

Wānaka Pickleball League



Season 1 **2nd of August to 9th of October 2026** **Wanaka REC Centre**

We are starting up a competitive pickleball league at Wānaka REC, to offer local players an opportunity to play pickleball in a more competitive setting. All games will be recorded within DUPR, with the league running for a total of 10 weeks.

League Session Dates:

Sunday the 2nd of August 12:00pm-2:30pm
Sunday the 9th of August 12:00pm-2:30pm
Sunday the 16th of August 12:00pm-2:30pm
Sunday the 23rd of August 12:00pm-2:30pm
Friday the 28th of August 6:00pm-8:30pm
Friday the 11th of September 6:00pm-8:30pm
Friday the 18th of September 6:00pm-8:30pm
Friday the 25th of September 6:00pm-8:30pm
Friday the 2nd of October 6:00pm-8:30pm
Friday the 9th of October 6:00pm-8:30pm

Due to limited court availability at REC, we will have the first four sessions taking place on Sundays at 12pm with the final six weeks' sessions taking place at 6pm on Fridays. There are going to be a couple of "bye" weeks, with no sessions due to a lack of court availability.

Fees & Payment:

Each session will cost \$15 per player, payable on the day to reception staff at Wānaka REC. This is a non-for-profit league, and any funds will be used exclusively to cover league costs.

Requirements of Participation in the league:

- Players must commit to a **best-effort** attendance rate of **seven out of the ten** league sessions for the season. Exceptions can be made and this will not be strictly enforced but for the league to function effectively we will need players to commit to regular attendance throughout the season.
- **Players are not required to have an existing DUPR rating but are required to play at a minimum 3.0 level**, this league is **not suitable for beginners to pickleball**. If you don't have a rating or are uncertain whether you would meet the skill requirement then please get in touch with the organisers and they can help assess suitability.
- Players must agree to abide by the official USAPA rules and guidelines.
- Players must show each other and any organisers respect and courtesy; anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated.

Format:

- **Initial sessions will be three rounds of three games** (playing with each partner on the court) timed to **13 minutes** (or **first to 11, win by 2**) there will be a 2-minute break between games in each round. There will be a 5-minute break between rounds.
- **Courts will initially be seeded based on DUPR ratings**, with subsequent sessions then being seeded using the GPN ladder league algorithm, with intervention by organisers where appropriate.
- If a point is ongoing when the timer runs out, the point will be played out to completion.
- If the score is tied at the end of the allocated time, then a sudden death point will be played out with the server being whoever was due to serve the next point.
- Each court will be provided with a score sheet prior to the start of each round, all games must be recorded, and **all players must sign the scoresheet following each round. Players will then be asked to self-submit their scores to GPN at the end of each session**. Any disputed scores will be resolved using the completed score sheets so **signing and validating these is super important**.
- Following each round, scores will be tallied and the **player with the highest points differential will move up one court and the player with the lowest points differential will move down one court**. In the event of a points and W&L draw, a coin will be flipped between players to determine who moves up/down.
- There will be a **maximum of 32 players at each league session**, with **total participants capped at 45 players**. Players will need to register for each week's session through GPN, registration will open one week in advance of each session and will operate on a first come, first served basis, with a waitlist available for players that did not register in time.

Equipment:

- We will be using Franklin X-40 balls (typically used outdoors) for the league as they are suitable for use on the Wanaka REC courts.
- Players may only use [USAPA approved paddles](#). An exception to this paddle ruling will be made to allow for the Wanaka REC paddles to be used by players who do not have an appropriate paddle.

League Prizes:

There will be several prize categories as well as some spot prizes available for participating players. Prizes will be awarded for the following:

1. The highest-ranking player at the end of the season, this will be determined by GPN's ELO algorithm.
2. The player with the most points/ wins throughout the season. This may not correspond with the highest ranked player due to match weighting from the algorithm.
3. The most improved player, based on start and end position throughout the course of the season.
4. There will be an additional "fair play" award prize for the player displaying the most sporting behaviour on and off the court. Nominations for this award will be open throughout the course of the season. Submissions to be judged and prize to be awarded by organisers.

How to Register

We will be using **GPN (Global Pickleball Network)** for the league and for the session registrations:

1. **Join Wānaka Pickleball League on GPN**
Please register to join the Wānaka Pickleball League network on GPN here: [Wānaka Pickleball League on GPN](#)
2. **Join the Ladder League**
Once you are a part of the WPL network on GPN you will have to register for the ladder league as well. A link to the [ladder league page can be found here.](#)
3. **Register for each session** via the scheduled GPN event within the ladder league page. Registrations will be limited to 32 players and will open exactly one week prior to play.
4. **Important info** will be communicated through the GPN platform, including formats, standings, venue/time changes etc. You can enable/disable email notifications from GPN in your account settings.

Questions or Suggestions

If you have any questions or suggestions relating to the league or any issues with registration, then please don't hesitate to **get in contact via GPN or by text/WhatsApp with Jono Hill on +64 27 238 0211**