There is a quick overview of the game's rules in a brief mentioned below. Click here, to see the official rules. In case of any contravention between this short form of rules and the official rules, then the official rules shall prevail.

## **Basic Rules Overview**

- 1. Pickleball is played in two kinds: singles and doubles. Doubles is most common.
- 2. The area for playing is same in case of singles and doubles.

#### The Serve

- 1. The serve should have to be made underhand.
- 2. Paddle contact with the ball should have to be below waist (navel level).
- 3. The serve has to be taken place at least one foot behind the baseline; neither foot may contact the baseline or court until the ball has been struck.
- 4. The serve should be geographically crosscourt and must be within the confined area of crosscourt.
- 5. Serve attempt can only held once, except in case of a net (when the ball touches the net and lands on the proper court on the serve; let serves usually replayed.

# Service sequence

- 1. Both of the players of the serving team have the chance to serve and score points unless they commit a foul. (\*only exception is in the first service in a new game.)
- 2. The first serve from each side shall be made by the right-hand court.

- 3. If the server points a score then he/she shall exchange their place with his/her mate and the server shall serve from the left-hand court.
- 4. And if again the server scores another point then he/she shall come back to the right-hand court and it will so forth happening until any one of them commit a foul and losses the first serve thereby.
- 5. The second server shall initiate a serve from his standing court when the first server losses his serve. (\*only exception in case of the first service of a game.
- 6. The second server shall serve until anyone of them commit a foul and be bound to pass the serve to their opposition.
- 7. At the time of side out the right-hand court shall serve first and both of them shall have the chance to serve and score a point until they commit two fouls.
- 8. In case of single player game the server shall serve from right-hand court when his/her point is even but in case of an odd he/she shall serve from the left-hand court.

\*the opportunity of serving the first one in every new game ends when any of them commit a foul and the serving opportunity passes to the receiving team.

# **Scoring**

- 1. Only serving team can score from the serve.
- 2. Games are usually played to 11points and win by 2.
- 3. In case of tournament games the points may be increased into 15 or 21 points, win by 2.
- 4. The first server of a team shall plays in the right-hand court when the team has scores even number(0,2,4,6,8,10) points and that player shall plays in left-hand court if their scored points is an odd number(1,3,5,7,9).

## **Double-Bounce Rule**

- 1. When the ball is served then the receiving team shall let it to the same.
- 2. When, thus the two bounces from the two court taken place then either of the teams can volley(hitting the ball before bounce) or can play it of a bounce(called ground stroke)
- 3. The double bounce rule abolishes the serve and volley advantage and extends rallies.

## Non-volley zone

- 1. The area within 7feet from the net from each side is called the non-volley zone.
- 2. Volleying in non-volley zone is prohibited. It prevents players from smashing from the non-volley zone.
- 3. In case of volleying if the player's steps or anything wearing or carrying touches the non-volley zone line or associated lines then it shall be a foul.
- 4. If a player, after volleying is carried by momentum into or touches non-volley zone then it is a foul. Even if the volleyed ball is declared dead before it happens then also be a foul.
- 5. Except at the time of volleying a player may legally be in the non-volley zone.
- 6. This non-volley zone is popularly called as "the kitchen".

## Line calls

- 1. The ball contacting any line except non-volley zone at the time of serving is referred "in".
- 2. If the serve contacts with the non-volley zone line then it will be a foul.

#### **Fouls**

- 1. Any action which stops the play because of a rule violation is a foul.
- 2. If the receiving team commits a foul then serving team shall score a point.
- 3. A foul committed by the serving team results the loss of serve or side out.
- 4. A foul occurs when:
  - a. The serve doesn't land within the confined area of the receiving court.
  - b. The ball is hit into net on a serve or return.
  - c. Before bouncing in both sides the ball is volleyed.
  - d. Ball is hit out of the boundary.
  - e. Ball is volleyed from the non-volley zone.
  - f. If the receiver let the ball to be bounced more than one time.
  - g. At the time of playing if the player, player's clothes, or any part of a player's paddle touches the net or the net post.
  - h. There is an infringement of a service rule.
  - i. The ball touches or strikes the player or anything which the player is wearing.
  - j. The ball strikes any permanent object before bouncing on the court.

## **Determination of serving team**

Usually a coin toss winner chooses the side or to serve or to receive.