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# 2026 KC Interclub Pickle SUMMER League Levels, Formats & Rules

The League is for interclub play that benefits clubs and their members. Dues paying members of participating clubs play on their club teams. The League provides organization, a website, schedules, score entry, standings, information, communication, playoffs with prizes. A team plays half the scheduled matches at Home and half of the matches are played at the courts of the team's opponents.

## Levels of play

- A variety of levels are offered including several divisions of Men's Doubles & Women's Doubles. Divisions may have different time limits for matches.
- See the division listings on League's Schedule & Facts flyer.

## Ratings

- The professional staff at each club will guide member decisions for placement based on past tennis or pickleball experience or lack of experience. The goal is for compatible play for all the members.
- **Rating Guidelines**
  - Use Tencap Tennis Ratings/NTRP equivalent, DUPR, and/or comparisons to other rated players.
  - Players who have played little or never? Drop their tennis rating by .5. Example, a 4.0 little/no-play player, guidelines are for participation at the 3.5 level for their first season.
  - After a season or two, clubs will be more aware of player levels and players will be more aware of their own level, based on past play.

## Formats & Rules

- **Two courts** of play each week for 1.5 hr. matches. 4 players each week. Roster size 6-10 players. Fewer for more frequent play (6-8).
- **Teams are managed by Captains** with assistance from club staff when needed.
- **Home team provides courts & outdoor balls.** Half of the matches are at Home and half Away.
- **Add players to the roster any time** during the regular season. For playoff eligibility players must have played in at least 2 regular season matches.
- **Play 5 games to 11 points** each, if time permits. For early finishes, divide up and continue playing. These games are not entered as scores. If there is not enough time to finish 5 games, simply record the games as they were played when time is up.
- **Play is continuous.** When a game concludes, start another. Beer & water breaks are allowed.

- **Standings** are determined by average of points won. Every point counts!
  - Points won for each match are divided by the number of matches played.
  - If you have a repeat opponent and all teams do not play the same opponents twice or more, those matches against the duplicate opponents are added together and divided by the number of times played against that opponent and counted as a single match. Fairness is the objective. Some teams may have easier/harder draws than others. This levels the field.
- **Playoffs. All divisions will have Finals matches to determine the Division Champion & Finals.** Divisions of 6 or more teams will also have semis matches – using the Standings, the #1 team plays #4 and #2 plays #3. Semis & Finals matches dates will be included in the online division schedule and will be at the regular date/time for the division.
  - The Semis and Finals matches are hosted by the team finishing higher in the Standings. The hosting team captain arranges for the courts at their club.
  - Teams must have played and entered all their regular season matches to be eligible for the playoffs. Any rescheduled/make-up matches need to be played by the ‘last date for play’, which is posted in Pickleball Event News & Notes.
- **Refreshments after the match** make interclub more fun. The tradition is for the host team to treat the opponent to beverages after the match. Stay for a drink, hash out the match, and make friends!
- **Injuries, illness, emergencies – ‘Retiring’:** The retiring team receives the points earned to the time of the default. The non-defaulting team will receive 11 points for each game that has not been completed. Enter points for the unfinished games accordingly.
- **Defaults:** AVOID! Team receiving default gets 55 points per court People sign up to PLAY, not to get defaults. For defaults, enter each game as 11-0.
- **Rescheduling matches:** Captains confer and find an alternative time when a match is rained out. Notify League of new date within a week. All matches must be played by ‘last date for play’ posted on website.
- **Clubs can form teams with up to 3 other clubs** with approval of each club providing players. Host club staff contacts staff at other clubs for approvals. For the 4.0 & 4.5 levels, there is no limit for number of clubs.
- **Rules questions or disputes.** Tencap Tennis rules will guide any rules questions that are not detailed here. Pickleball rules are intentionally being limited to 2 pages. Try to resolve any issues on your own, but if mediation is needed the League will convene a group of 3 pros, none of whom are connected to the teams involved, who will determine how to handle the issue. Contact the League: [contactus@kcinterclubleague.com](mailto:contactus@kcinterclubleague.com) 913-789-8580 if you need help.
- **Tencap Ratings are NOT being use.** Pickle play will not impact tennis play.
- **Tencap Website:** <https://peruvianconnectiontencapleague.tencap.co.uk/> All players need a profile on the site to be on a team. Profiles must include email and phone.
- RATINGS WILL NOT BE CALCULATING ON THE PICKLE SITE AND PICKLE PLAY DOES **NOT** AFFECT TENNIS RATINGS.