disrespectful behavior to referee may result in a warning or disciplinary action.

Line Judges

1. In finals or selected matches, line judges may be appointed.
2. They are responsible for calling only the lines assigned to them, and may use hand signals in addition to verbal calls
3. In case of a player appeal, the referee consults the line judge, but the referee's decision is final.

Scores

Scores will be confirmed with players immediately after each match by the assigned Point Guard. Discrepancies must be raised at that time — later appeals may not be entertained.

Warm-Up & Walkovers

- Players are allowed 1 minutes to warm up after being instructed by the point guard or referee.
- Matches must begin within 5 minutes of the scheduled start or when called.
- A 10-minute grace period applies. Failure to arrive within 10 minutes of match start may result in a walkover and recorded loss.

Medical Timeouts

- Each player is entitled to a **maximum of 15 minutes of injury timeout per match**. The timeout **may be taken in multiple intervals and will be counted cumulatively (stackable)**. If the player is unable to resume play after the total 15 minutes has been used, the match will be **declared a forfeit**.

Line Calls

- Players are responsible for making all line calls on their side of the court unless a certified referee or line judge is present and the match has been designated as officiated.
- A ball is in if it touches any part of the line.
- If there is any doubt, the benefit goes to the opponent - "When in doubt, call it in."
- Players must not call a ball out unless they clearly see space between the line and the ball.
- If both partners on a team disagree on whether a ball was out, the ball is considered in.
- Players may not call balls on the opponent's side of the court, doing so may result in official warnings.
- Line-calls may be deferred to the Referee only if both teams agree to defer the decision. A replay will be encouraged when the referee is uncertain.
- A maximum of 2 replays are allowed per match.

Service & Non-Volley Zone (Kitchen) Foot Fault Enforcement

- Players may not volley the ball while standing in the non-volley zone.
- Momentum cannot carry a player into the zone following a volley.

If a Referee calls a fault, the point is awarded to the opposing team. These calls are final and non-appealable. Repeated challenges to Point Guard decisions may result in conduct warnings or penalties.

In-Game Disputes & Challenges

If a disagreement arises (e.g., line call, score dispute, or procedural confusion), players must:

1. First attempt to resolve it respectfully among themselves.
2. If unresolved, the Referee may pause the match and:
 - a. Encourage both sides to agree to a replay, or
 - b. Escalate the issue to the Tournament Director

If needed, a tournament official or master referee may:

1. Make a ruling and instruct players to replay the point or continue from a known score
 2. Issue verbal warnings or code of conduct penalties
 3. Observe the remainder of the match
 4. Assign a certified referee if the dispute escalates.
- Players must not delay the match indefinitely — repeated refusal to continue may result in a default or forfeit.

DUPR Rated Categories

- All players must submit a valid DUPR ID upon registration.
- The DUPR rating considered will be based on the player's rating on the day of their registration. This rating will be final, regardless of any updates made afterward.
- Players without a DUPR rating (NR players) only allow to participate in the Open Category, except for Team DUPR Event.
- DUPR ratings with a reliability of less than 10% will be considered "NR".
- Use of secondary or fake accounts is strictly prohibited. Exceptions may be considered only under special circumstances. Any player found in violation will be disqualified and/or banned from the tournament.
- Deliberately lowering your DUPR rating by submitting false or manipulated match results will result in disqualification and/or a ban from the tournament, and a report will be submitted to DUPR.
- All match results will be recorded and submitted via Sport Sync.
- No protests regarding player eligibility, DUPR ratings, or category placement will be accepted once the respective category has entered the knockout stage. Any concerns or appeals must be submitted before the knockout stage begins.

Paddles/Equipment

Only USAPA-approved and UPA-A-approved paddles are allowed. Paddles such as the Joola Mot TA 15, OEM, or other non-certified paddles will not be accepted for tournament play.

UPA-A Approved Website - <https://upaa.unitedpickleball.com/approved-paddles/>

USAPA- Approved Website - <https://equipment.usapickleball.org/paddle-list/>

Prize Money Policy

- Prize Money is guaranteed only in the event of full participation.
- Should there be insufficient participation, prize amounts will be prorated proportionally based on the number of confirmed participants.

Media Release / Consent of Photography & Videography

- By participating, players and spectators consent to being photographed or filmed during the event. Media may be used for promotional, social media, or sponsor purposes.

The Organiser reserves the right to change the tournament period or terminate the tournament at any time without prior notice. The Organiser shall not be liable for any loss, damage, or expense arising from such changes or termination. The Organiser further reserves the right to modify, amend, delete, or add to these Terms and Conditions at any time without prior notice, and all participants agree to be bound by such revisions. All decisions made by the Organiser are final and binding.