

PARAMOUNT CUP

2026



PLAYER & REGULATIONS HANDBOOK 2026



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PARAMOUNT CUP 2026

Paramount Cup returns following a successful inaugural edition, reaffirming its commitment to growing the sport of pickleball while creating an unforgettable tournament experience.

This year marks a significant milestone as the Paramount Cup becomes an APP Qualifier, elevating the tournament onto a larger competitive platform and providing players with an opportunity to compete for a pathway towards the Association of Pickleball Players (APP).

The 2026 edition brings together exciting competition, enhanced player experiences, and a vibrant festival atmosphere both on and off the courts. Players, families, partners, and the wider pickleball community can look forward to engaging activities and experiences throughout the tournament.

More than just a game, Paramount Cup 2026 also gives back, with RM10 from every registration going towards supporting the Shelter Home for Children.

This handbook has been prepared to help participants, officials, and visitors navigate the tournament with ease. Inside, you will find important information on tournament schedules, competition formats, venue facilities, event guidelines, and other essential details to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience throughout the Paramount Cup 2026.

OFFICIAL VENUE

PLAYA

RACQUET CLUB

A LIFESTYLE RACQUET HAVEN IN THE HEART OF SUBANG

Nestled within PARC Subang — a vibrant lifestyle hub just minutes from SS15 and major highways — PLAYA Racquet Club combines sport, community, and leisure under one roof.

Featuring world-class indoor pickleball and padel courts, PLAYA offers year-round play in a climate-controlled environment surrounded by cafés, fitness studios, and lush recreational spaces. With ample parking and modern amenities, it's more than just a club — it's where the city's racquet culture thrives, fueled by energy, friendship, and competition.



PLAYA RACQUET CLUB, PARC SUBANG LAYOUT

LEGEND

- A. Main Drop Off
- B. Open Courts
- C. VIP Courts & Lounge
- D. Pro Shop
- E. Indoor F&B Plaza
- F. Semi-Open F&B Lawn
- G. Open F&B Lawn
- H. Air Stream Kitchen
- I. Covered Courts
- J. Grand Court
- K. Media Platform
- L. VIP Container
- M. Male Toilet
- N. Female Toilet
- O. Office
- P. Car Park



PARAMOUNT CUP

2026



CASH PRIZE POOL: RM113,760

	CATEGORY			
OPEN	Men's Singles	3,500	2,000	1,000
	Men's Doubles			
	Women's Doubles	5,000	2,500	1,200
	Mixed Doubles			
	35+ Men's Doubles			
	35+ Mixed Doubles			
	45+ Men's Doubles			
	45+ Mixed Doubles			
		4,000	2,000	1,000
HIGH INTERMEDIATE (DUPR < 4.2)	19+ Men's Doubles			
	19+ Mixed Doubles			
INTERMEDIATE (DUPR < 3.5)	19+ Men's Doubles			
	19+ Women's Doubles			
	19+ Mixed Doubles			
	35+ Men's Doubles			
	35+ Women's Doubles			
	35+ Mixed Doubles			
		2,500	1,500	800

PARAMOUNT CUP

2026



CASH PRIZE POOL: RM113,760

	CATEGORY			
NOVICE (<2.8)	19+ Men's Doubles			
	19+ Women's Doubles	1,500	1,000	500
	19+ Mixed Doubles			
JUNIOR	U16 Boy's Singles			
	U14 Co-ed Singles			
	U12 Co-ed Singles	250	150	80
	U10 Co-ed Singles			
	U16 Boys Doubles			
	U14 Co-ed Doubles	500	300	160
	U12 Co-ed Doubles			
	U10 Co-ed Doubles			

SCORING FORMAT

	GROUP TO QUARTER FINALS	SEMIFINALS	3RD/4TH	FINALS
FORMATS	Traditional (002) 11 points	Traditional (002) 15 points	Traditional (002) 15 points	Traditional (002) 11 points
SETS	1 set			Best of 3 sets
TIME-OUTS	1 time out / team (1 min)		1 time out / team / per set (1 min)	
DEUCE	Win by 2			

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The competition consists of Group Stage + Knockout Stage:

Group Stage:

- Traditional scoring to 11 points (Serve to win)

Knockout Stage (Round of 16 onwards):

- Traditional scoring to 11 points (Serve to win)

Semi Finals:

- Traditional scoring to 15 points (Serve to win)

Finals

- Traditional scoring to 11 points (Serve to win)
- Best of 3 sets

General Format:

- 1 set per match
- Serve to win by 1 point
- 1 timeout per team (1 minute)

TIE-BREAKING CRITERIA (GROUP STAGE)

In the event that two or more teams have identical win - loss records at the conclusion of group play, rankings will be determined in the following order:

- **Total Point Differential:** Calculated as total points scored minus total points conceded across all group matches.
- **Head-to-Head Result:** Applicable only if exactly two teams are tied.

TOURNAMENT LINE-UP

DAY 1 : THURSDAY

09:00 - 12:20	45+ Mixed Doubles Open
09:00 - 12:40	Men's Singles Open
13:00 - 16:20	19+ Women's Doubles (DUPR < 3.5)
14:00 - 17:20	45+ Men's Doubles Open
18:00 - 21:40	19+ Mixed Doubles (DUPR < 4.2)
18:00 - 21:40	35+ Women's Doubles (DUPR <3.5)

DAY 2 : FRIDAY

9:00 - 13:00	19+ Women's Doubles (DUPR <2.8)
	35+ Mens Doubles (DUPR <3.5)
14:00 - 17:40	19+ Men's Doubles (DUPR <2.8)
18:00 - 22:20	19+ Men's Doubles (DUPR <3.5)
	35+ Men's Doubles Open

TOURNAMENT LINE-UP

DAY 3 : SATURDAY

09:00 - 12:20	19+ Men's Doubles (DUPR <4.2)
	U10 Coed Singles
	U12 Coed Singles
	U14 Coed Singles
	U16 Boys Singles
13:00 - 16:20	U10 Coed Doubles
	U12 Coed Doubles
	U14 Coed Doubles
	U16 Boys Doubles
17:00 - 21:40	19+ Men's Doubles Open
17:00 - 20:40	19+ Women's Doubles Open

TOURNAMENT LINE-UP

DAY 4 : SUNDAY

8:00 - 12:00

19+ Mixed Doubles (DUPR <2.8)

13:00 - 16:20

19+ Mixed Doubles (DUPR <3.5)

35+ Mixed Doubles (DUPR <3.5)

17:00 - 20:20

19+ Mixed Doubles Open

35+ Mixed Doubles Open

REGISTRATION FEES

NOVICE	RM360/TEAM
INTERMEDIATE	RM360/TEAM
OPEN	RM360/TEAM
SINGLE	RM200/PAX
JUNIOR	RM300/TEAM
JUNIOR SINGLE	RM150/PAX

DUPR-RATED CATEGORIES & AGE ELIGIBILITY

- A valid DUPR ID must be submitted during registration.
- Players without a DUPR rating must self-assess their level; final eligibility is subject to the Tournament Director's discretion.
- DUPR ratings with a reliability score below 10% will be considered "NR" (No Rating).
- Players are not permitted to hold multiple DUPR accounts or use different accounts for different categories. Any such actions will be reported to DUPR.
- Deliberately lowering DUPR ratings through false match submissions will result in disqualification or a tournament ban, and will be reported to DUPR.
- All guidelines and eligibility criteria have been reviewed and acknowledged by DUPR.
- Junior categories are open to participants born 2016 onwards (U10), 2014 onwards (U12), 2012 onwards (U14), and 2010 onwards (U16).

ELIGIBILITY ENFORCEMENT & DISQUALIFICATION POLICY

All players are subject to eligibility verification before, during, and after the tournament. Any violation may result in disqualification, with the following rules applied:

- Group Stage: Ineligible players will be disqualified. All matches involving the disqualified player / team will be voided and recorded as walkovers.
- Knockout Stage:
 - If discovered before the match: The player / team will be disqualified and replaced by the next eligible team.
 - If discovered after the match: The result will be voided. If a replacement is not possible, the opposing team will receive a walkover.
- Post-Tournament: Any confirmed violations will result in revocation of results, titles, and awards.

Players are responsible for providing accurate and truthful information during registration. While the Tournament Director and / or Organizing Committee will conduct checks to the best of their ability, they are not liable for undetected eligibility issues.

RULES OF CONDUCT, OFFICIATING & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

GENERAL

All rules outlined in this Player Handbook and Tournament Regulations shall take precedence throughout the event. For any matters not explicitly covered, the USA Pickleball Official Rulebook will serve as the reference authority.

PLAYER CONDUCT

All players are expected to demonstrate sportsmanship, professionalism, and respect towards:

- Tournament Officials
- Point Guards
- Event Crew
- Fellow Players and Spectators

Prohibited behavior includes:

- Use of profanity, taunting, racist or derogatory remarks
- Slamming paddles or balls in frustration
- Persistent arguing or confrontational behavior
- Deliberate delays or unsporting tactics

ROLE OF POINT GUARDS

Each court will be assigned a Point Guard who is responsible for maintaining smooth and fair play. While not certified referees, they play a critical support role.

Duties include:

- Ensuring timely match starts
- Reporting scores and match outcomes
- Monitoring player conduct and procedural fairness
- Managing disputes and escalating issues when necessary
- Informing players of scoring format and player positions

Note: Disrespectful behavior towards Point Guards may result in formal warnings or disciplinary action.

SCORES

All scores will be confirmed by the assigned Point Guard immediately following each match. Any discrepancies must be addressed on the spot. Appeals after the fact may not be entertained.

WARM-UP & WALKOVERS

- Players are allowed 2 minutes of warm-up once instructed by the Point Guard or Referee.
- Matches must begin within 5 minutes of being called.
- A 10 minutes grace period applies - failure to appear may result in a walkover and recorded loss.

MEDICAL TIMEOUTS

- Maximum duration: 15 minutes (including evaluation).
- If the player is deemed unfit to continue, the match will be forfeited.
- If fit, the match may resume.

LINE CALLS

- Players make their own line calls unless a certified referee or line judge is present.
- A ball is in if it touches any part of the line. When in doubt, call it in.
- Players may not call balls on the opponent's side. Doing so may result in official warnings.
- If both players / partners disagree, the ball is considered in.

Disputed calls may only be deferred to the Point Guard if both teams agree. If the Point Guard is unsure, a replay will be encouraged.

Unsportsmanlike behavior, including frequent disputes or dishonest line calls, may result in:

- Verbal warnings
- Technical fouls
- Disqualification
- Escalation to Head Referee and suspension

SERVICE & NON-VOLLEY ZONE (NVZ) / KITCHEN FAULTS

Point Guards are authorized to call clear violations, including:

- Service foot faults (e.g., stepping on / over the baseline)
- Non-Volley Zone (NVZ) / Kitchen Faults

These calls are final and non-appealable. Repeated challenges may result in conduct penalties.

IN-GAME DISPUTES & CHALLENGES

- If a dispute arises during a match: Attempt to resolve it respectfully between players.
- If unresolved, the Point Guard may pause play and:
 - Suggest a replay, or
 - Escalate the issue to the Tournament Desk
- A Tournament Official or Referee may then:
 - Make a ruling and resume the match
 - Issue warnings or penalties
 - Assign a certified referee for the remainder of the match
 - Persistent refusal to resume play may result in a default or forfeit

LINE JUDGES

- Line judges may be appointed in finals or selected matches.
- They are responsible only for assigned lines and may use hand signals.
- In case of a player appeal, the Referee's decision is final after consulting the line judge.

PADDLES & EQUIPMENT

All paddles must be listed on the:

- USA Pickleball Approved Equipment List: USAP Approved
- UPA-A Approved Paddles List: UPA-A Approved

If a player questions an opponent's paddle legality, they may request the Head Referee or Tournament Director to inspect it before or during the match. Past match results will not be retroactively affected.

COACHING POLICY

Coaching is not allowed during games or between points. Violations may result in a verbal warning or point penalties.

MEDIA CONSENT

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

WITHDRAWALS

- All registrations are final and non-refundable.
- Withdrawals will not be permitted under any circumstances, including for medical reasons, once registration is confirmed.
- Players are advised to register only if they are fully committed and available for the entire duration of the tournament.

PARTNER REPLACEMENTS (DOUBLES ONLY)

- Replacements may be made before the first match, subject to:
 - Meeting eligibility and rating requirements
 - Approval by the Tournament Director
 - No disruption to seeding integrity
- Once a team has played their first match, no replacements are allowed

NO-SHOW POLICY

Players who fail to show up or withdraw without notice may be suspended from future tournaments.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For all enquiries, withdrawals, or partner changes, please email playatournaments@gmail.com.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

MATTHEW HORT

Matthew "Matt" Hort is an Australian pickleball tournament director and long-time contributor to the pickleball community. He has extensive experience organizing and managing major tournaments across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region, overseeing event operations, scheduling, and logistics to ensure smooth and professional execution.

An active amateur player himself, Matt is well respected for his hands-on approach and his role in supporting the growth and development of competitive pickleball in the region.



PLAYA ACADEMY DIRECTOR

ALEXANDER TRAN

Alexander Tran has over 3 years of pickleball coaching experience and more than 10 years of tennis coaching experience. He has also served as Team Captain for Seasons 1 and 2 of the National Pickleball League (NPL).

Alexander placed 6th nationally and 2nd in New South Wales in NPL Season 1. He is also a Sydney PPA Futures Gold Medalist, NPL Regional Gold Medalist, and finished 4th in Men's Doubles at the PPA Gold Coast Open.

With his extensive coaching and competitive experience, Alexander is dedicated to helping players improve and take their game to the next level.



REGISTRATION CONTACT

For enquiries, registration, or partner changes:

Email: playatournaments@gmail.com

Contact: +6012 280 0146 (Julian Lee / Alexander Tran)

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2026



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