

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.

After attending a never-ever clinic your skill level would be 1.5 or 2.0, depending on the individual.

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

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 directly to court 5 (to the left of the tennis center check in desk) where you will check in with the SSPA volunteer, sign a waiver form (if you don't have one on file), pay a minimal fee of \$10 for non-members or use your punch card privilege (for members).

In warm weather we play outdoors: check in with the SSPA check-in table under the canopy near Pine Grove Rd.

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, ask the players on the outer court to slide over when there is a change in serve. When outdoors, ring the bell on the gate to signify a far court is about to be empty, so the next players can make their way around the fence to that court.

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!