



## **Paddles for Hope Fall Pickleball Tournament Rules**

### **Scoring/Time limit**

- Points are only scored by the serving team.
- The serve must be made underhand with the paddle contacting the ball below the server's waist, and must be made diagonally crosscourt and land within the boundaries of the opposite diagonal court.
- Only one serve attempt is allowed (except in the event of a let, where the ball touches the net but lands in the correct service court).
- Players on the serving team switch sides of the court after scoring a point. The receiving team does not switch sides.
- **Games will be played to 15 points and teams must win by 2 points.**
- **All games will have a 25-minute time limit.** The Game Official starting time will be recorded by the Game Official on the score sheet. The Game Official time will be under the jurisdiction of the Game Official. (The "clock" will be stopped only during timeouts – regular and/or injury.) The team leading at the end of 25 minutes will be declared the winner.
- If the game is tied after 25 minutes of play and no team has reached the required number of points to win the game, the Game Official will flip a coin to determine team possession. The first team to score will win the game.
- Each team is allowed one (1) one-minute time-out per game.

### **Double Bounce Rule**

- A coin flip before the start of the game will determine who gets the serve first.
- Each team must play their first shot off the bounce. That is, the receiving team must let the serve bounce, and the serving team must let the return of serve bounce before playing it.
- After the two bounces have occurred, the ball can either be volleyed or played off the bounce.

## **Non-Volley Zone / Faults**

- The non-volley zone is the area within 7 feet on both sides of the net. Players cannot volley the ball (hit it in the air without letting it bounce first) while standing within this zone. It's legal to step into the non-volley zone and hit the ball after it has bounced.
- A fault occurs when a player violates a rule, such as hitting the ball out of bounds, stepping into the non-volley zone and volleying the ball, or failing to clear the net.
- Faults result in either a point for the serving team or a side out (loss of serve) for the serving team.

## **Expectations**

Teams are limited to two individuals; no subs are allowed. Players are expected to wear appropriate athletic attire, be in a physical condition allowing them to play, and bring their own paddles if at all possible. Upstream has borrowed four kits from the Johnson County Public Library, for individuals to utilize if they do not have their own equipment. Teams will play through a double elimination round, with the initial bracket created through a random drawing. The final teams may play twice to ensure the double elimination is carried through. Players (and fans) are expected to display good sportsmanship throughout the day.