



Welcome to Pueblo El Mirage Pickleball!

www.pempickleball.com

If you are new to the sport we encourage you to take a beginner lesson before heading out to the courts. Information is available under the “Training” section of our website. Sign up in advance at the bulletin board as space is limited. Cost is \$10, which also covers your annual dues.

If you already play pickleball there are many opportunities to get involved in right away. Information is located on our bulletin board at the main courts and on our website. Club dues are \$10 and provide you the ability to participate in organized play, training, in-house tournaments and other activities..

Something for Everyone

Regardless of your skill level or ability you will have plenty to keep you busy at the courts. We encourage you to find out what *you* like to do. Maybe you just want to drop-in to play, get a little exercise and just have fun. Or you want to battle it out in the competitive round robins. It’s all up to you! You can drop in every day to play and/or sign-up for organized activities such as round-robins or the ladder. A complete list of activities is available on our website and on the bulletin board at the main courts.

Dues

In order to support our Pickleball program we collect annual dues from all players involved in organized play or other Pickleball-related activities. Player contributions go toward the purchase of balls (we go through a lot), training paddles, court cleaning equipment (we clean them ourselves), office supplies, web hosting, computer equipment, and small capital improvement projects. Dues are \$10.00 for the season. Pre-addressed envelopes with instructions are available at the kiosk/bulletin board at the main Pickleball courts. You can pay by cash or check. Checks should be made out to “PEM Pickleball Club”. Once you pay your dues you will receive a star to put on your name badge.

Name Badges

Please wear your name badge at the courts. This is not only a resort rule, but it also helps other players to know who you are and that you are from PEM. It especially helps our trainers to learn your names!

Pickleball Paddles

We provide paddles during beginner lessons and the 1.0-1.9 mentored round robin only. Outside of training, paddles are available for checkout through the PEM Activities Office for a limited period of time. If you like the sport and want to play outside of training sessions, we encourage you to purchase a paddle as soon as possible. For more information, check out the “Paddle” section on our website.

Rating System

We utilize a rating system in our park based on the USAPA system. Ratings start at 1.0 (brand new to the sport) and continue in half-point increments to 5.0 (expert player). Each rating level has specific skills that a player must be **consistently** proficient at. With so many people in our group, we needed to find a way to better organize activities so people can play with others of like skill and ability. Beginning players

start off with a 1.0 rating which may change by the end of their training sessions throughout the season. We also have a Rating Committee that can help provide guidance. See our “Ratings & Committee” section on our website.

After Your First Lesson

You are ready to play! We encourage you to start by participating in scheduled **drop-in play** in the mornings. Just report to the courts designated for your skill level. Signs with skill levels are located on entry doors to the courts. Drop-in play is between 7:00-10:30 AM every day. Feel free to ask players to help get you acquainted with others how to rotate in to play. For new players who have already taken the beginner lesson, there’s a **mentored round robin** for 1.0-1.9 players every Wednesday at 9:00 AM on courts 1-4. Just show up before 9:00 AM to sign-in. This is a great way to meet others who are also learning and get a little extra help from our trainers. You are also welcome to put together your own games during play when courts are open and not in use.

Training Opportunities

We provide a variety of training classes to help players progress through the skill levels. Once you’ve taken your first lesson we encourage you to participate in **1.5-2.0 skills training** where you can continue to work on techniques and learn the game. Trainers at this level will evaluate and adjust your skill level after every session, and when appropriate move you up to 2.5. We also provide **skills classes for 2.5 and 3.0** players. All training is designed to help improve skills within your existing rating and prepare you to move up. Check out the “Training” section on our website for more information.

Get Involved

We have many volunteers who donate their time to serve on committees, coordinate activities, conduct training, oversee finances, clean courts, work on tournaments, or help on a case-by-case basis. If you would like to get involved, contact the appropriate chair(s) of a committee you’re interested in or go to our website and click the “Contact” button and we will get you involved. Committee information is available on our website and on the bulletin board. We also encourage you to attend our monthly general membership meeting as your ideas and input are important to us.

Resources and Handouts

There is an abundance of information on our website, including organized play opportunities, training classes, monthly calendar and other activities. You can also find a lot of information posted on the bulletin board at the main pickleball courts. On occasion we will email you with important information or announcements. We do not share your contact information with the general public.

If you haven’t played before, the learning process can be a bit daunting as we throw a lot of information your way in a very short period of time! The training handouts provided on our website cover a lot of the information you will learn in your beginning lesson and skills classes and is a great resource to refer back to.

PEM Pickleball Facebook Page

We have a private Facebook page where you can share information, set up games or connect with others. We also send out important messages from time-to-time. You must be a member of the PEM Pickleball Club. To join, send an email to pempickleball@hotmail.com and we will send you an invite.

We hope you enjoy your Pickleball experience here at Pueblo El Mirage. If you every have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us through our website at www.pempickleball.com.