

## Highlands Pickleball Association Rules and Regulations

The Highlands Pickleball Association (HPA) was established to assist members in improving their proficiency, sportsmanship, enjoyment of the sport, and to ensure fair and equitable access to the pickleball courts for all Highlands residents. The HPA establishes a seasonal court schedule that meets the needs of a majority of residents.

### A. Court Schedule and Hours

1. The HPA officers have delegated the responsibility for establishing seasonal schedules to a Scheduling and Court Usage Committee (the Committee). The Committee may conduct seasonal lotteries for group play while ensuring there is adequate time set aside for HPA-organized activities and for daily “on demand” reservations.
2. Pickleball courts are scheduled using a software application called Court Reserve. The app is available for download to any mobile device for any Highlands resident. A link to create a court reserve account can be found here: [Create a Court Reserve Account](#)
3. Weather, sunrise/sunset times and the seasonal presence of our “snowbird” population results in court scheduling built around three specific seasons with associated “prime time” play slots:
  - Early Winter (October through mid-January) when prime time is 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
  - High season (mid-January through April) when prime time is 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
  - Summer (May through September) when prime time is 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
4. Court Hours are 7 a.m. to dusk during early winter and high season and 6:00 a.m. to dusk during the summer season.

### B. Classes, Events, Training Tools and Ball Use

1. Level I classes (up to four classes) are open to all Highlands residents.
2. Skills Clinics and other advanced training classes are open to HPA members only, by invitation from the instructor(s). Information regarding classes beyond the Level I classes can be found on the [highlandspickleball.com](http://highlandspickleball.com) website or the Highlands “Week Ahead” publication.
3. HPA-organized events are open solely to HPA members and members’ infrequent overnight house guests who are a minimum of 18 years of age.
4. Use of the ball machine and the practice backboard is limited to HPA members. Members must receive training before being permitted to use the ball machine. Questions regarding the use of the ball machine should be directed to an HPA officer or skills class instructor.
5. Balls are provided by the HPA for HPA member use.
6. Balls may not be removed from the courts.
7. Balls must be retrieved when hit outside the courts.
8. Balls that are no longer useable should be placed in the container outside courts 2/4.
9. Loaner paddles are provided for “day use” only and must not be removed from the courts.

## C. Pickleball Court Use

1. General Guidelines
  - a. Court shoes and appropriate sports attire, including protective eyewear should be worn.
  - b. Common courtesy, sportsmanship and consideration of others should be employed during interactions with all others at the courts.
  - c. Players must leave the court promptly at the end of their scheduled court time when others are waiting to play.
  - d. No food or beverages are permitted on the courts.
  - e. Use of telephones during play is prohibited.
  - f. Please place trash and other disposable items in the containers located adjacent to the seating area on Court 1.
  - g. Pets are not permitted on the courts. Pets in the seating areas must be leashed.
  - h. Children under fourteen years of age are allowed on the courts only with “on court” adult supervision from a Highlands resident.
2. All court gates should be closed once play is complete to protect the courts from local wildlife.
3. Music on the courts is governed by the HOA and is summarized as follows:
  - a. NO MUSIC shall be played during the morning 3-court tennis time. This time varies by the season, is established by the Highlands Tennis Association (HTA) and is posted as the seasons change.
  - b. Music may be played at all other times as are consistent with the tone and tenor of the HOA guidelines (linked below)
  - c. Music when allowable shall be played at a volume that does not exceed the decibel level of normal play on the courts and normal conversation.
  - d. If a participant who wishes to play music arrives at the courts and others are there not playing music, the newly arriving participant shall request of the playing participant permission to play music. If denied, the requestor shall refrain from playing music until the playing participant leaves that court.
  - e. Any complaints about music playing on the racquet courts by a member or participant may be referred to either of; the Manager on duty at the time, the President of the HTA, the President of the HPA, or the Director of Wellness & Fitness for counsel and resolution.

While the music policy has been summarized here, the specifics of music on the courts is governed by The Highlands HOA policy, which can be found here: [Association Rules and Regulations](#)

#### 4. Specific Scheduling Guidelines

- a. Courts are scheduled in Court Reserve via recurring events, i.e., HPA-organized or private group sessions, or via Reservations. Recurring events are generally managed by a “Group Leader” or an HPA Event Host. These individuals have specialized system access and also have responsibilities and limitations specifically denoted in the following document: [Court Reserve Sub Admin Responsibilities](#)
- b. The event group leader, the HPA event host, or the individual making a reservation is responsible for ensuring that the players who registered are present and to modify the player list as appropriate, adding or withdrawing players to accurately reflect who is playing in the event.
- c. Event group leaders and event hosts should review the registrations for upcoming events and release courts where there are inadequate participants signed up for each court. Group leaders are responsible for releasing courts a minimum of 24 hours prior to the event.
- d. During prime time, private groups may not book on-demand courts adjacent to their assigned courts, or in time slots immediately before or after their scheduled times (referred to as horizontal or vertical stacking), more than 48-hours prior to their scheduled play times. For instance, a group with a Friday 10 a.m. time slot may not book additional available courts or times prior to the preceding Wednesday at 10 a.m.
- e. Sunday Mixed Doubles players may play in only one session each Sunday. A player may participate in a second session in the place of an injured player, or due to a last-minute cancellation.

#### 5. Guest Use

- a. Non-resident day guests are limited to court use two times per month. These guests are defined as: “Individuals who are expressly invited by a resident”.
- b. Overnight guests of Highlands’ residents are permitted full use of the amenities.
- c. Guests must be accompanied by a resident and follow court rules and regulations.
- d. Guests must be listed by name in events and reservations.
- e. Residents may work through the HPA Board and/or scheduling committee to arrange for court reservations in advance of the normal reservation windows when they are planning for overnight guests.

While the guest use policy has been summarized here, the specifics of court usage by guests is governed by The Highlands HOA policy, which can be found here: [Association Rules and Regulations](#)

**D. Violations**

Violations of these Rules and Regulations should first be reported to any HPA Officer. Additional or repeated violations may be reported to the Association staff member who is responsible for the use of the amenity, facility, activity, etc. If there is doubt, contact the Community Manager or senior administrative staff. Substantiated violations will be handled pursuant to the terms of the HOA's Compliance Policy or such other Governing Document that may apply.