



2018 NC Senior Games State Finals Pickleball Tournament

Carolina Courts, Concord, NC
Hosted by Cabarrus County Active Living and Parks
<http://www.carolinacourts.com>

- **The Pickleball Tournament has 562 individuals with most people doing 2-3 events!** This tournament is HUGE! We are so fortunate you are joining us and we hope you have a great time! We have made some changes to accommodate the volume: **doubles and singles will be played on days two and three** and all games will be 1 game to 15, win by 1. In future years, it may be necessary to make other format changes to accommodate growth. Thank you for your patience as we endeavor to have an exceptional tournament for everyone!
- Driving directions and parking instructions follow.
- [Host hotels are on the website](#) and on the Preliminary Confirmation Details. Note the cut off date for the group rate is 9/15/18 or 9/24/18 depending on the hotel.
- Concessions will NOT be available for purchase at the venue. However, many wonderful restaurants are in walking distance from Carolina Courts. All food and beverages must be kept in the designated area. Only water bottles are permitted courtside.
- Only non-skid (non-marking) soled shoes are permitted.
- Courts will have ball barriers between them. Please do not step over them!! Use the walking lanes between courts.
- Carolina Courts is open for practice on Monday before the tournament between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. for \$5 per person.

Volunteer Staffing:

- State Finals Pickleball is a huge event! It requires over 25 volunteers. Please thank them for their time. If you are interested in volunteering for other age groups during the tournament, please let the Volunteer check-in staff know.
- **Court Monitors and/or Scorekeepers** will be assigned for most matches. Court monitors have a general understanding of the rules and know how to keep score, but they are not being asked to referee matches. Court monitors or Scorekeepers will keep score, but it is the server's responsibility to call out the score before each serve. Matches can be played without a court monitor/scorekeeper if both participants/teams agree to play without one.
- **Line Judges** will not be provided in 2018.
- **Referees may** be provided if needed for medal matches (subject to availability).

Starting time as printed on the Final Schedule is forfeit time. Participants/teams should report to their bracket assigned court 5-10 minutes prior to their scheduled matches. Court assignments will be posted throughout the day on brackets as the tournament progresses.

Tournament Rules

- Tournament will follow Official (IFP) International Federation of Pickleball, unless otherwise specified in the NCSG Rules Book.
- Server must call score before serving.
- Ceiling and ceiling fixtures (ex. Ceiling, Lights, Flags, etc.) are considered "Out of Bounds".
- Each team will be allowed a 3 minute warm up prior to their match.
- Each team will be allotted two 1-minute time outs per game.
- Events may be cancelled, combined and restricted at the discretion of the tournament committee.
- During play, except from their partner, players may only receive coaching during time-outs and between games. Once play has begun, any communication between a player and any person not on the court, if determined by the volunteer to be coaching, shall result in a technical warning to the offending player or team. If the communication occurs a second time, it shall result in a technical foul and a point will be awarded to the opponent.
- Officiating decisions, court monitor decisions and/or rule interpretations during a match may be appealed to the State Finals Pickleball Event Management Team before the next serve. After appeal, decisions of the State Finals Pickleball Management Team are final. Excessive or unnecessary appeals that slow down a match will not be tolerated and a Technical Foul may be issued. Eligibility appeals should be referred to NCSG Staff.

Service/Side Selection and Rotation (from IFP rules book)

- 5.C.1 A coin flip or any other fair method will determine first choice of service or side. If the winner chooses to serve or receive, the loser picks starting side. If the winner chooses starting side, the loser chooses to serve or receive.
- 5.C.4. In games to 15, sides will be switched after the first team reaches a score of 8 points. Serve remains with the player holding serve.

Seeding Information:

Participants are seeded based on last year's State Finals Pickleball Results. The #1 seed is placed in Pool A, #2 seed in Pool B, #3 seed in Pool C, etc. If there are only two pools and 3 seeds, the #2 seed and #3 seed will be placed in Pool B. Seeded players/teams returning to an age group are seeded higher than seeded players/teams entering into a new age group since they are the returning champions from that age group. Participants/teams from the same Local Games are randomly split into different pools where possible. The results from Pool Play could place participants/teams from the same Local Games against each other in single elimination play. In these cases, pool play results are earned and thus take hierarchy over Local Games participation.

Tie Breakers:

Adapted from Section 13 in the USA Pickleball Association Rules (International Federation of Pickleball).

13.A.4 All players (in singles) or teams will play each other. All matches will be played with the same number of games for each match. i.e. 1 game to 15 win by 1. If two or more players/teams are tied for a medal or advancing to the single elimination play, the player or team winning the most points will be declared the winner of the tie.

13.A.6 Pool Play. The participants/teams are divided into two or more pools. Each pool plays a round-robin to determine the qualifiers that get into a single-elimination playoff.

Tournament format

Numbers of players by age category is posted at www.ncseniorgames.org/sf.htm when registration begins through the start of the Pickleball.

For age categories with 5 players or less:

- Participants will play round robin with the results of the round robin determining winners.
- Each game will be 1 game played to 15, win by 1, no time limit.
- Participants will be assigned a court or set of courts to play out all of their round robin matches.
- A Court Monitor will be assigned to record the results on the round robin bracket. Participants do not need to return to the check in area until after the round robin is complete and the designated Court Monitor has returned results to the Event Managers.
- Brackets may not be re-drawn even if there are no shows in pools.

Sample Round Robin Bracket for 5 in an age group. (Results recorded left to right)

	A	B	C	D	E	Win	Loss
A Ann (1st)	W	W	W	W	W	4	0
B Jill (3rd)	L	W	L	W	W	2	2
C Amanda (2nd)	L	W	W	L	W	2	2
D Helen	L	L	W	W	L	1	3
E Wilma	L	L	L	W	W	1	3

Ann wins Gold because of best record.

Amanda wins Silver because second best record and won head to head game with Jill.

Jill wins Bronze because tied for second best record and lost head to head game with Amanda.

For age categories with 6 players or more:

- Participants will play pool play games consisting of 1 game to 15 for each game, win by 1, no time limit.
- Results of pool play will provide seeding for a single elimination tournament. Each game in single elimination play will be 1 game to 15 win by 1, **including medal matches (NEW in 2018)**.
- Participants will be assigned a court or set of courts to play out all of their pool play matches.
- A volunteer will be assigned to record the results on the pool play bracket. Participants do not need to return to the check in area until after the pool play is complete and the assigned volunteer has returned results to the Event Managers.
- Brackets may not be re-drawn even if there are no shows in pools.

Sample pool play and single elimination for 6 in an age group. (Results recorded left to right)

In most cases the first and second place from each pool advance regardless of pool size.

Pool A	A	B	C	Win	Loss
A Ann (A#1)	W	W	W	2	0
B Jill	L	W	L	0	2
C Amanda (A#2)	L	W	W	1	1

Pool B	A	B	C	Win	Loss
A Angie (B#1)	W	W	W	2	0
B Kate (B#2)	L	W	W	1	1
C Sarah	L	L	W	0	2

Ann and Amanda advance from Pool A, Jill does not advance.

Angie and Kate advance from Pool B, Sarah does not advance. Single elimination bracket. (The winners of the first round games will play for Gold and Silver and the losers of the first round games will play for Bronze.) *Note: There will be larger single elimination brackets that will eliminate individuals/teams after one game in larger divisions.*

