

TOM BARTON COURTS UPDATES

Berkeley Heights Pickleball Waiting System

[Effective 10/4/22]

Here are the new procedures going into place for Open Play sessions on Monday and Wednesday Nights along with Saturday Mornings. These procedures will also be in place anytime there is a group of 2, 3, 4 to 8 or more additional players waiting in rotation among their respective group on non-open play days/nights. As we all know our courts have become quite popular! While we welcome the excitement and high energy levels associated with our courts, we also recognize that the current congestion on the courts while people are waiting for their turn to play can be frustrating and unorganized.

So, just like every other Pickleball facility, we need to implement some structure. We have purchased a 20 slot Pickleball Paddle Organizer (Intermediate), a 12 slot Pickleball Paddle Organizer (Advanced). At this time, we will hold off on purchasing a Beginner Paddle Organizer based on our numbers but do have a court reserved for Beginners if needed during Open Play. These will be permanently attached to the outside of the fence, where the main entrance to the court is located near the bleachers.

ALL PLAYERS regardless of being advanced, intermediate or beginner must vacate the playing area and wait outside of the courts in between matches. That means, your bags and accessories must also be placed on the outside of the fence. If you don't want to sit on the bleachers in between matches, feel free to bring a pop-up chair, beach chair etc... the key is placing them on the outside of the fence, no chairs allowed on the court.

WHEN PEOPLE ARE WAITING THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY: Those waiting shall place their paddles in the Paddle Rack in the first available open slots. There is a yellow mini pickleball (shift left to right) on the Paddle Rack that indicates who the **NEXT** group up is. If there are more players waiting to play than available slots in the Paddle Rack, players shall then place their paddles under the Paddle Rack on the ground and continue the rotation from there.

PICKLEBALL PLAY IS ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS, FOLLOWING THIS FORMAT: 2 on/2 off w/ the winners staying on for a total of two games. Do the winners have to split, ideally, but we do understand there will be exceptions to splitting, use your discretion. Games will be played to 11 points, win by 2, if there is an excess of people waiting games will be played straight to 9 points. In addition, if there is an excess of people waiting, we could move to a 4 on/4 off format. When a match is completed, the team leaving the court must then yell 2 on Court 6D or 2 on court 5B, etc.... depending on the court being vacated. New procedures take some getting use to at first, so please try to be understanding and considerate of your fellow permit holders, we all need to police ourselves and work within the system going into place.

Thanks in advance,

Ed Gallitelli – Berkeley Heights Recreation Commission Chair



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