

Please complete this form. The information provided will help us keep you informed of gymnasium Pickleball activities and updates as well as being able to inform a designated party in case of an emergency.

PRINT NAME:

DATE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

LOCKER NUMBER: TBD

ADDRESS:

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER:

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

AREAS OF INTEREST;

I have read and understand the Alameda Elks Lodge 1015 Pickleball Rules for the Gym

Signature:

ALAMEDA ELKS LODGE 1015  
PICKLEBALL RULES FOR THE GYM

WHO CAN USE THE GYM

The use of the full gym (Upper and Lower floors) is restricted to Lodge 1015 members who are also gym members. The use of the Upper Floor of the gym, is restricted to Lodge 1015 members who are also either gym members or Pickleball members. Local Elks members (not 1015) can pay for yearly gym or Pickleball memberships as an associate member.

The Upper Floor of the Gym is defined as the lower entryway, the main stairwell, the upper entryway, the porch, and the wood floor area that includes the Pickleball Court, Basketball Court, Golf Hitting Cage, adjacent exercise area and perimeter areas.

To become a Pickleball member, you must pay the current initiation fee, the current monthly Pickleball fee and sign this Application Form including Waiver. To stay current, you must pay the monthly Pickleball fee. Access to the gym key lock will be restricted if dues are not kept current.

For purposes of this Pickleball Application Form, spouses of members are considered the same as Lodge 1015 members. A spouse can become a Pickleball member without the Lodge member joining the Pickleball group. If the member and spouse both join the Pickleball group, they must each pay a separate startup and monthly fee.

During Elks 1015 indoctrination, potential Elks 1015 members should get an orientation on the Gymnasium and/or Pickleball facilities, and be specifically asked if they would like to see the gym/Pickleball facilities.

No sport other than Pickleball, hitting golf balls into the golf net and Basketball are permitted in the Upper Floor of the gym without consent of the Pickleball Chairman. Pickleball has priority over basketball for use of the Pickleball Court area.

Exercise mats may be used for Yoga, Pilates, Stretching, exercising or other similar non-competitive activities.

No one under 21 years old is to be allowed to enter the gym with the exception that children of members may be allowed access if under the direct supervision of the parent and if all necessary paperwork is completed. At this time, the Pickleball Chairman, in coordination with 1015 Lodge, has discretion on establishing procedures for allowing children of members into the gym. The Pickleball Chairman and/or 1015 Lodge can ban children of members from entering the gym at their discretion.

Guest Privileges – A Pickleball member may invite a guest to use the facilities, such as the Pickleball court, under the following conditions: The guest must sign a waiver. Any individual person may be a guest at the gym only two times in a year. The purpose of these visits is to get guests to join Lodge 1015 and the gym. For four months after applying for Elks Membership, there is no limit on guest visits. A waiver must be signed and posted on the guest board. An overall tracking of guests will be kept. A member shall invite no more than three guests per day. There are no other restrictions on the number of guests that a member can invite in a year.

Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests. Members shall inform the guests of rules of the gym and shall make every reasonable effort to assure that their guests comply with these rules.

If the Pickleball committee approves a special tournament for Pickleball and has a nominal fee for the tournament, they will be able to do so, but the 1015 House Office must be notified and guest waiver must be signed by each guest. These visits are in addition to guest visits and the two-fold purpose is to make the overall gym experience better for the current members as well as to convince the other players to join the lodge and Pickleball group. A guest book will be provided and must be signed and filled by all guests.

During special tournaments, the Pickleball Court will be unavailable for use by members, except as participants in the tournament.

Members who allow guests in the gym without complying with the waiver and guest policies will be referred by the Pickleball Committee to the Board of Directors of the Hall Association for action.

Consideration will be given to renting out (or providing) areas of the gym such as the Pickleball/basketball court for use by local groups or organizations. During these events, the Pickleball Court will be unavailable to the members. Efforts will be made to minimize the time that the Pickleball Court is unavailable.

Anyone using the Upper Gym for the purpose of teaching or leading any activity (such as Pickleball/exercise/Yoga/Pilates/Dance/Golf/etc.) on a for-pay basis must contract directly with the House Manager. There will be a special fee for the reservation. If approved, students who are not Pickleball members will have to sign the Guest waiver for each use unless the House Manager provides a Waiver Form for a limited duration. The 2-visit limit per year for guests that are not Pickleball members may be waived by the House Manager. Anyone advertising use of Lodge space for a for-pay activity without a contract with the House Manager will be referred by the Pickleball or Gym Committee to the Board of Directors of the Hall Association for action.

### INTERNAL GYM RULES

Gym hours are 6 am to 10 pm. The keylock does not let anyone enter the building outside of these hours.

The Pickleball Committee shall be governed by the rules listed in the current "Pickleball Committee Rules".

Well-behaved pets may be kept in the entryway or on the porch. No pets are allowed past the doorway to the Pickleball area. Any pet that acts in a threatening way to others will be banned from the gym. Failure to clean up after your pet will result in the action being referred by the Pickleball or Gym Committee to the Board of Directors of the Hall Association for action.

Marking shoes are not permitted on the Pickleball/ basketball court.

For your protection, your locker should be kept locked at all times. The Lodge is not responsible for your belongings.

Pickleball Members may claim one locker on the Upper Floor for full-time use for as long as their membership is current. Upon claiming a locker, the member shall notify the Pickleball Chairmen of the locker number. Upon terminating membership, the locker shall be cleared and the lock removed. If not removed within one month, the lock will be cut and the contents removed and placed in lost and found.

Any lock left overnight on a locker that is not registered with the Pickleball chairman may be cut and the contents removed and placed in lost and found with one week warning.

Gambling and/or playing for money are not allowed in the gym. This includes gambling on Pickleball games. Any complaints related to events that impact gambling will not be considered.

Lights are on a timer. Allow lights to shut off on their own. Do not manually turn off the lights. It is the members responsibility to periodically check the remaining time on the timer. If the timer shuts the lights off, it may take up to 10 minutes for lights to return to full power after time is restored. It is best to add time to the timer on a regular basis to avoid full shutdown during play.

Except for the timer, all lights and electrical circuits should be turned off when not in use. It is in the best interests of the gym to minimize all costs such as electrical in order to leave more funds to be used for improvements and other overhead and programs.

<p>All exercise equipment must be returned to its proper place.</p> <p>Pickleball paddles and balls are provided by the Pickleball Committee for shared use by all Pickleball and Gym members. This equipment may not be removed from the gym. After completing your game, allow others to use the equipment. It is expected that damage and wear will occur and that replacement will be necessary. Notify the Pickleball Chairman if a racket or ball is damaged and in need of replacement. You will not be charged for the replacement unless the damage is by you and is intentional.</p> <p>Adding or removing furniture or exercise equipment must be approved by both the Pickleball Committee and the Gym Committee. Any furniture or exercise equipment left in the gym without permission may be removed by the Gym or Pickleball Committees without compensation.</p>
<p>Drinking water is allowed on the Upper Floor of the gym. No other food or beverage is allowed past the entry door to the Pickleball area. Food and beverage are allowed on the porch and in the entryway. Members are responsible for clean-up after eating, leaving the area in as good or in better condition than when they found it. Any beverage that spills must be wiped immediately. If water spills on the wood floor, the Pickleball game should stop immediately and not restart until the spill has been wiped.</p>
<p>Proper workout attire is required.</p>
<p>Except during an emergency, Pickleball members are not permitted into the Men’s Locker Room or Workout area. Any violation of this will be referred by the Pickleball Committee to the Board of Directors of the Hall Association for action. (This includes men. For men, if you want full access, join the Gym.)</p> <p>Pickleball members are to use restroom facilities in the main lodge building. The locker area is for storage and is not a dressing area. If necessary, use the Lodge restrooms as changing rooms.</p> <p>In an emergency, if the main entrance is not accessible, use the circular stairway and either go through the Men’s sauna area and bathroom to exit through the rear emergency door or through the locker room to a front emergency door.</p>
<p>Excess noise is not allowed in the gym. By the nature of the activity, hitting a golf ball makes a loud noise. Playing handball, racquetball, basketball and Pickleball make noise. Dance exercise makes noise. By going into the gym, you are agreeing to accept these noises.</p> <p>Conversation in the Pickleball area can be disruptive to players and is not an acceptable noise. Go to the entryway, porch or outside if you wish to have a conversation while a game is in progress.</p> <p>Intentionally making noises to disrupt another player is prohibited. This includes players and spectators. Making a vocal noise while hitting the ball should be avoided, or at least kept to a minimum.</p> <p>Music and television are allowed in the gym. However, this must be by agreement of everyone in the Pickleball area. Turn the volume down to a level that is acceptable to all, or turn the sound off entirely if even one person has issues.</p>
<p>No smoking or drinking of alcohol is permitted in the gym unless specifically authorized for a special event. This includes the porch area.</p>
<p>If a Pickleball member has a complaint, it should be brought to the attention of the Pickleball committee by sending an e-mail to the Pickleball Chairman. Anonymous notes will not be acted upon.</p>
<p>There will be a written list of those persons who have a key to the janitorial room and the functions they perform</p>
<p>Pickleball racquet wrist straps and eye protection are recommended, but not required.</p>

## House Rules for Pickleball

Players shall agree on appropriate rules prior to play. This includes hindrance from walls and the ceiling, and agreeing on an appropriate service line given the space limitations.

Unwritten Rules - There are many unwritten rules regarding expected level of play. In general, it is not fun when one player dominates play. It is the responsibility of the better players to simplify their game when playing lower-level players. That does not mean losing on purpose. It means using less spin and hitting softer shots that are appropriate to the level of play of your opponent. Pickleball involves movement and it is not the responsibility of the better player to hit the ball in the vicinity of the lower-level player. Please use good judgement to keep the game fun for all.

Sportsmanship – Please be a good sport at all times. Do not be abusive to teammates or opponents. Discussions of teamwork are a necessary part of Pickleball, but avoid unnecessary coaching during the game. Hit your serve in a timely manner. Be ready to receive the serve in a timely manner. In general, be somebody that other people enjoy playing with and against.

Cursing – Use of cursing/swear words is discouraged, but is also a part of life in a gym, so is not banned. It is specifically forbidden if directed at another individual. If done in excess, it can result in the Pickleball Committee bringing the case for discipline to the Board of Directors of the Hall Association for action. The Lodge tradition of a contribution to the Purple Pig is encouraged.

### **WAIT LINES**

In all cases, any mutually agreed upon method for handling waiting lines is encouraged and has priority. Mutual means all parties, not a vote. If there is not mutual agreement, the following shall apply:

1. Scoring shall be per the USAPA rule book except as noted below.
2. When anybody is waiting, games shall not be to more than 11 points. Ignore the win by 2 points rule. The game ends when one team scores their 11<sup>th</sup> point.
3. If there are 5 people or more waiting, games shall be to 11 points with a point assigned for every service (i.e. Receiving team scores a point when serving team faults). Ignore the win by 2 points rule. The game ends when one team scores their 11<sup>th</sup> point.
4. Winner can hold the court for a maximum of three games played
  - a. Win Game 1 → play in Game 2
  - b. Win Game 2 → play in Game 3
  - c. Win Game 3 → give up court.
5. After the winner's third game, two new players take the court. If there are only three people, the loser holds the court.
6. Players are encouraged to play doubles if people are waiting, but this is not a requirement. However, if there is no mutual agreement, and the previous game is doubles, the next will continue to be doubles until there are less than 2 people in line.
7. Gym and Pickleball Members have equal priority regarding use of the Pickleball Courts.
8. Mutual agreement on resolving Wait Lines is preferred

Some people may go to the entryway or porch to have a conversation. When a game ends, check to see if the next player in the queue is in the entryway or porch.

Pickleball has priority for use of the Pickleball area. If the Courts are used for another purpose, the Pickleball net should be put back in place at the end of the session.

**Reservations** – If a court is reserved, the players with the reservation shall have exclusive use of the Pickleball Court for the designated time period. Players with the reservation shall allow an on-going game to be completed prior to taking the court. Any ongoing game shall be to 11 points with a point assigned for every service (i.e. Receiving team scores a point when serving team faults). Ignore the win by 2 points rule. The game ends when one team scores their 11<sup>th</sup> point. Prior to a Reserved Court Time, a new game may not be started within ten (10) minutes of the reservation period by anyone except the party that made the reservation. At the end of the reservation time period, the winner can choose to hold the court based on previously described wait list rules unless the next time slot is also reserved. If the next time slot is reserved, follow the procedures for Prior to a Reserved Court Time.

The Pickleball Court will be available for reservation every day of the week except Wednesdays. The Pickleball Chairman will have discretion on hours and days of the week available for reservation, but sufficient time shall be allowed for players to use the Courts without reservations. The Pickleball Courts will be available for reservation no more than 3 days per week during the hours from 6 pm to 10 pm. At least 8 hours of unreserved time will be provided each day with the exception of special events and tournaments. Gym and Pickleball Members have equal priority when making reservations.

The Pickleball Court can be reserved for uses other than to play Pickleball. Uses should be athletic in nature. Non-athletic uses must be approved by the Pickleball Chairman in advance. Options such as Basketball and Dance Exercise are acceptable.

## **HOUSE RULES**

Unless mutually agreed upon, games are to be played using USAPA rules except as noted below.

### **Hinderance by a Permanent Structure**

#### **Option #1 – Follow Official Pickleball Rule Regarding Permanent Structures**

Permanent structures such as the walls, basketball hoops, backboards, lights and ceiling structure are out of bounds. If a ball hits any of these on the fly, the point is lost by the player that caused the ball to be hit out of bounds. If the ball hits a permanent structure on a bounce after the ball lands in play, the point is won by the team that hit the ball.

Play is dead if the ball hits a permanent structure, including the wall. You are not allowed to play the ball off the wall. If the ball bounces within the court, then hits the wall, the striking team gets the point. (Receiving team faults).

#### **Option #2 – Follow House Rule**

If the ball hits a permanent structure, Hinderance is called and play restarts at the same server, serve location and score as when the point was started.

Unless there is previous agreement, the House Rule shall apply for Permanent Structures.

## Options for Playing on a Short Court

Three rule Options are presented. If there is disagreement on which Option to use, Option #1 rules shall be used. It is recommended to start with Option #1 if you are new to the game.

### Option #1 – Short Court

Use a shorter court. The safety line (Line B) is used as the service line. All other Pickle-ball Rules apply. The resulting court is 39.5' by 20' instead of 44' by 20'. (2.25' shorter on each side.)

Option 1A – Serve from behind Line C, but use Line B as the out of bounds line. (See House Pickleball Rules for locations of Lines B and C) Line C is the Line for a full size Pickleball Court, Line B is 5 feet from the back wall.

### Option #2 – Safety Line

Service:

The players should agree on a mutual service mark. It should be as close to the wall as possible, without the wall interfering with a natural service motion. In no case shall it be on the net side of Line B. Both players shall hit their serve from behind the mutually agreed on service mark. The service is legal as long as it is hit from behind the agreed upon service mark. (You do not have to be at the service mark.)

The service must be played if it lands between Lines A and B or on Line B.

#### *HINDERANCE RULE*

If the ball lands on Line C, or between lines B and C, the returner may play the ball or may call Hinderance. If Hinderance is called, no point is awarded, serving players do not switch court and play resumes by servicing as if no play had occurred.

If the player swings at the ball, a Hinderance cannot be called, even if the player misses. If the ball goes past Line C or outside the sideline, it is out of play and it is considered a fault (normal rules) even if a Hinderance is called. Only the player nearest the ball can decide whether to play the ball or ask for a Hinderance. (The striking team or returner's teammate cannot make the call, but can advise.) Once a player calls Hinderance, the player may not play the ball, even it lands on Line B or between lines A and B. Therefore, the call for Hindrance should be made after the ball lands. (If a player does not make a play on the ball, Hinderance is implied. Hinderance does not have to be vocalized.)

Play:

Normal Pickle-ball rules apply during play of the game except the Hinderance Rule can be invoked when the ball lands on Line C, or between Lines B and C. The Hinderance rule is the same as during the service except that, during play, the player must have a reasonable chance of getting to the ball to call for Hinderance. **The intent is that the Hinderance Rule should only be applied when a play could not be made because the wall limits the playing area.** (Same as during the service, if, during play, a player does not make a play on the ball, Hinderance is implied. Hinderance does not have to be vocalized.)

The Hinderance rule is meant to improve safety while allowing the use of a non-regulation size Pickle-ball Court. It should not be used to gain a strategic advantage. If either team thinks that an opponent is using the Hinderance rule to gain a strategic advantage, Option #1 rules should be used for the remainder of the match.

**Option #3**

Use full court with no Hinderance rule. Rules of Pickleball apply.

**RULES OF CONDUCT**

At all times within the gym, Pickleball members shall conduct themselves in compliance with the CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks of the USA and shall be subject to such sanctions and penalties as are provided for herein for specified failure to comply. This specifically includes the Lodge 1015 Harassment Policy.

If a member has a problem with the behavior of any other gym or Pickleball member or members in the gym premises or through gym-related communications, the problem shall initially be addressed directly with the member or members. Failing a resolution, the issue shall be elevated to the Pickleball Committee. In the event of a harassment complaint, the complaint will be sent directly on to the Lodge. The Pickleball Committee will not address complaints unrelated to the operation of the gym.

Problem arising in the gym shall not be directly addressed to the Exalted Ruler or Trustees. The Pickleball Committee shall make the sole determination if such action and utilization of resources is necessary based on the e-mailed protest from the complaining member. If cause is found, any proposed suspension or other denial of pickleball privileges will be referred by the Pickleball Committee to the Board of Directors of the Hall Association for action. Conduct may also, if appropriate, be subject to a proceeding in a Local Forum of the Lodge. The Pickleball Committee may not take direct disciplinary actions, but may notify members of complaints and request that future similar incidents not occur.

Members of the Pickleball Committee, including the Pickleball Chairman, shall follow the current version of the Pickleball Committee Rules in making all decisions. The Pickleball Application Form may only be altered in accordance with the current version of the Pickleball Committee Rules.



**THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE SIGNED PRIOR TO PAYMENT OF DUES AND MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE PICKLEBALL CHAIRMAN. THE GYM MAY NOT BE USED UNTIL THIS FORM IS SIGNED AND DUES ARE PAID.**

**NO EXCEPTIONS**

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK & INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

**WAIVER:** In consideration of being permitted to participate in any way in activities and/or events (“The Activity”) conducted in the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks Lodge 1015 (Alameda Lodge No. 1015 B.P.O.E.) gym facility located at 2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda starting on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ and lasting until I formally drop my membership. If I am banned from the gym, I agree to not enter the gym during the designated suspension period. If I do enter the gym during this period, I agree to the conditions of the “Waiver of liability, assumption of risk & indemnity agreement” in the Pickleball Application Form current at the time of the visit. If I formally drop my pickleball membership, I agree to not enter the gym unless I sign the current Guest Waiver. If I do enter the gym without signing the current Guest Waiver form, I agree to the conditions of the “Waiver of liability, assumption of risk & indemnity agreement” in the Pickleball Application Form current at the time of the visit. If I allow a guest to enter the gym without signing a guest waiver, I accept responsibility for my guest. By allowing the guest to enter the gym without signing the current Guest Waiver form, I agree that the conditions of the “Waiver of liability, assumption of risk & indemnity agreement” in the Pickleball Application Form current at the time of the visit will apply to my guest. I for myself, my heirs, personal representatives or assigns, do hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks Lodge 1015, its officers, employees and agents for liability from any and all claims including their negligence resulting in personal injury, accidents or illnesses (including death) and property loss arising from, but not limited to, participation in The Activity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pickleball Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Pickleball Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**ASSUMPTION OF RISKS:** Participation in the Activity carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries. The specific risks vary from one activity to another, but the risks range from 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises and sprains 2) major injuries such as eye injury or loss of sight, joint or back injuries, heart attacks, and concussions 3) catastrophic injuries including paralysis and death.

I have read the previous paragraphs and I know, understand, and appreciate these and other risks that are inherent in The Activity. I hereby assert that my participation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume all such risks.

**INDEMNIFICATION and HOLD HARMLESS:** I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks Lodge 1015 its officers, employees and agents from any and all claims, actions, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney's fees brought as a result of my involvement in The Activity and to reimburse them for any such expenses incurred.

**SEVERABILITY:** The undersigned further expressly agrees that the foregoing waiver and assumption of risks agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of California and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

**IN AN EMERGENCY:** In the event of an emergency, I consent that a call to 911 can be made and that I will be responsible for all costs associated with the call.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT of UNDERSTANDING:** I HAVE READ THIS WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT; FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, AND UNDERSTAND THAT I AM GIVING UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING MY RIGHT TO SUE. I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily and intend by my signature for it to be a complete and unconditional release of liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pickleball Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Pickleball Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date