



PICKLEBALL REGULATIONS

Last Update: 26.05.2026

1. Organization:

- a. The Sports Department of the 22nd Maccabiah will be responsible for the Pickleball competitions of the 22nd Maccabiah.
- b. The Pickleball competitions will be conducted according to the USA Pickleball ([USAPA](https://www.usapa.org/)) rulebook and regulations.
- c. Participation in the competition is open to any athlete who is in possession of a Participant Card, issued by the Organizing Committee of the 22nd Maccabiah and registered for the Pickleball competitions.
- d. Each participating country may enter up to ten (10) competitors per gender for each of the events in each of the following age groups:
 - 1) 18 and over
 - 2) 50 and over
- e. Each participating country may enter up to one (1) coach for each of the following age groups:
 - 1) 18 and over
 - 2) 50 and over

2. Venues and Times:

The Sport Department of the 22nd Maccabiah will determine the venues and times of the Pickleball competitions and players, doubles and/or teams ("P/D/T") will be notified accordingly.

3. Events:

- a. Each player is allowed to participate in 1 Singles, 1 Doubles, 1 Mixed Doubles and 1 Team Event.
 - 1) Singles
 - 2) Doubles
 - 3) Mix Doubles
 - 4) Teams (2 men + 2 female minimum)
- b. A maximum of 2 teams per country will be allowed in the team events per age bracket.





4. Match Format:

- a. All matches will be played at 1 game to 15 points, rally scoring, according to USA Pickleball (USAPA) rulebook, with a change of ends after and after one of the players/teams reaches 8 points. All games will be "win by 2"
- b. Special Rule: Time-Outs & Balls:
 - 1) Each P/D/T is entitled to a 1 Time-Out (1 minute) per game (2 timeouts will be allowed per team in the Finals & 3rd/4th place games for all disciplines).
 - 2) A two (2) minute warmup will be granted before each game.
 - 3) One (1) new ball will be given for each new match.
- c. Finals Games and 3rd/4th Place Games for all matches will be played until 21 points, rally scoring, with a side change when the first team reaches 11 points.

5. System of Competition

SYSTEM A: with the participation of up to 5 P/D/T:

- a. The competition will be played on a league basis of a single round robin. P/D/T will be ranked in the league according to their number of matches won.
- b. In the event of two P/D/T with the same number of won matches, the results in head-to-head competition will be compared and the team with the better record between those two P/D/T only will take the higher position.
- c. In the event of more than two P/D/T having the same number of won matches, classification will be made according to the number of league points gained in the matches played between them, i.e., a team which gains the higher number of points in the above-mentioned games will take the higher place, and so on.
- d. If after the above mentioned, equality still exists between P/D/T, classification will be made according to the point differential (points won minus points lost) accumulated over all games in the round robin
- e. If equality still persists, classification will be decided by a draw.
- f. The first two P/D/T in the league will compete for the title: "22nd Maccabiah Champion".
- g. The teams in places 3 and 4 in the league will compete for the bronze medal.

SYSTEM B: with the participation of 6 or more P/D/T: the competition will consist of two stages:

Stage 1: Groups

- a. Participants will be divided into groups of 3 to 4 P/D/T with the number of seeds equal to twice the number of groups (2X). The Seeded P/D/T will be distributed as follows: Group 1 – Seed #1, Group 2 – Seed #2 and so on.
- b. Rest of the seeds will be randomly allocated in the Groups, in such a way that there will be two seeded P/D/T in each group.
- c. In case there are less than 2X ranked P/D/T available for seeding, the priority for groups with just 1 seed will be decided by the seed number. (E.g. there are 5 groups and only 8 available for seeding teams – thus there will be only one seed in groups 1&2 with seeded #1 and #2 respectively).
- d. The draw will be made in a way that ensures that P/D/T from the same country are seeded and/or drawn into different groups, when possible.





- e. P/D/T will be ranked in their groups according to their achievements as indicated in SYSTEM A.

Stage 2: Knockout – no separation according to countries.

- f. P/D/T ranked first and second in their groups will be drawn against P/D/T finished third and fourth in other groups. P/D/T from the same group will be divided into separate halves/quarters of the draw.
- g. Example for 16 P/D/T divided into 4 groups (A, B, C, D) distributed into the knockout draw:
- A1 vs D4
 - B3 vs C2
 - B2 vs C3
 - A4 vs D1
 - C1 vs B4
 - D3 vs A2
 - D2 vs A3
 - C4 vs B1
- h. There will be no consolation matches, and the losing P/D/T in the knock-out games will be eliminated. Losers of the Semi Final matches will play a match for the Bronze Medal. Winners of the semifinals will play for the gold and silver medals.

6. Team Event:

- a. Teams will be composed of at least 4 players with a minimum of 2 men and 2 females.
- b. Every delegation may enter up to 2 Teams per age bracket (i.e.: Israel 50+ A Team & Israel 50+ B Team). There is no maximum number of players per team.
- c. Each Team entered must select 1 captain that will be responsible for giving their lineups to the head referee before each tie
- d. Open 18+ Team: Each Tie will comprise of 6 rubbers, according to the following scheme (Where: Teams are represented as Letters (A and B), and Players as Numbers (1, 2, 3,4)). A “Final Battle” will take place if the games are tied 3-3 after Women’s Singles:
- 1) #1 - AM1+AM2 vs BM1+BM2 (Men's Doubles)
 - 2) #2 – AW1+AW2 vs BW1+BW2 (Women's Doubles)
 - 3) #3 - AM1+AW1 vs BM1+BW1 (Mixed Doubles 1)
 - 4) #4 - AM2+AW2 vs BM2+BW2 (Mixed Doubles 2)
 - 5) #5 - AM1 vs BM1 (Men’s Singles)
 - 6) #6 - AW1 vs BW1 (Women’s Singles)
- e. Senior 50+ Team: Each Tie will comprise of 4 rubbers, according to the following scheme (Where: Teams are represented as Letters (A and B), and Players as Numbers (1, 2, 3,4)). A “Final Battle” will take place if the games are tied 2-2 after Mixed Doubles 2:
- 1) #1 - AM1+AM2 vs BM1+BM2 (Men's Doubles)
 - 2) #2 – AW1+AW2 vs BW1+BW2 (Women's Doubles)
 - 3) #3 - AM1+AW1 vs BM1+BW1 (Mixed Doubles 1)





4) #4 - AM2+AW2 vs BM2+BW2 (Mixed Doubles 2)

- f. In the case the Team consists of more than 4 players, substitute player(s) may replace any player on the Team until the end of the Tie. (For example: if AM3 replaces AM2 in the 2nd rubber, player AM2 may not play anymore in this tie and player AM3 will also play AM3+AW2 if chosen by the Team Captain.)
- g. During the Round Robin / Groups Stage all rubbers must be played to receive the final result of the Tie. During the Knock-Out Stage, the Tie is decided as soon as one of the Teams will reach majority rubber wins. "Dead" Rubbers might be played only in the case both teams are interested and there are available courts for it – thus not interrupting the rest of the competition.
- h. If a rubber is tied 3-3 after all 6 games for Open, or 2-2 for the Seniors; a "Final Battle" will take place. The captain will choose 4 players (2 men and 2 female) to play rotating singles points until 15, rally scoring (unless the finals or 3rd/4th place game which will be to 21 points), rotating players every 3 points. Teams will still switch ends once a team reaches 8 points.

7. Seeding of Players, Doubles and Teams:

- a. Singles:
 - 1) DUPR international ranking
 - 2) Players without DUPR may be prioritized as #2, #3 and so on within the team to be separated into different groups from DUPR national players – but will not be seeded.
 - 3) Organizing Committee may nominate additional Seeded Players according to their sole judgement.
- b. Doubles:
 - 1) Average DUPR ranking of the two partners – players with no ranking been counted as 1.0
 - 2) Organizing Committee may nominate additional Seeded Players according to their sole judgement.
- c. Teams:
 - 1) Average DUPR ranking of 2 top Male and 2 Top Female team members – players with no ranking been counted as 1.0
 - 2) Organizing Committee may nominate additional Seeded Players according to their sole judgement.

8. Combining International Players:

- 1) Delegations needing players to complete a team may seek players from other international delegations; however, teams will compete under an "International" flag and any podium finishes would not count to any specific countries overall medal standings
- 2) Seeding will take place in alignment with 7a-c.





9. Judging and Event Management:

The Sport Department, together with the Israeli Pickleball Association, will select the Judges and Technical Director to oversee the technical aspects of the competitions. All other decisions will be made with the guidance of and in coordination with the Organizing Committee of the 22nd Maccabiah and the Sports Department.

10. General:

- a. These regulations are but one part of the complete 22nd Maccabiah Regulations and must be read along with the instructions found in Maccabiah Basic Regulations.
- b. In the event of a discrepancy between the regulations written here and those appearing in the Maccabiah Basic Regulations, the regulations written here will prevail, apply and be binding.
- c. The official ball will be the Franklin X-40