



## Welcome to the 2023 4th Annual Pueblo El Mirage Kokopelli Klassic

We are very excited to have nearly 400 players joining us this year here at Pueblo El Mirage Golf & RV Resort!

The schedule is now available on the tournament listing. Just click the "Schedule" button. Here are the events per day of play and start times:

Saturday 2/11/23: **Women's Doubles - 9 AM Start**  
Sunday 2/12/23: **Mixed Doubles 4.0-5.0 - 8 AM Start**  
Monday 2/13/23: **Men's Doubles - 8 AM Start**  
Tuesday 2/14/23: **Mixed Doubles 3.0-3.5 - 9 AM Start**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION!**

1. **We will be texting court assignments** instead of announcing each match. **To do this we must have everyone's Text Phone Number in our tournament database** (even if it's the same as your regular contact phone number). If we don't have this information a member of our Tournament Management Team will reach out to you via email or to verify.

*Please take this opportunity to update this information in your Pickleballtournaments.com (PT) player profile as this will be the trend for future tournaments you sign up for. Please note, that updating this information in the PT master database will not automatically update in our records.*

2. **Please remember to bring your photo ID.** We will be checking ID at check-in on each day you play.

**Please read this document in its entirety. You MUST read and understand the pre-match instructions in advance of playing. Pre-match instructions are located towards the end of this document.**

**Players are required to check in at least 30 minutes prior to their event start time and you must check in each day you play.** If the tournament is running early your event could start up to 30 minutes before the scheduled start time. **Please note that even if you're on a bye your event could start early if a team drops last minute.**

**Be sure to check the "Event Player List" on [www.pickleballtournaments.com](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com) to ensure that you and your partner(s) are in the correct event(s).** If there are any discrepancies please email the PEM Tournament Management team at [pem-tournament@hotmail.com](mailto:pem-tournament@hotmail.com). Please note, some events have been combined (multiple medals to be awarded).

Seventeen of our 24 courts will be open and available for registered tournament players to practice on Friday, February 11 at 1:00 PM and after. Some may be temporarily occupied as we set up for the tournament.

Schedule of play for all events is now available on the tournament listing. Brackets will be posted the day of play. Remember the brackets are subject to change until each event starts.

**Last-minute withdrawal/forfeit:** In the event you have to withdraw please contact the PEM Tournament Management Team. If before day-of-play, email [pem-tournament@hotmail.com](mailto:pem-tournament@hotmail.com). If on the day of play, please **TEXT** 503-310-9191 (*do not leave a voice message*). We must hear from you or your partner directly. If we do not receive notification of withdrawal, and you do not arrive for your scheduled matches, your team will be considered a forfeit.

**Inclement Weather:** Events may be modified or canceled due to inclement weather. Please monitor our listing page on [pickleballtournaments.com](http://pickleballtournaments.com) for important notices and updates on weather delays. We will do our best to play events. Please note there will be no refunds for canceled events due to weather. In the event there is a major impact to the tournament due to inclement weather, the tournament director and the board of the Pueblo El Mirage Pickleball Club may determine if concessions can be made for players who did not get to compete in any events.

**Directions to our main venue:** The main entrance to the tournament is on Cactus Rd. **Do not enter using the entrance to the resort on El Mirage Rd.** Complete directions can be found on [www.pickleballtournaments.com](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com) under "Directions". Regardless of what your GPS states you must come into the facility through Cactus Rd.

**IMPORTANT! Dog and Pet Policy:** For player and spectator safety, dogs and pets are not allowed at the venue. **Please do not bring your pets. This policy is strictly enforced by resort management.**

**Practice courts:** Courts 23 & 24 will be available for player warm-up on each day of play. As courts open up through the day of play we will try to add more practice courts in the same group of courts.

**Entering Courts:** Once your match is called you may go directly to your assigned court to warm up. Some courts have more than one entry door. PLEASE USE THE DOOR ASSIGNED ONLY TO THAT COURT to avoid interrupting a match in progress.

**Format:** We have attempted to maximize the amount of playtime for our participants! The formats are based on the numbers of teams signed up for each event. They are subject to change if we have teams drop from their event, or there is a weather event.

**For events with teams of 8 or more:**

- Odd Number of Teams in Event: Double Elimination: 2/3 games to 11, win by 2 in the winner's bracket and 1 game to 15, win by 2 for the consolation bracket. All Bronze medal matches will be 1-15, win by 2.
- Even Number of Teams in Event: Pool Play with Single Round Robin games 1-15, win by 2, with a Playoff match of top two teams per Pool 1-15 win by 2, followed by gold & bronze medal matches. The Gold Medal Match will be 2/3 games to 11, win by 2 and the Bronze Medal Match will be 1-15 win by 2. *PLEASE do not leave the resort until after the Playoff brackets have been formed and matches have been established!*

**For Events with 3-7 teams:**

- Brackets of three teams will be a double round robin, 2/3 games to 11, win by 2.
- Brackets of 4 or 5 teams will be a single round robin, 2/3 games to 11, win by 2.
- Brackets of 6 or 7 teams will be a single round robin, games 1-15, win by 2.

Some events have been combined by skill due to lack of participation (multiple medals to be awarded).

**Hydration Station:** Water and player snacks will be provided. **Please bring your own water bottle!**

**First Aid:** First aid will be centrally located. 911 may be called for any emergencies.

**Head injury policy:** **ANY PLAYER SUSTAINING A HEAD INJURY WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO RESUME PLAY UNTIL A WRITTEN MEDICAL RELEASE** (signed by a licensed medical professional) IS RECEIVED.

**Courts:** Water/sport drinks and towels are allowed on courts but please leave your bags outside the courts. This is for player safety.

**Referees:** This is a USA Pickleball-sanctioned tournament and referees will be officiating all matches.

**Food & Coffee:**

- **Brew Avenue** coffee stand will be available *daily* until 11:00 a.m.

Food trucks will be available on site for lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- Saturday: **All Cooped Up in AZ** - American, comfort food, wraps
- Sunday: **BJ's New Mexican Eats** - Breakfast, American, Spanish
- Monday: **Burgers Amore** - Burgers, American, comfort food,
- Tuesday: **Queso Good** - Mexican

**The Pueblo Bistro** located near the courts at the golf course may also be open (Sat & Tues only - opens at 11:00 a.m.) for your dining pleasure or takeout ( lunch/ dinner options). If you know you are going to have a large group going to the restaurant you may want to let the manager on duty know so they can plan ahead.

**Chairs:** Please remember to bring your chairs and comfort items. No chairs allowed inside the courts.

**A big THANK YOU to all our sponsors and contributors...**

**LaMesa RV, Ray's Rackets, Franklin, Wellphora, Pickleball Rocks, Jigsaw Health, Selkirk, SW Merchant Services, Pueblo El Mirage Pickleball Club, and Roberts Resorts.**

## **PLAYER PRE-MATCH INSTRUCTIONS**

### **Referees and Rules Player Instructions**

**Please carefully read this important information in its entirety.**

**Players:** It is your responsibility to have **read** this entire document! Brackets will be posted the day of play. Remember that brackets are subject to change until each event starts and if a rain delay occurs.

**Check in:** Players are required to check-in at least 30 minutes prior to their bracket's start time.

**Warm up:** The first matches of the day will begin promptly at their stated start time listed on page 1 of this document, unless you are notified otherwise. Players are expected to have their warm-up completed prior to that time. For later starting times, you will have up to 10 minutes to warm up for your 1<sup>st</sup> match of the

day. After your 1<sup>st</sup> match of the day, you have **5 minutes** to get to your assigned court and warm up before your next match begins. A game may be forfeited if you are not on court in ten minutes. Avoid forfeits by being on time!

**Starting Server Bands:** Starting server bands **will be provided and must be worn in a visible location** by each starting server with no exceptions.

## **All 2023 USA Pickleball Rules Apply**

**Key points of the 2023 USA Pickleball rules are summarized below for your convenience. However, as a player, you are responsible for being familiar with the rules in their entirety.**

### **MAJOR NEW RULES FOR 2023**

- If your apparel color approximates the color of the ball, the Tournament Director may request you to change your apparel. Failure to comply with an apparel change request may result in the forfeit of your match. (Rules 2.G.1, 2.G.4)
  - The server must use only **one hand to release the ball** to serve and **must not spin the ball** during its release. (Rule 4.A.5)
  - If the referee is not certain that your serve complied with the service motion or ball release requirements, the referee may call for a re-serve. (Rules 4.A.9)
  - The question "Am I good?" is considered to encapsulate "Am I the correct server or receiver and am I in the correct position?" (Rule 4.B.8)
  - If the referee or the server calls the wrong score, you can stop play to challenge the score before the return of serve. Otherwise, the correction will be made at the end of the rally. (Rule 4.K)
    - If you stop play after the serve is made and the score was called correctly, this is a fault against you.
    - If you stop play after the serve is returned, this is a fault against you.
1. Players must play with a USA Pickleball-approved paddle. You are responsible for ensuring that the paddle you play with is listed on the Approved Paddle List [Approved Paddle List](#) posted on the USA Pickleball website.
  2. Players are responsible for calling all the lines on their end of the court. However, in officiated matches, the referee is responsible for calling service foot faults, non-volley zone foot faults, and short serves. **Please make all "out" calls loudly, clearly, and promptly, even if they are obvious.** The Code of Ethics for Line Calling requires that **you give the opponent the benefit of any doubt.**
  3. You may ask the referee to make a ruling on any line call. The referee will only make a ruling if he/she clearly saw the ball land. Otherwise, the appealed call will stand.
  4. Starting server bands will be provided for doubles events and must be worn by each starting server so that it is visible to the referee and the opponents. Failure to wear the band will result in a forfeit of the match.
  5. Referees, and servers in self-officiated matches, will make sure all players are ready (or should be ready) before calling the score.
  6. The server must not hit the ball to serve until after the entire score has been called. Serving while the score is being called (live ball) will result in a fault. Serving before the score call begins (dead

ball) will result in a replay.

7. After the score is called, the server has 10 seconds to serve the ball. Failure to do so will result in a fault.
8. Before the serve is hit, players may ask the referee who is the correct server or receiver, whether they are in the correct position, or to confirm the score.
9. In officiated matches, the referee will pay close attention that each player's service motion complies with USA Pickleball requirements. The **ball release** must also be **visible** to the referee and the opponent.

For a volley serve, when the ball is hit:

- a. The server's arm must be moving in an upward arc.
- b. The highest point of the paddle head must not be above the highest point of the server's wrist.
- c. The ball must not be above the server's waist.

For a drop serve, the ball must be dropped from the hand or paddle, with no force added, from an unaided height.

10. Any carry, or double hit, must be unintentional and be one continuous motion.
11. Players may quickly hydrate and towel off between rallies within the flow of the game.
12. . Players may call a hinder if they are distracted by a ball, person, or object coming into their playing area. Hinders deemed to be valid by the referee will result in a replay. The referee will not stop play due to a ball in the playing area unless it becomes a safety issue.
13. Players may only receive coaching from someone other than their partner during a timeout. This includes between games and during end changes.
14. Any player may call a time-out before the server hits the ball to serve. Each team has two 1-minute (standard) time-outs per 11-point or 15-point game and three time-outs are available in games to 21 points. Time-outs cannot be called during rallies. Time-outs for a game may be requested and used during the between game time-out before the game begins.
15. There is a 2-minute break (time-out) between games.
16. In the third game of a 2-out-of-3 game match, and in games to 15 or 21 points, teams have a 1-minute time-out to change ends of the court (at 6, 8, or 11 points, respectively).
17. Each player may request one medical time-out per match to address injuries and medical conditions. When a player requests a medical time-out, medical personnel (or the Tournament Director) will be summoned to assess whether the need is valid. If the request is deemed not valid, the requesting player will be charged a standard time-out (if available) and issued a technical warning. If the player has no remaining time-outs, a technical foul will be issued (resulting in a 1-point score adjustment).
18. In accordance with the [USA Pickleball Concussion Protocol](#), any player sustaining a head injury will not be permitted to resume play without a written release from a licensed healthcare professional.
19. Players requesting to see the Head Referee or Tournament Director to challenge a referee's ruling will be charged a standard time-out and be issued a technical warning if the referee's ruling is correct. If no time-out is available, a technical foul will be issued (resulting in a 1-point score adjustment).
20. When 15 seconds remain before starting or resuming play, the referee will give a 15- second warning. The referee will call "time in" and the score when the players are, or should be, ready.
21. In self-officiated matches, any player may request a referee if the player believes that a rule is being consistently violated or when players are not able to resolve a dispute quickly and easily.
22. **Players are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.** Any action deemed by the referee to be unsportsmanlike will result in a verbal warning, technical warning, or a technical foul against the offending player. A game will be forfeited if the player or team receives a technical warning and a technical foul, or three technical warnings, during a match. The match will be

forfeited if the equivalent of four technical warnings is obtained.

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### **Pre-Match Briefing**

Before play begins for each match, the referee or a match starter will hold a briefing with all players to:

- Inspect player paddles.
- Inform players of the match format.
- Identify starting servers and ensure visibility of the starting server identification.
- Use a fair method for players to choose service and ends to start the match.
- Remind players to make loud, clear, and prompt calls. (Line calling responsibilities covered in #2 and #3 above so they are not required to be covered in the briefing.)
- Notify players of any court abnormalities and approved rule modifications.
- Review major rule changes for 2023.
- Answer questions about player instructions and rules.
- Allow players to warm up as time permits.