

SCOTTISH NATIONAL PICKLEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

1. Key Information

1.1 Key dates

THURSDAY 1 st OCT	FRIDAY 2 nd OCT	SATURDAY 3 rd OCT	SUNDAY 4 th OCT
Men's Doubles 50+, 60+	Mixed Doubles 50+, 60+	Mixed Doubles 18+, 70+	Men's Doubles 18+, 70+
Women's Doubles 50+, 60+	Women's Singles 18+, 50+	Youth Singles	Women's Doubles 18+
	Men's Singles 18+, 50+		Youth Doubles
			Wheelchair Invitational Doubles

1.2 Venue transport and parking

The competition venue is The Scotstoun Badminton Academy, Danes Drive, Scotstoun, Glasgow, G14 9HY. More information about the venue can be found in section 3 *Venue Information*.

Car parking at the venue is **limited** so please try to buddy up with others if arriving by car. There are spaces in front and behind the event hall and in the adjacent stadium. Local bus stops and Scotstounhill (SCH) railway station are nearby and there are plenty of bicycle spaces to lock bikes.

Please be aware that Glasgow Warriors will be playing a league fixture at Scotstoun at 1730 on **Saturday 3rd Oct**. This will likely lead to parking restrictions on roads around the stadium from early afternoon.

1.3 Medical services

The venue staff will provide first aid cover. This is an emergency service only. The nearest hospital to Scotstoun with an Accident & Emergency department is the **Queen Elizabeth University Hospital**, 1345 Govan Road, Glasgow G51 4TF. Telephone +44 141 201 1100.

Pickleball Scotland are not liable for any personal injury that players and spectators may suffer as a result of attending the championship. You take part at your own risk.

1.4 Outstanding payments

If you have any payments that you need to make, e.g., entry fees, t-shirt etc., please visit the championship office upon first arrival to make payment. We can accept cash and cards. Please note that entry fees must be paid prior to the competition start.

2. Competition Information

2.1 Event organisation

Position	Name
Tournament Director	Louise Harrison
Head Referee	Maureen McCadden
Operations	Anne Smillie
Finance	Steph Robertson
Social Media & Event Broadcasting	Adriana Orlandi & Sandy McGhie
Court Marshall Team Leaders	Calum Donald (Thurs to Sat), Sandra McCluskey (Sun)
Medal Ceremonies	Mhairi Adam

2.2 Volunteers

As with most pickleball events, everyone you meet is a volunteer. They are there to help you and to help make the competition run smoothly. Some volunteers give their time because they love pickleball and others because they love volunteering at sports events and meeting lots of interesting people.

Our volunteers will wear red t-shirts in the venue to be easily identifiable to you.

2.3 Competition draw

The Championships' draw will be published in the week commencing 20th September and the schedule will be published on 27th September. These will be published on [Tournament Software](#).

Please note that the draw is subject to change should there be late withdrawals.

2.4 Competition format and regulations

COMPETITION FORMAT

60+ Women's Doubles Open, 70+ Men's Doubles and Youth Singles ONLY:

One round robin group. Top 2 from the group progress to the final and the 3rd/4th place in the group progress to a bronze medal playoff match.

Youth Doubles

One match of 3 sets to determine the national youth champions.

Wheelchair Doubles

To be run in American Tournament format with everyone partnering at least 5 other players. Top 3 points scorers will be awarded medals

All other events:

A number of round robin groups, top 2 from each round robin group progress into knock-out stages.

MATCH SCORING

Round Robins: (*see important notes below)

1 game to 11 win by 1

Change Ends at 6

No Time Outs

Last 16, Quarter Finals & Semi Finals:

1 game to 11 win by 1

Change Ends at 6

No Time Outs

Medal Matches:

1 game to 15 win by 1

Change Ends at 8

1 Time Out, per singles player or team

***RANKING ORDER WITHIN THE ROUND ROBIN STAGES**

Please ensure you read this information about how the ranking order is determined in round robin matches. This is final and non-negotiable.

- Positions will be decided by the number of match points won as follows: 2 points for a win, 1 point for a loss in a complete game, 0 points for a loss in any game not completed (e.g. walkover/withdrawn / disqualified). If a player/team withdraws from the event before completing all their matches, the matches already played will not count towards group standings but will be recorded on DUPR.
- If 2 or more players/pairs win the same number of match points, the order will be decided by points difference.
- If points difference remains the same between 2 players/pairs, then the order will be decided by head-to-head result between the 2 players/pairs.
- If 3 or more players/pairs are still equal, order will be decided by drawing lots.

RULES & REGULATIONS

The competition will be held in accordance with the USA Pickleball Official Tournament Rulebook and The Pickleball Scotland Open 2026 Regulations.

Tournament Ball - Head Red 26 Indoor Ball.

Players should avoid red/orange/pink apparel as you may be asked to change.

Scoresheet

At the end of the match, both players/pairs must return to the court marshal and provide the court marshal with the score and sign/initial the scoresheet.

If your match has a referee, the referee will ask the players to sign and then return the scoresheet to the court marshal.

Please ensure you keep an eye on the schedule and particularly on the status of matches on the court of your upcoming match, in case your match is earlier than scheduled.

Withdrawal

In the event of a withdrawal, no change of partner can be made once the pair have started their first match.

PLAY WITH PICKLEBALL SCOTLAND VALUES:

- Be Safe: warm up before you get to the court; only 1 min of warm up on court; stop play and replay a point if ball rolls onto your court – pick it up and find out where it should be returned to; hydrate; first aid provided by centre staff; do not play with a damaged paddle.
- Have Fun: even although it is a serious tournament remember to have fun! Keep it light
- Be Generous: with line calls; thank opponents for the game; appreciate your partner's shots and opponent's shots
- Game on: practice is over it is game time!
- Efforts are successes: taking part means that everyone is a winner although a maximum of 3 medals per event will be awarded.

2.5 Players Briefing

Please read all of the information below to ensure you are ready for the 2026 Scottish Nationals

USA Pickleball 2026 Rules Apply

Players are responsible for being familiar with the **USAP 2026 Official Rulebook**.

Registration

Registration is at the front desk on entering The Badminton Academy from 0745am.

All players must register at least 30 minutes before their first event each day.

Practice Courts

Courts will be available for practice/warm up:

Thursday 1st Oct to Friday 2nd Oct: 8:00am - 8:20am

Saturday 3rd Oct: 8:00am to 08:40am

Sunday 4th Oct: 8:15 to 9:00am

Final checks before matches begin:

Thursday-Friday: 8:20am

Saturday: 8:40am

Sunday: 9:00am

Paddles

Players must verify that their paddle is on the USA Pickleball Approved Paddle List and have proof available before each match. Officials may request to see this at any time.

<https://equipment.usapickleball.org/paddle-list/>

Check that your paddle is on the list before your match.

Paddles not on the USA Pickleball Approved Paddle List, or that have been altered from the original manufacturer specifications, or damaged ie. cracks, dents, holes, etc. will be retained by the Head Referee. Players may request the return of their paddle(s) on confirmation that they have completed all entered events in the tournament.

If during a match in progress, a players paddle is confirmed as not on the approved paddle list, the player/team will forfeit the match.

Items Allowed on Court

Players can bring towels, water, or sports drink bottles (no glass containers) onto the court. No open liquid containers are allowed. Bags are not allowed.

Schedule of play

The schedule of play can be accessed by scanning the QR codes around the venue. Please check this regularly as it can be subject to change and will need to be checked for court numbers for knock out matches.

Please note that the schedule of matches shows the order of matches to be played as 'followed by – ' we will show indicated start times for each match but please start the following match as soon as possible after the previous one finishes.

Please stay close to your court to enable the matches to run without delay

Warm Up

The first matches of the day will commence promptly at:

Thursday/Friday: 8:30am

Saturday: 8:50am

Sunday: 9:10am

Please check your events! Players are expected to register and complete their warm-up before this time.

Please report to your court ready to start your match.

You will have **1 minute to warm up** on court and start play.

Players who are late to court will not be allowed any warm-up time.

Players who are not on court within 5 minutes of the starting time will forfeit the match.

Injury During Play

A player must be ready to resume play within five minutes. If the player is unable to resume within that period, or requires treatment away from the court, that player will be retired from the match. Play will then proceed in accordance with the applicable tournament rules.

Match control should be advised immediately if they will be withdrawing from any matches still to be played in the event.

Hydration

Players may quickly hydrate and towel off between rallies during the game, provided there is no delay.

Serving

Starting server bands will be provided and must only be worn by the starting server for each doubles match. The server band should be clearly visible to your opponent and referee, if present.

Refusal to wear the starting server band will result in a match forfeit.

The server must call the score before striking the ball to serve. The score should be called as 2 numbers in singles and 3 numbers in doubles ie. 0-0-1, if first server, or 0-0-2, if second, or starting server. It should be loud enough so that their opponents can hear it.

If your match has a referee, the referee will call the score. The referee will raise their arm to indicate they are ready to call the score. They will call the score in full then lower their arm. When the referees arm is at their side, they have finished calling the score and the server has 10 seconds to serve the ball. Failing to do so results in a fault.

The server should not strike the ball to serve until the entire score is announced. Serving before the score is fully called results in a fault. If the server strikes the ball before the score has begun to be announced, it is considered a replay as the ball is not yet live.

If there is a referee on court, players may ask the referee who the correct server or receiver is, whether they are in the correct position or to confirm the called score but **MUST** only do so before the serve has been made.

Incorrect Score Called

If an incorrect score is announced, the referee or any player may stop play before the serve is returned, and the ball becomes dead, to correct the score.

Stopping play after the serve has been returned; to identify or request a score correction is a fault. Furthermore, it is also a fault to stop play to identify or request a score correction when the score has been correctly called.

Service Motion

The referee will pay close attention that each player's service motion complies with USA Pickleball requirements. The ball release must also be visible to the opponent and the referee.

Volley Serve - When the servers paddle strikes the ball to serve:

The Paddle must be clearly moving in an upward arc

The Paddle head must clearly not be above the highest part of the server's wrist joint

The ball must clearly be no higher than the server's waist.

Drop Serve

The ball must be dropped from a natural height and must not be propelled in any direction.

Faults & Line Calls

If there is a referee on court, the referee will call service faults, NVZ faults, and short serves.

Players are responsible for calling all lines on their side of the court, including the centre line on serve.

Please make your "out" calls promptly, loudly, and clearly, and hold any hand signals (if used) so your opponents, and referee if on court, can hear and see them.

Spectators MUST NOT be consulted on line calls or coach players between rallies. The player/team may be assessed a verbal warning, or if it continues a Technical Warning

Referee Appeals: You may ask the referee, if on court, to rule on any line call. **The referee will only rule if they clearly saw the ball land.** Otherwise, the original call will stand.

The Code of Ethics for Line Calling requires that the opponent receive the benefit of any doubt.

Hinders and Balls on Court:

Players may call "hinder" or "ball on court" if they are distracted by a ball, player, or object entering their playing area.

If there is a referee on court and the referee deems it is not a safety concern, they will not automatically stop play for a possible ball in the playing area that does not affect play.

Valid hinders, as determined by the referee, including those created or called by players on adjacent courts, will require a replay.

Time Outs

Medal matches only. Each player or team will have **1 Standard Time Out**

Players must clearly indicate their intent to both the referee and their opponents. This may be done verbally ("Time-out"), by using the universal "T" hand signal, or both. The referee will acknowledge the time-out by announcing, for example, "Time-out, receivers 7-5-1, one minute," while moving to the centre of the net.

Calling the Head Referee or Tournament Director to your court

Players may request to meet with the Head Referee or Tournament Director to contest a player or referee's decision. If the referee's decision is upheld the player/team will be assessed a standard timeout, if available, together with a technical warning. A technical foul will be assessed if no timeout is available, resulting in a one-point adjustment.

If the player rescinds the request, before the Head Referee or Tournament Director arrive on court, the team will be assessed a standard time-out. If no standard time-outs are available, a technical foul (loss of a point) will be assessed for delay of game.

Note: Standard Time Outs are available in medal matches only.

Good Sportsmanship

Players are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. Any actions considered unsportsmanlike by a referee will result in a verbal warning, a technical warning, or a technical foul. A match will be forfeited if a player or team receives both a technical warning and a technical foul or fails to comply with established rules.

Pre-Match Briefing - Matches with referees only

Before play begins for each match, the referee will hold a briefing with all players to:

- Inspect player paddles for compliance with paddle specifications.
- Notify players of any approved rule modifications, court abnormalities and non-standard court conditions that could be potential safety issues.
- Identify starting servers and ensure visibility of the starting server identification.
- Use a fair method for players to choose service and ends to start the match.

If your match is the first time you have ever had a referee, please notify the referee of that fact.

You may confirm the match format with the referee during the pre-match briefing and ask any questions you have, but otherwise, they will only cover the four items above.

2.6 Results distribution and schedules of play

Match results will be published on Tournament Software as soon as the scores are recorded by Match Control. These can be viewed via [Tournament Software](#) or by scanning the QR code round the venue.

2.7 Video recording and streaming

You can video matches with prior consent of those players to be videoed. With players' permission, we plan to stream many matches via our social media. Please email The Tournament Director by 23rd September 2026 at events@pickleballscotland.org if you do NOT give permission for filming or photography. There is an area of no filming/photography (clearly marked "No Photography/filming") outside Courts 1 to 4 on the ground floor.

2.8 Medal ceremonies

Medal ceremonies will take place shortly after the final match of each event in The Dance Studio (upstairs). Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded. Please stay close-by after your last match if you are involved in the medal ceremony.

3 Venue Information

3.1. Championships' Office

The Championships' Office, which is on the ground floor, is the main point of information for players. Raffle tickets for some great prizes will be on sale here. Cash and cards accepted.

3.2. Match viewing area

Viewing is from the gallery. Please do not go in to the sports halls to view matches

3.3. Baggage storage

The small training room adjoining the dance studio on the gallery floor will be available for storing bags. This room is unsupervised so bags are stored at your own risk. Please do not take your bag in the sports hall.

3.4 Scotstoun Cafe

The centre café in the adjacent building will be open each day. Opening hours will be:

- Thursday: 9am to 8pm
- Friday: 9am to 7pm
- Saturday: 9am to 12:30pm
- Sunday: 9am to 4pm

Please note the very early closing of the café on the Saturday due to The Glasgow Warriors fixture. We strongly advise players to bring their own snacks and drinks during the day just in case you have limited time between games. There is a water cooler in the venue which is freely available all day.

3.5 Sponsors stands

On the balcony floor, there are sponsor stands:

HEAD – supplies of paddles, shoes and accessories

Court Classics – A range of Organic, Sustainable, Responsibly Sourced Racquet Sport Apparel

3.6 Changing rooms, toilets and lockers

There are toilets, changing rooms and showers available in the venue.

3.7 Venue evacuation and emergency procedures

If the fire alarm alert sounds at the Scotstoun Badminton Centre please leave the building by the nearest available exit.

1. On hearing the alarm, leave the building and proceed to the Assembly Point using the nearest available exit to leave.
2. Do not use the lifts (except designated fire evacuation lifts for the evacuation of disabled persons only).
3. Do not stop to collect any personal belongings.
4. Take persons you are responsible for with you and to their respective Assembly Point.
5. Do not re-enter the building until instructed that it is safe to do so by Assistant Manager / Duty Officer.

3.8 Security

If you see or hear anything suspicious, please report it immediately to a member of staff. If you come across a suspicious package, please do not touch it; instead, please immediately contact a member of venue staff.

3.9 Smoking regulations

Smoking and vaping are not permitted inside the venue buildings.

4. Thank You

Our wonderful volunteers, sponsors and donors

Pickleball Scotland simply could not hope to organise an event such as this, were it not for the kindness of friends, pickleball family, volunteers, businesses and organisations who have generously donated to us their time, money and expertise. We cannot begin to thank individual people because we don't have enough room!

We thank you sincerely.