

GENERAL RULES

1. Sportsmanship & Conduct

- This event is intended to be more social than competitive. Be kind and understanding.
- Spectators must remain in place once play begins and keep noise to a minimum so players can hear the score.

2. Serving & Scoring

- **First serve:** The south side serves first.
- **Service rules:**
 - The ball must be struck behind the **Kitchen Line**
 - The serve must be hit diagonally cross-court and land in the opposing kitchen.
 - The **score must be announced before serving.**
- **Scoring:**
 - Point scoring will use **Rally Scoring.**
 - First to **11 points, win by 1.**
 - The **two-bounce rule** is in effect (each side must let the ball bounce once before volleys).

3. Gameplay Rules

- **The kitchen lines are in** (a ball landing on the kitchen line is in play).
- **No slams:** Overhead smashes and excessively hard shots aimed at an opponent are not allowed.
- **If a ball rolls onto another court:**
 - Call "Ball!" loudly to alert the other players.
 - Do not enter the other court; wait for players on that court to return the ball.
 - The receiving court may choose to **replay the point** if they feel it caused interference.

ROUND ROBIN PLAY

The tournament will begin with a Round Robin Phase, where players will be randomly assigned different partners for each game.

Format & Rules

- Each player will play a total of **three games** with different partners.
- **Game format:** First to **11 points, win by 1.**

- At the end of each game, players must **report their scores to the tournament organizers** before receiving their next **court and team assignment**.
- **Seeding for the next phase** will be determined based on:
 1. **Number of games won**
 2. **Point differential** (total points scored minus total points allowed)

TOURNAMENT PLAY

After the Round Robin Phase, the tournament will transition into **Bracket Play**, where players will compete in a **single-elimination format** with a set partner. This phase will determine the tournament champions, with an additional **consolation match for 3rd place**.

Team Formation & Seeding

- Teams will be established based on **seeding from the Round Robin Phase**.
- The seeding is designed to balance skill levels, ensuring that **highly ranked players are not paired together**.
- Once teams are formed, **players will stay with the same partner for the remainder of the tournament**.

Bracket & Match Format

- The tournament will follow a **single-elimination format**—teams that lose a match are eliminated from championship contention.
- Losing teams from the **semi-finals** will compete in a **consolation match** to determine **3rd place**.
- The full tournament bracket can be viewed on the **GPN website** under the event listing.