

MECKLENBURG COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION

SUMMARY OF 2021 FALL PICKLEBALL PROTOCOLS FOR COVID-19

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation's 2021 Fall Adult Pickleball league will follow DHHS recommendations and adhere to safety guidelines set forth by the State on North Carolina and Mecklenburg County.

- Players should not come to league games if they have any COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days. Players should self-monitor their daily health (including temperature checks) and not come to games if feeling sick.
- Any player at high risk or with underlying medical conditions should get permission from a medical professional prior to participating in the league.
- All players should practice the 3 W's: wear a mask/face covering, wait 6 feet apart from others and wash hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- Players must wear masks/facial covers at ALL TIMES including during games. This rule shall be maintained until state and local facial covering guidelines are relaxed.
- To promote limited interaction, players should wait outside of the gate when team is on a "bye" or prior to open play. Teams must leave promptly after all scheduled games are completed.
- Game times will be staggered with built in gaps to allow for safer team transitions.
- No spectators will be permitted at league games at this time.
- Players are encouraged to bring their own chairs and practice social distancing of at least 6 feet while not on the court.
- Pickleball paddles should not be shared and should be disinfected if necessary. Players should have their own water bottles and keep all personal items away from others.
- It is recommended that new Pickleballs and/or sanitized Pickleballs be used at the start of each game and rotation of sanitized balls occur on a regular basis throughout the game.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at game sites.
- No handshakes/personal contact celebrations. (No unnecessary physical contact).
- All players should refrain from spitting.
- Staff will be equipped with personal protective equipment and will communicate with players when necessary. Six feet distance is mandatory during these interactions.
- Players will be required to sign a waiver form prior to participating.
- Player and/or team penalties including forfeiture of games will be administered if protocols are not adhered to. Team captains must stress the importance of following all protocols with their players.
- Safety of all participants is our highest priority and adjustments to these protocols can be expected based on further guidance from Federal, State and Local agencies.