



## PICKLEBALL PADDLE ROTATION

Pickleball is a growing sport across the nation. Monroe, NC has three indoor courts and six outdoor courts available for Pickleball members to use. Members can play two times per week at Winchester Gym, and may use the outdoor courts up to seven days a week (depending on the season).

Below is a rotation method which should be used and may vary depending on the number of players. All games will be doubles play.

### TWO-UP/TWO-DOWN –

When there are 7 or fewer players waiting to play.

When a game is complete, the winners will remain on the court and **separate**. The losers will go to the bench. Two new players from the bench will join the new game. If a player has been on the court for 2 consecutive games, then that player must return to the bench.

### Scenario 1:

- There are three courts available for play. There are 19 players who want to play. 12 players are on the court (3 courts total; 4 players per court). 7 players are waiting on the bench to play.
- The 7 players waiting to play have their paddles lined up as shown below. The paddles to the left belong to the first people to arrive. As new people arrive, they should place their paddles on the right side of the pile.
- When a game is complete, the winners remain on the court and separate (unless one has been on the court for 2 consecutive games). The losers will place their paddles on the right side of the pile, as indicated by the green check marks. The people whose paddles are on the left side of the pile, as indicated by the red check marks, should join the new game.



## FOUR-UP/FOUR-DOWN –

When there are 8 or more players waiting to play.

When a game is complete, all 4 players leave the court and return to the bench. 4 new players from the bench will form a new game.

### Scenario 2:

- There are three courts available for play. There are 26 players who want to play. 12 players are on the court (3 courts total; 4 players per court). 14 players are waiting on the bench to play.
- The 14 players waiting to play have their paddles lined up as shown below (8 on the left and 6 on the right). As new players arrive, they should place their paddles on the right side of whichever pile has the lesser number of paddles.
- When a game is complete, all players should leave the court and return to the bench. The winners will place their paddles on the right side of the winners' pile, as indicated by the green check marks. The losers will place their paddles on the right side of the losers' pile, as indicated by the blue check marks. The people whose paddles are on the side that the handle of the center marker paddle is pointing should join the new game (in this scenario, on the winner side, as indicated by the red check marks).
- **The center pointer paddle should now be rotated 180 degrees to point to the opposite pile.**
- When there are few than 8 players waiting to play, players should revert back to the TWO-UP/TWO-DOWN Method.



The pile after the pointer paddle is rotated (without the phantom paddles shown).



## FAQs –

### Why switch from TWO-UP/TWO-DOWN to FOUR-UP/FOUR-DOWN when more than 7 players are waiting to get on the court?

- When 7 players are waiting for a court, typically, the most time a player will sit on the bench waiting for a game is the time period of 1 game (**about 15 minutes**). With 3 courts, with 3 games, at least 2 players per court (6 players total) will come off the court after each game. There is almost always a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> player also coming off the court since a player must come off the court if they have played 2 consecutive games.
- When 8 or more players are waiting for a court, some players may need to wait the time period of 2 games (**about 30 minutes**) before they get on a court to play if the TWO-UP/TWO-DOWN Method is in use.

### When using the FOUR-UP/FOUR-DOWN Method, why have a winners and losers pile? Why not just let the next 4 players at the front of the pile go next onto the court?

- If a winners and losers pile is not used, then, depending on the number of players waiting, the same 4 players will always play against each other.
- When using a winners and losers pile, you will be playing with at least 2 different players each game.
- Also, to a certain extent, the games tend to be more **evenly matched** since winners are playing winners (of a previous game) and losers are playing losers (of a previous game).