





About the League

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed sports dramatically - International sporting events are cancelled, boxers and footballers compete in empty arenas, and marathon runners run races at their own pace in their own space, then submit their timings online - virtual marathons. Even social and recreational activities are severely affected with group size limitation with safe distancing, we now also have eCCA with swimming practise in the living room – is that dry swimming?

Where other sports have their very essence affected by the pandemic, Pickleball is very lucky to still be able to be enjoyed as a whole. Opposing players standing outside the Non-Volley Zone already exceeds the recommended safe distance; and we will never have 5 players in a court. Furthermore, as Pickleball adapts so much better to the outdoors than the other sport sharing the same court dimension, we are now seeing Pickleball players playing more games outdoors than ever before.

In this current climate, this League really has more meaning than any of the full-fledged tournaments of the past. It will be about our pickleball community's demonstration of enjoying this sport under the new norm. It is to show our creativity to make play possible whilst embracing brand new habits, new rules and safe distancing measures. It is about our community working together to show what humanity is about.

We also hope that this League will help uncover more playing spots around our little island nation, thereby making Pickleball more accessible to anyone and everyone. By playing outdoors, we become more visible. With more visibility, we can then strive for further betterment for the entire community and the sport.



Acknowledgements

The Singapore Pickle-Ball Association (SPA) would like to thank all the participants and volunteers of this League for the support especially on this very difficult year for the world. We sincerely thank all of you for your patience and understanding to the new norms that we are adopting.

We especially want to thank Ms Michelle Chang for the simple fact of being more hardworking than any of us, her unwavering chirpiness and enthusiasm right from the inception of this league; Mr Jimmy Tan for his sandwich style support both as a volunteer for SPA and as the CEO of Asia Federation of Pickleball, introducing this novel Pickleball Global Tournament Software and Ranking System to our shores.

Mr Jan Papi, CEO of Pickleball Global, personally supporting us with teething issues on his early mornings, his wee hours of the night and even shirtless while taking his morning walk.

We'd also like to thank Mr Alex Tan, Mr Tiong Wei Hong and Ms Macy Guo helping out after work during the CoEd Singles Division; the League Event ICs – Michelle and Wei Hong again, Mr John Ng, Ms Leong Lai San, Ms Pini Lee, Ms Cynthia Ler and Ms Judy Tan.

Once more, a big THANK YOU to all the participants for accepting this new norm and coming out to play. Any match played amidst this current climate is a match well played. I think it'll be apt to end of with this rally call.



Sincerely

Lin Ee Kiong

Tournament Director,
Asia Flex League Singapore

SPA



1.0 OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 To initiate and build up local player statistics to support a competition structure applicable for both national and international tournaments.
- 1.2 To introduce the Player Ranking system and the Pickleball Global Tournament Software. Information on the Pickleball Global Ranking System is given under Appendix B.

2.0 IMPORTANT NOTES AND DISCLAIMER

- 2.1 Prevention and containment of COVID-19 is the top concern. League shall be subjected to advisories and guidelines spelt out by the Multi-Ministry Taskforce and relevant authorities.
- 2.2 Therefore, there may be possibility of changes, postponement, disruption, or cancellation.
- 2.3 Strict adherence to safe management and distancing measures.
- 2.4 The Organisers shall not in any event be held liable for any injury or loss as a result of the player's participation in the event.
- 2.5 All players are advised to have personal accident insurance cover.

3.0 PARTICULAR RULES AND REGULATION

- 3.1 All players shall support contact tracing by installing the latest version of the TraceTogether app and keeping it active.
- 3.2 All players and participants shall abide to relevant and latest authority advisories on COVID-19.
- 3.3 Should any player develop flu-like symptoms, be on MC, come into contact with confirmed COVID-19 cases, is part of a COVID-19 cluster, be served Quarantine Order/Stay Home Notice, he shall notify the matching player prior to the scheduled playing date and inform the Game ICs and Organisers. Tournament Director shall reserve the rights to decide on reschedule or walkover.
- 3.4 Temperature screening and recording shall be done by organisers for all players and participants upon arrival at venue or court.
- 3.5 Total number of persons per court shall be 5 or less.



- 3.6 Keep 3m safe distance from participants in any adjacent courts (if any). Groups occupying different courts must not interact and there shall be no inter-mixing and swapping between groups.
- 3.7 Mask on at all times. Take off mask only when step into the court; and put on mask immediately when step off the court.
- 3.8 Sanitise shared equipment, especially balls before and after the match.
- 3.9 Refer to Appendix for more information and advisories.

4.0 GENERAL RULES AND REGULATION

- 4.1 Unless otherwise stated, game rules shall be referenced from the USAPA/IFP 2020 Official Rulebook, which can be found on www.usapickleball.org.
- 4.2 All equipment necessary for play shall be provided by matching players themselves, not limiting to nets, portable net system, balls, court tapes etc. Players are expected to liaise and coordinate amongst themselves prior to agree on the match date, location and time.
- 4.3 Where court location is near residential areas, players shall start play after 8:30am, and end before 8pm.
- 4.4 Keep noise level low.
- 4.5 The official ball for this league shall be Onix Sports Fuse G2 Outdoor Ball (Yellow) for both indoor and outdoor courts.
- 4.6 Any paddle meeting the specifications listed under Section 2.E of the USAPA/IFP 2020 Official Rulebook and/or USAPA approved paddles may be used in this league. Approved paddle listing can be found on https://equipment.usapickleball.org/.
- 4.7 Due to the nature of the league, players are to expect that court specifications and equipment shall not be uniform or standardised across the entire league, or as spelt out in accordance to the USAPA/IFP 2020 Official Rulebook. Examples not limiting to the following,
 - Deviations due to utilising existing badminton net posts available on outdoor courts. Rules pertinent to Permanent Object shall apply accordingly.



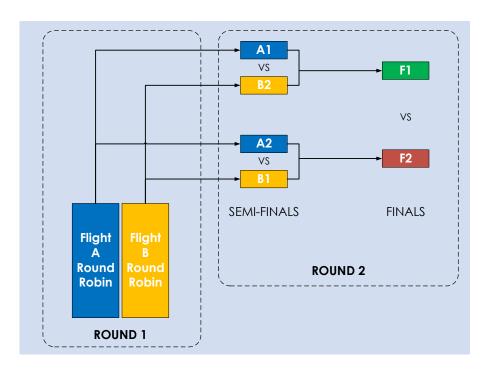
- Effort required to mark new Non Volley Line on badminton courts. Alternatively, matching players, upon mutual agreement, may opt to play using the badminton Short Service Line measuring 6-1/2 feet from net line, as the Non-Volley Line.
- Differing court surfaces.
- Games may be played on both indoor and outdoor courts.
- 4.8 The divisions in this league is organised in skill levels,
 - Intermediate (3.00 3.99)
 - Advanced (4.00 4.99)
- 4.9 Players Rating
 - 4.9.1 Players Ratings shall be referred from Pesta Sukan 2019. Players may elect to "play up", but "playing down" is not allowed.
 - 4.9.2 Any player who had won 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a higher rating division, shall not play in a lower rating division as this will be considered "playing down".
 - Example a player won 2^{nd} position in 4.0+ in previous National Tournaments, shall enter his rating as > 4.0 and shall not play Intermediate (3.00 3.99) in this league.
 - 4.9.3 Players who do not have any track record in past both SNG 2018 or Pesta Sukan 2019, they may self-rate in their profile accordingly. Note that a player may elect to "Play Up" but not "Play Down" in both skill level and age group in this league's divisions.
 - 4.9.4 Player ratings will not be affected by this league's results.
 - Example a player who wins 1^{st} in an Intermediate (3.00 3.99) division in this league can still play in the same Intermediate (3.00 3.99) categories in the next National Tournament 2021.
 - 4.9.5 Tournament Director reserves the right to review and adjust any player's rating if deemed to be "playing down".



4.10 Game Format

4.10.1 Round Robin, 1 rotation. If there are more than 1 flight, top 2 from each flight shall be promoted, followed by Single Elimination.

4.10.2 Single Elimination Format



4.10.3 Tie Resolution – Ties in results in the Round Robins will be resolved by best score differential. If still unresolved, ONE deciding game shall be played before Single Elimination commencement.

4.10.4 Match Format

- 4.10.4.1 Best of 3 Games, i.e. 2-0, 2-1, 1-2, 0-2. 3rd game need not be played if 2 straight games won, i.e. 2-0 or 0-2.
- 4.10.4.2 11 point match for singles, first to reach 11 points shall be winner.
- 4.10.4.3 15 point match for doubles, first to reach 15 points shall be winner.
- 4.10.4.4 No referee and line judges. Players shall call their own scores in accordance to Section 4 of USAPA/IFP 2020 Official Rulebook.



- 4.10.4.5 In event of any doubts on line calls, this shall be in accordance to Clause 6.D.3 of the USAPA/IDP 2020 Official Rulebook where the opponent gets the benefit of the doubt. Also player cannot claim a "let" because the ball was not seen or there is uncertainty.
- 4.10.5 Results shall be published on www.pickleball.global.
- 4.10.6 Divisions may be combined if there are insufficient entries and Tournament Director reserve the rights to modify the division and format.
- 4.11 Any injuries sustained during the match shall follow Clause 11.f of the USAPA/IFP 2020 Official Rulebook, where the rally continues to its conclusion despite an injury to any of the players. Forfeit will be imposed in accordance to Clause 12.F.1.b if the injured player cannot immediately continue after the 15-minute injury time-out.
- 4.12 Players are permitted to quickly hydrate in between points as long as the flow of the game is not adversely impacted.
- 4.13 Time between games shall not exceed 2 mins.
- 4.14 Time between matches shall not exceed 10 mins.
- 4.15 2 Time Outs may be allowed in a game, each upto 1 min.
- 4.16 Suspended Games suspended games, e.g. due to rain, shall resume with the same server, score and remaining time-outs as when interrupted.
- 4.17 Under no circumstances can a partner change be made after the partners have begun playing as a team.



5.0 LEAGUE SCHEDULE AND DETAILS

Start Date	End Date	Division	Age Group	Skill Level
14 Sep (Mon)	27 Sep (Sun)	Men's Singles Women's Singles	All	All
28 Sep (Mon)	18 Oct (Sun)	Men's Doubles Women's Doubles	All	All
19 Oct (Mon)	15 Nov (Sun)	Mixed Doubles	All	All

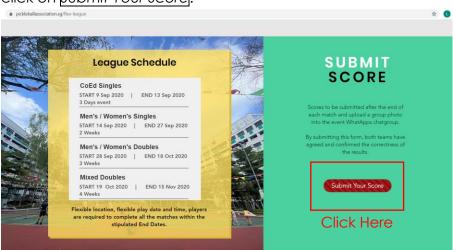
- 5.1 All Division matches shall be completed by the stipulated End Dates.
- 5.2 Updated information on the League can be found on https://www.pickleballassociation.sg/flex-league



6.0 RESULTS SUBMISSION

- 6.1 Players shall submit the match scores immediately after the match has concluded via the following means,
 - 6.1.1 Whatsapp Chat with Organiser IC
 - 6.1.2 Online Submission on https://www.pickleballassociation.sg/flex-league
- 6.2 Please follow the following steps to submit scores online.
 - 6.2.1 Click on link https://www.pickleballassociation.sg/flex-league

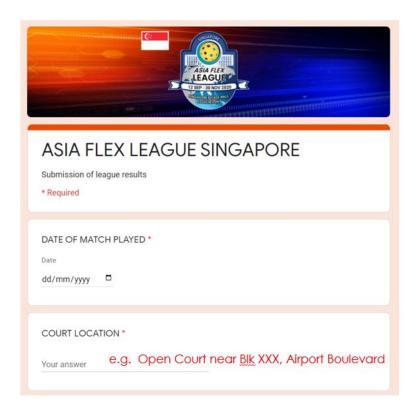
On the website page, scroll down till section shown below and click on Submit Your Score.



6.2.2 After clicking, an online form will load on the browser. Furnish information on the online form accordingly. Please take note of the following.



6.2.2.1 Fields with * are mandatory fields. Information must be provided to submit.

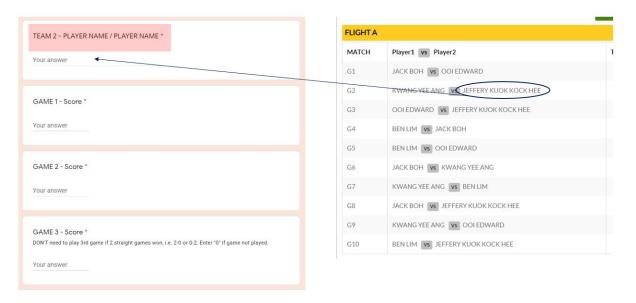


Age Category *
O 19+
O 50+
○ 60+
Skill Level *
Intermediate 3.000 - 3.999
Advanced 4.000 - 4.999
Event *
Men's Singles
○ Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
○ Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles





<u>Player 1 Information and Score</u> – only input score data of Player 1.



<u>Player 2 Information and Score</u> – only input score data of Player 2.







Appendix A





HELP US KEEP YOU SAFE







If you are sick

- Wear a surgical mask and see a doctor
 Stay at home and don't doctor-hop



Do not spread rumours
Get the latest on COVID-19 by signing up for the Gowsg WhatsApp channel (www.go.gow.sg/whatsapp).
The service is available in English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil.

Updated: 22 Jun 2020







ETIQUETTE FOR EXERCISING IN COMMON SPACES

The public is strongly encouraged to exercise at home. If you have to leave your home to walk, run, cycle or engage in other similar exercise, be socially responsible and considerate to others.

The following set of etiquette will help you do your part





BE SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE.