



Thornbury Pickleball Club (“TPC”)

Conduct and Etiquette

The purpose of the Thornbury Pickleball Club is promoting the enjoyment of the game of pickleball. This implies proper etiquette and sportsmanship on the part of all TPC members and attendees.

All players will be required to observe the following guidance:

- a). Give your opponent time to get into position before you serve.
- b). The server must call the score before they serve. (If you are unsure of the score, ask other players what the score is, and then call it). The receiving side or non-server must correct the score if it is incorrect.
- c). Make quick and fair line calls and accept those made by your opponents in their half. If there is any uncertainty, the ball is considered “in”. If you are at some distance from the ball, please remember that parallax error can be a factor and therefore call the ball ‘in’ unless clearly out by some margin.
- d). Try to not question a line call or foot fault but accept the call of the other team gracefully. If you do feel you need to challenge, do it once only and in a friendly way. Do not make disrespectful comments, argue about a line call or foot fault or accuse the other team of dishonesty. Should you feel that specific players regularly make dubious line calls then speak to the committee privately who will deal with the matter accordingly.
- e). A fault will be called if you or your partner steps into the non-volley zone on a volley or steps in (by momentum) after playing a shot from outside the non-volley zone. Please accept other players identifying foot faults on your side of the net. Be the sort of player that identifies and accepts their own foot faults.
- f). At the start of a game players will introduce themselves to any players they do not know and thank your opponents at the end of the game.
- g). Players will make new members welcome and be prepared to assist in explaining the rules and provide guidance as necessary
- h). We will not tolerate bullying, verbal abuse, threatening behaviour or shouting. Anyone breaking this policy maybe removed from the club, whether a paid-up member or not.
- i). Refrain from swearing at club session, particularly whilst playing.
- j). Always be supportive of your partner and respect your opponents.
- k). Respect TPC (and Leisure centre’s) property and perform no actions which may cause damage.
- l). Behave in a manner consistent with the TPC constitution and endeavour to be an ambassador for the sport.
- m). Attendees to sessions sign up on the follow basis:
 - i). That they are committed to coming to the event unless there is an emergency or are ill.
 - ii). Payment must be paid direct into the club’s bank account 48 hours in advance of the event.
 - iii). Refunds will not be given.

- n). If a player fails to attend a club night that they have booked, then they may be removed from the following club night session. The reason for this is, when a session is full, other players who wanted to come were prevented from coming. In addition, the session is disrupted by a missing player as courts are pre-allocated according to attendees. Furthermore, the club suffers a financial detriment if a player doesn't attend.
- o). If the opponent claims there was a major distraction whilst play is in progress (e.g. ball bouncing onto the court), don't hesitate to replay the point.
- p). If you feel that you will not be able to attend club night for more than two weeks due to injury, illness, work changes, long holidays etc then you will let the committee know to help plan court numbers.
- q). Targeting. Targeting is defined as deliberately playing most balls to one player throughout the game. This is generally not allowed at club night to ensure that all four players are involved. However if a session is described as 'tournament play' then this is allowed or if all players on the court decide they want to play tournament style for that game.
- r). Body shots. Body shots i.e. a deliberate hard hit at a person is not allowed at club night. If a session is described as 'tournament play' then this is allowed
- s). When timed games are being played, please start a new game or do some drilling if you completed a game and still have remaining time.
- t). Members are asked not to send unsolicited texts or calls to the committee's personal email or phones regarding TPC club business. The only exceptions are if it is an emergency, to advise on non-attendance at an event or to advise if going to be late to an event. However, the preferred route for non-attendance notifications is to private message through the booking system (Meet up).
- u). Members are asked to direct all club business to the Info@thornburypickleclub.co.uk mail box. This includes but is not limited to; comments on club policy, issues and suggestions.
- v). To reserve comments on events to items pertinent to that event and not the expression of personal opinions. Questions for individuals are to be directed via private messaging on the booking system (Meet Up). Questions for the committee are to be directed via info@thornburypickleballclub.co.uk
- w). If members do not want the committee to contact them on their personal mobiles regarding TPC club business they are to send a formal request to the secretary via info@thornburypickleballclub.co.uk to request deletion. The committee members will delete the contact from their phone entirely to avoid a breach of the persons choice.
- x). Dangerous play is not allowed at club nights. This includes but is not limited to;
 - i. Hitting the ball towards someone with such power that if it accidentally hits them it would injure them, particularly above waist height (clarification– hitting a ball hard into a large space or at peoples feet is acceptable)
 - ii. Hitting the ball hard without the necessary control – if you can't be sure where it will go hit it more gently
 - iii. Not moving away when someone else calls for the ball as they could hit you with their paddle
 - iv. Crashing into the net
 - v. Not stopping play when a ball is on court
 - vi. Running onto the adjoining court when play is in action there. If this happens play a let.