PICKLE LOFT

ORGANIZED BY PICKLE LOFT · SUPPORTED BY KL PICKLE BUDDIES (KLPB)

PICKLE LOFT CHAMPIONSHIP 2026

"Aim High. Play Higher."
Official Player Handbook & Tournament Regulations

DATE	VENUE
12–13 Dec 2026	Pickle Loft, BSD
PRIZE POOL	**CATEGORIES**
RM 35,400	8 Div · MD/WD/XD

WELCOME

Rise Above the Rest

Get ready to take your game to new heights — the Pickle Loft Championship 2026 is about to lift the pickleball scene in Kuala Lumpur!

Hosted at Pickle Loft, this championship brings together players from all levels for a day of high-energy rallies, sharp reflexes, and bold plays. From soaring lobs and sky-high smashes to smooth dinks and clutch comebacks, every point is a chance to rise to the occasion.

Proudly organized by Pickle Loft and strongly supported by KL Pickle Buddies (KLPB), this event is all about community, competition, and celebrating the joy of play.

Will you rise to the top?

Players will battle through the brackets, chasing that perfect lift — a well-placed lob that turns the game around, or a winning shot that brings the crowd to its feet.

Bring your best game. Bring your confidence. Aim high — only one team will claim the crown as Champions of the Loft.

SECTION 01

Tournament Overview

EVENT NAME **Pickle Loft Championship 2026**	DATE **12th & 13th December 2026 (Sat & Sun)**
TIME **8:00AM – 11:00PM (0800–2300)**	VENUE **Pickle Loft @ Bandar Sri Damansara**
REGISTRATION DEADLINE **4th December 2026 or until full**	WHO CAN PARTICIPATE **Open to all players (incl. international)**
TOTAL CASH PRIZE POOL **RM 35,400**	ORGANIZER / TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR **Pickle Loft / KL Pickle Buddies (KLPB)**

SECTION 02

Categories & Registration Fee

Men's Doubles	19+ · < 5.80
Teams / Pools	40 teams · 8 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 250
Normal Fee	RM 280

Men's Doubles	35+ · < 5.80
Teams / Pools	40 teams · 8 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 250
Normal Fee	RM 280

Men's Doubles	19+ · < 6.50
Teams / Pools	16 teams · 4 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 280
Normal Fee	RM 310

Women's Doubles	19+ · < 5.80
Teams / Pools	20 teams · 4 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 250
Normal Fee	RM 280

Women's Doubles	35+ · < 5.80
Teams / Pools	20 teams · 4 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 250
Normal Fee	RM 280

Mixed Doubles	19+ · < 5.80
Teams / Pools	40 teams · 8 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 250
Normal Fee	RM 280

Mixed Doubles	35+ · < 5.80
Teams / Pools	40 teams · 8 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 250
Normal Fee	RM 280

Mixed Doubles	19+ · < 6.50
Teams / Pools	16 teams · 4 pools
Early Bird Fee	RM 280
Normal Fee	RM 310

Early Bird: 20th Nov 2026, 11.59pm or until full | Registration Deadline: 4th Dec 2026, 11.59pm or until full participants.

Playing Multiple Categories

1. **Multiple Entries Allowed**
   Players may participate in more than one (1) category, provided there are no scheduling conflicts.

2. **Best-Effort Scheduling**
   While every effort will be made to accommodate players across multiple categories, scheduling flexibility is not guaranteed.

3. **Unresolved Conflicts**
   If a conflict cannot be resolved, players must choose one (1) match to play; the other match will be recorded as a walkover for the opponent.

SECTION 03

Tentative Tournament Schedule

Day 1 — Sat, 12 Dec 2026

Category	Time
Women's Doubles 19+ <5.80	8:00AM – 2:00PM
Men's Doubles 19+ <6.50	8:00AM – 12:00PM
Men's Doubles 19+ <5.80	12:30PM – 6:30PM
Mixed Doubles 35+ <5.80	5:00PM – 10:00PM

Day 2 — Sun, 13 Dec 2026

Category	Time
Women's Doubles 35+ <5.80	8:00AM – 2:00PM
Mixed Doubles 19+ <6.50	8:00AM – 12:00PM
Men's Doubles 35+ <5.80	12:30PM – 6:30PM
Mixed Doubles 19+ <5.80	5:00PM – 10:00PM

The schedule is subject to adjustments. Please stay updated through the **Sports Sync** website, our social media pages, and official communications from the organizer.

SECTION 04

Cash Prize Pool — RM 35,400

Category	Champion	1st Runner-Up	2nd Runner-Up	3rd Runner-Up
Men's Doubles 19+ <5.80	**RM 2,000**	RM 1,350	RM 800	RM 300
Men's Doubles 35+ <5.80	**RM 2,000**	RM 1,350	RM 800	RM 300
Men's Doubles 19+ <6.50	**RM 2,500**	RM 1,700	RM 1,000	RM 400
Women's Doubles 19+ <5.80	**RM 1,500**	RM 950	RM 500	RM 250
Women's Doubles 35+ <5.80	**RM 1,500**	RM 950	RM 500	RM 250
Mixed Doubles 19+ <5.80	**RM 2,000**	RM 1,350	RM 800	RM 300
Mixed Doubles 35+ <5.80	**RM 2,000**	RM 1,350	RM 800	RM 300
Mixed Doubles 19+ <6.50	**RM 2,500**	RM 1,700	RM 1,000	RM 400

IMPORTANT: If a category does not achieve full team registration, its prize pool will be adjusted proportionally.

SECTION 05

Tournament Format, Scoring & Match Rules

	Group Stage	Round 16 & Quarter Final	Semi-Final, 3rd/4th & Final
Format	15 points		
Deuce	14–14 (sudden death)		14–14 (sudden death)
Set	1 set		Best of 3 sets
Switch Side	8 points		After each set; 8 points in set 3
Time-out	No time-out	1 min / team	1 min / team / set
Medical	Accumulated 15 minutes / team		

Registration & Walkover

- Teams must complete registration at least 30 minutes before the scheduled match, with identification documents.
- A team failing to appear within 10 minutes of its scheduled time forfeits the match (recorded 0–1).

Group & Knockout Stage

- Group Stage: round-robin within assigned groups.
- Knockout Stage: top two (2) teams from each group advance to single-elimination.
- Organizer reserves the right to modify the format based on final participant numbers.

Seeding

- Selected categories may seed the top 8 or top 4 teams, based on DUPR ratings, at the Tournament Director's discretion.

Tie-Breaking (Group Stage)

- Head-to-head result (only if exactly 2 teams are tied)
- Total point differential across all group matches
- Total point differential of head-to-head matches

Refereeing: Group Stage to Semi-Final officiated by an official/referee. 3rd/4th Place & Final officiated by an official/referee and linesman (if any). Organizer reserves the right to amend.

SECTION 06

Player Eligibility & Requirements

Age 19+ — Combined DUPR < 5.80

- Players must be at least 19 years old and above.
- Players aged 18 and below may participate only with prior approval from the Tournament Director and a signed parental consent / waiver form.
- Combined DUPR rating must be below 5.80, with individual DUPR rating capped below 3.099 at the time of registration.
- DUPR reliability score must be above 40%.
- Podium restriction rules applied (see next section).
- Players with No Rating (NR) are not eligible.

> *Combined DUPR 5.801 or individual DUPR 3.100 are NOT eligible for this category.*

Age 35+ — Combined DUPR < 5.80

- Players must be at least 35 years old and above.
- Combined DUPR rating must be below 5.80, with individual DUPR rating capped below 3.099 at the time of registration.
- DUPR reliability score must be above 40%.
- Podium restriction rules applied (see next section).
- Players with No Rating (NR) are not eligible.

> *Combined DUPR 5.801 or individual DUPR 3.100 are NOT eligible for this category.*

Age 19+ — Combined DUPR < 6.50

- Players must be at least 19 years old and above.
- Players aged 18 and below may participate only with prior approval from the Tournament Director and a signed parental consent / waiver form.
- Combined DUPR rating must be below 6.50, with individual DUPR rating capped below 3.499 at the time of registration.
- This is a high-level category; self-assessment of player level is required.
- Players with No Rating (NR) are eligible — NR is treated as 3.499.

> *Combined DUPR 6.501 or individual DUPR 3.500 are NOT eligible for this category.*

SECTION 07

Podium Restriction Rules

*Applies to all categories with **Combined DUPR <5.80 (Age 19+ and 35+)***

Definition of Podium

- A podium finish means placing as **Champion, 1st Runner-Up or 2nd Runner-Up.**
- **Age group does not matter, only the DUPR rating.** e.g. a 35+ podium still counts if you join 19+.

How to Read the DUPR Cap

- The cap refers to the **event's DUPR cap** (its label), not your own rating.
- **"<3.10" includes 3.10**, "<6.00" includes 6.00.

Podium Tiers

TIER	INDIVIDUAL CAP	COMBINED CAP	PODIUM	RESULT
Tier 1 Higher Level	**3.10 – Open**	**6.01 – Open**	Any podium, any category	Not eligible for any <5.80 category. **Join <6.50 only.**
Tier 2 Just Above 5.80	**3.00 – 3.099**	**5.81 – 6.00**	Any podium, counted in total across all categories	**1–2 podiums:** not eligible in the category won in; may join another <5.80 category. **3 or more in total: Join <6.50 only.**
Podium Limit At Our Level	**2.90 – 2.999**	**5.60 – 5.80**	Any podium, same category	**0–2 podiums:** eligible. **3 or more:** not eligible in that category; join another category or <6.50.
Partner Rule Champions only	**2.90 – 2.999**	**5.60 – 5.80**	Champion, same category	Cannot partner the same Champion partner again, or any other Champion at this level in that category. **Join with a different partner.**
Just Below Below Our Level	**2.75 – 2.899**	**5.40 – 5.599**	Any podium, same category	**0–3 podiums:** eligible. **4 or more:** not eligible in that category; join another category or <6.50.
Not Counted Lower Level	**<2.749**	**<5.399**	Any podium	**No effect.** Champions at this level may keep the same partner.

Excluded Results, Look-Back & Verification

- Not counted: team events, internal and interclub tournaments, and Reclub events.
- **Only podium finishes from March 2026 to the date of registration are counted.**
- Verified using Sports Sync, Baseline, SportsWePlay and international platforms (e.g. WPC, APP, PPA).

Organiser Discretion & Special Review

- This podium restriction is a **first-stage guideline**. Meeting every rule does not guarantee entry.
- **Special review:** the Organiser & TD may review any player or pair, before or during the tournament.
- **DUPR integrity:** reviews may consider full DUPR history, incl. sudden drops and private, social or unlisted sessions/events.
- **Complaints:** raise concerns privately with the TD, with evidence (links, screenshots). Each is reviewed; a complaint alone does not make a player ineligible.
- **Non-disclosure:** undisclosed or verified podium records may lead to disqualification or a move up. Unsure? Ask the TD before registering.

*Ineligible players must find an eligible replacement partner or move to a higher category. All registrations are final, no refund. **The decision of the Organiser and Tournament Director is final.***

SECTION 08 & 09

DUPR Ratings, Enforcement & Disqualification

DUPR-Rated Categories

- All matches will be submitted to DUPR.
- Players must submit a valid DUPR ID at the time of registration.
- Players with No Rating (NR) must self-evaluate their level; participation is subject to the Tournament Director's discretion.
- Any DUPR reliability score below 10% will be treated as No Rating (NR).
- These guidelines and eligibility requirements have been reviewed and acknowledged by DUPR.

Eligibility Enforcement & Disqualification

Rating & Account Rules

- **Eligibility is determined by DUPR ratings from 1st March 2026** to date of registration; earlier activity does not affect eligibility.
- Multiple DUPR accounts, or category-specific accounts, are not allowed — violation results in disqualification and a DUPR report.
- **The Organizer may audit match histories; ratings artificially altered via Reclub/social/private/unverified sessions will be factored out and adjusted accordingly.**
- **If adjusted rating exceeds the category maximum, the player is ineligible and must find a replacement or move up a category.**

Violation Outcomes

- Group Stage: ineligible players are disqualified; their matches are voided as walkovers.
- Knockout (before match): disqualified and replaced by next eligible team.
- Knockout (after match): result voided; opposing team gets a walkover if no replacement is possible.
- Post-Tournament: results, titles, and awards are revoked.
- Disqualified teams are not entitled to a refund of registration fees.

Players are responsible for providing accurate registration information. The Organizer conducts checks on a best-effort basis and is not liable for undetected eligibility issues.

SECTION 10

Player Identity Verification & Appeal

1

Appeal Window

Formal appeals/reports on identity must be submitted between **1st December and 8th December 2026**, with proof (screenshots, documents).

2

Deposit

A refundable **deposit of RM 30** is required to initiate an appeal — refunded only if successful, otherwise forfeited.

3

Verification

The Organizer and Tournament Director verify all reports; decisions are final and binding.

4

If Confirmed

The affected player/team must find a replacement immediately, or be disqualified / moved to a higher category if available.

SECTION 11 & 12

Rules of Conduct & Tournament Officials

For matters not covered here, the tournament refers to the USA Pickleball Official Rulebook.

Rules of Conduct

Expected Standards

- Uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship and respect toward officials, event crew, spectators, and fellow players.

Strictly Prohibited

- Profanity, taunting, racist remarks, or trash talk
- Throwing, slamming, or abusing paddles/balls in frustration
- Persistent arguing with referees, officials, or players
- Deliberate delays or unsporting tactics

Violations may result in penalties including point deductions, forfeiture of matches, or disqualification from the tournament.

Role of Tournament Officials / Referees

Scope

- Each court has an assigned official/referee throughout the match.
- They are not line-call referees and cannot overrule line calls, but ensure matches run fairly and smoothly.

Responsibilities

- Ensure matches start on time
- Report scores and outcomes to the Tournament Desk
- Monitor player conduct and resolve procedural issues
- Note disputes and alert the Tournament Desk when needed
- Inform players of rules, scoring format, serving order and positions

Please treat every official/referee with respect at all times. Disrespectful behaviour may result in a warning or disciplinary action.

SECTION 13

Scores, Warm-Up & Medical Timeouts

Scores

- Scores are confirmed with players right after each match by the assigned official/referee.
- Discrepancies must be raised on the spot; later appeals need clear, verifiable proof.

Warm-Up & Walkovers

- 2 minutes warm-up after being instructed by the official/referee.
- Matches begin within 5 minutes of the scheduled time.
- A 10-minute grace period applies; after that, a walkover / loss is recorded.

Medical Timeouts

- Players may request a medical timeout for injury or illness.
- Maximum accumulated duration is 15 minutes, including evaluation.
- If not fit to continue, the player/team forfeits or walks over the match.

SECTION 14

Line Calls

Line Call Rules

- Players call lines on their own side unless a certified referee/line judge is present on an officiated match.
- A ball touching any part of the line is in.
- When in doubt, the benefit goes to the opponent — "When in doubt, call it in" (Rule 6.D.3).
- Players must not call a ball out unless they clearly see space between the line and the ball.
- If partners disagree on an "out" call, the ball is considered in.
- Players may not call balls on the opponent's side — doing so may draw an official warning.

Deferring & Disputes

- Line calls may be deferred to the official/referee only if both teams agree.
- Players may politely question a call but may not demand a reversal unless a referee is present.
- Persistent arguing may result in a verbal warning, technical foul, or disqualification.
- Intentional dishonesty or bad-faith calls may be escalated and lead to suspension.

SECTION 15 & 16

On-Court Enforcement & Equipment

Service & NVZ Foot Faults

- Officials/referees may stop play and call service foot faults and obvious NVZ foot faults during a volley.
- A called fault awards the point to the opposing team — these calls are final and non-appealable.
- Persistent disputes may result in conduct warnings or penalties.

Resolving Disputes

- Self-resolution first — players attempt to resolve respectfully among themselves.
- Official/referee involvement — may pause play to encourage a replay or escalate to the Tournament Director.
- Intervention — rule on a replay, issue warnings/penalties, or assign a certified referee.
- Matches must not be delayed indefinitely; repeated refusal to continue may result in default or forfeit.

Line Judges

- May be appointed for semi-finals, finals, or other designated matches.
- Responsible only for their assigned lines; may use hand signals in addition to verbal calls.
- On appeal, the referee consults the line judge, but the referee's decision is final.

Paddles & Equipment

- Paddles must appear on the USA Pickleball Approved Equipment List, or the UPA-A Approved Paddles List.
- If a paddle's legality is in question, players may request the Head Referee or Tournament Director to verify it.
- Challenges must be made before or during a match; decisions will not affect matches already completed.

SECTION 17

Dress Code & Coaching Restrictions

Dress Code

- Proper sporting attire and non-marking court shoes are required.
- Slippers, flip-flops, sandals, or inappropriate footwear are strictly prohibited.
- **Neon-coloured attire is strictly prohibited during play.**
- The Tournament Committee may require an immediate change of attire for non-compliance.
- Failure to comply may result in disqualification or removal from the court.

Coaching Restrictions

- Coaching is not allowed during play or between points.
- Permitted only between games (e.g. Game 1 to Game 2) or during time-outs.
- Coaching during active play may draw a verbal warning, escalating to point penalties if repeated.

SECTION 18

Withdrawals, Replacements & No-Shows

Withdrawals

- All registrations are final and strictly non-refundable.
- Withdrawals are not permitted once registration is confirmed.
- Documented medical cases may be considered for a partial refund or replacement, at the Tournament Director's sole discretion.

Player Replacements

- **Allowed only before 9th December 2026.**
- Replacement must meet all eligibility/rating requirements of the division.
- Requires Tournament Director approval; may be rejected if it affects top-player seeding.

No-Show Policy

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

SECTION 19 & 20

Media Release & Contact Information

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

Reach the Organizer

- WhatsApp: +6019–663 7661 (Benjamin)
- WhatsApp: +6016–681 8788 (Kay)
- klpicklebuddies@gmail.com

Stay Updated

- Instagram: @pickleloft.my
- Instagram: @klpb__
- **Tournament Directors:**
- Benjamin Lim | KLPB
- Kay | KLPB

PICKLE LOFT

SEE YOU ON THE COURT

Aim High.
Play Higher.

Pickle Loft Championship 2026

12–13 December · Pickle Loft, Bandar Sri Damansara