

## New to pickleball or to Steamboat Springs open play?

Pickleball is a fast-paced game that is easy to learn. Although some folks do play singles, we always play as doubles. We offer clinics once a month for 'never-ever' players and provide equipment. In addition the tennis center has a pro who will set up lessons on scheduled weekday mornings for those who want to learn or improve their game.

The purpose of the clinic is to teach the basic rules, scoring and player positions for doubles.

An employee from the tennis center will manage the flow of play, check in players and answer any questions.

### Open Play Sessions

If you know how to play pickleball, join us at an open play session as listed on the Schedule page of the website. We have players from the ages of 10 to 90 who enjoy this game.

In cooler seasons we play indoors. Once inside the tennis center, go to the front desk to pay your fee (discounts available for SSPA members)

In warm weather we play outdoors: check in at the table under the canopy near our courts.

IFP skill level ratings for self-appraisal are available on this website on the Members Page.

To foster equitable rotation onto a court, we use paddle stacking.

- If we have an abundance of players waiting, all 4 players come off a court when the game is finished and the next 4 paddle owners in sequence take the court.
- If there are only a few players waiting, usually less than 8, just the two players who had the low score come off the court and two new players rotate in.

- If two or four players wish to play together, simply stack your paddles in a bundle, tying a band around the handles.
- However, single paddles may rotate in ahead of you if only one or two players are needed and you have a bundle of four paddles.

### Court Access

Please **do not disrupt another game** to access an available court. When vacating an inner court, wait until there is a change in serve and ask the outer foursome to slide to the inner court (leaving the outer one available for the next foursome).

### Safety

As indicated in our never-ever clinics, for the safety of all players we do not leave pickleballs lying on or near a court in use. If an errant ball goes into another foursome's court, call "Ball" to stop play immediately. It's very easy in close quarters to trip, turn an ankle or worse by stepping on a loose ball.

### Questions?

If you have any questions, please use the Contact button on any of our web pages. We try to respond within a day. Hope to see you on the courts!