



RISE UP CHAMPIONSHIP PICKLEBALL BY THE BAY 2025 TOURNAMENT HANDBOOK - V3

The Rise Up Championship - Pickleball by the Bay 2025 Tournament Handbook is a guide for players, referees and line judges at all levels of the officiated Rise Up Championship (RUC) event, covering both singles and doubles play. This handbook includes best practices for officiating, match-play scenarios, player development and affairs. This Handbook focuses on standardizing processes and techniques so that best practices are implemented by the league. This will help ensure that referees interpret the rules uniformly, apply them consistently, and standardize how pickleball tournaments are officiated, creating a positive and enjoyable experience for players as well as game officials.





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1) INTRODUCTION

A) PURPOSE

- i) The Rise Up Championship - Pickleball by the Bay 2025 Tournament Handbook is a guide for players, referees and line judges at all levels of officiated Rise Up Championship (RUC) events, covering both Men's & Women's Singles, Men's & Women's Doubles & Mixed doubles play. This handbook includes best practices for officiating, match-play scenarios, player development and affairs. This Handbook focuses on standardizing processes and techniques so that best practices are implemented by the league. This will help ensure that referees interpret the rules uniformly, apply them consistently, and standardize how pickleball tournaments are officiated creating a positive and enjoyable experience for players as well as game officials.

B) EVENT OVERVIEW

- i) Tournament Name: Rise Up Championship - Pickleball by the Bay (PWR 1000 Event)
- ii) Dates: September 26th - 28th, 2025
- iii) Venue: VGP Golden Beach Resort - Beach Lawn, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
- iv) Courts: 2 Indoor Synthetic Courts
- v) Tournament Schedule:
 - (1) Day 1 (September 26th): Round of 32 & Round of 16 (All Categories knockouts)
 - (2) Day 2 (September 27th): Quarterfinals & Semifinals (All Categories knockouts)
 - (3) Day 3 (September 28th): Finals (All Categories)

2) OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS

A) RULES

- i) In accordance with the rules ("Rules") set forth in this Rise Up Championship - Pickleball by the Bay Tournament Handbook ("Handbook"), as amended from time to time and updated online at **www.riseupchampionship.com**, RUC selects and schedules Tournaments and is responsible for the resolution of any matter of dispute like imposition of penalties on players, officials, coaches, Tournament Support Personnel, and other credentialed persons.
- ii) The Global Pickleball Federation 2025 Official Rule Book shall apply to the Rise Up Championship - Pickleball by the Bay except as amended by the Rules in this Handbook. For the complete and current Global Pickleball Federation 2025 Official Rule Book, please visit <https://globalpickleballfederation.org/pickleball-rulebook/>.
- iii) The Rules may be altered, amended, or repealed by RUC. Capitalized terms have the meanings set forth in this Handbook. The headings and titles to the Sections contained herein are inserted solely for convenience purposes and shall not affect the meaning or construction of the Rules



iv) RUC may impose appropriate sanctions, including monetary sanctions, upon any person or entity subject to these Rules who participates in or aids and abets any violation of these Rules. Any violation of these Rules which do not specify a process for imposition of a penalty shall be decided by the RUC and such decision may be appealed.

B) RAIN AND FORCE MAJEURE

i) Due to the onset of high tide, cyclonic conditions, tsunami, rain, snow or other adverse weather conditions that seriously affect playing quality or the immediate safety of the players, spectators, officials, or other persons on the tournament site, play will be stopped in conjunction with the director of officiating and players.

ii) Play will be stopped for 1 hour until courts can be assessed by the necessary staff on-site.

iii) If weather conditions continue to disrupt the tournament schedule, and matches are not resumed after the 1 hour stoppage period, the league will communicate with players, giving at a minimum, a 2 hour window to be ready for the next weather assessment and updated match schedule. If any condition, including but not limited to inclement weather, court condition, or lighting causes delay, and an event cannot be completed on its scheduled day, the event that has been delayed must be completed before the next regularly scheduled event can commence.

iv) If inclement weather conditions persist and significantly affect the tournament schedule, the league reserves the right to adjust the format of matches and games.

v) RUC, at any point in the tournament, may cancel matches and games for the day, and may adjust the schedule and/or the match and game format as needed for the remainder of the tournament.

vi) Tournaments may be extended as necessary for completion when unforeseen circumstances interrupt the play schedule.

vii) RUC shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of Force Majeure

C) REGISTRATION AND ENTRY

i) Player Entry and Commitment to Rules

(4) Any player who enters or participates in Rise Up Championship - Pickleball by the Bay 2025 Tournament consents and agrees to the following:

(a) Player categories

(i) Men's Singles - 32 Participants

(ii) Women's Singles - 16 Participants

- (iii) Men's Doubles - 32 Teams
- (iv) Women's Doubles - 16 Teams
- (v) Mixed Doubles - 16 Teams

(b) Compliance with Rules:

- (i) Each player must comply with and is bound by all the Rules of the Handbook, including but not limited to all amendments thereto.
- (ii) A player can participate in all three categories.
- (iii) A player cannot register in the same category twice.
- (iv) Ensure accurate category selection during registration.
- (v) Confirm your partner for Doubles & Mixed Doubles (Partner change not allowed after registration closure).
- (vi) Matches will commence as per the published schedule.
- (vii) Players must report 30 minutes prior to their match time. Any walkover due to non-appearance will result in disqualification.

(c) Written Consent

- (i) By registering for and participating in any event organized or sanctioned by the RUC Sports and Life Foundation, Players consent to and agree to comply with the Handbook, including but not limited to all amendments thereto.

D) ENTRY FEES

- i) All registrations and entry fees must be paid in full prior to the payment deadline. Failure to pay the entry fees prior to the payment deadline will constitute an invalid registration and that player will not be eligible to play in the tournament
- (1) Singles Entry: Rs. 2,000 per player
 - (2) Doubles Entry: Rs. 4,000 per team

E) TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- i) Knockout in all categories

F) MATCH FORMAT

- i) **Round of 32 & Round of 16 : September 26th, 2025**
 - Single Set up to 15 Service Points
 - Maximum Match Duration: 20 Minutes
 - Side Change at 8 Points
- ii) **Quarterfinals : September 27th, 2025**
 - Single Set up to 15 Service Points
 - Maximum Match Duration: 30 Minutes



Side Change at 8 Points

iii) Semifinals : September 27th, 2025

Best of 3 Sets (11 Service Points per Set)

Maximum Match Duration: 50 Minutes

Side Switching:

Set 1 & Set 2: Switch sides after the first and second games respectively.

Set 3 (if required): Switch sides at 6 Points.

iv) Finals : September 28th, 2025

Best of 3 Sets (11 Service Points per Set)

Maximum Match Duration: 50 Minutes

Side Switching:

Set 1 & Set 2: Switch sides after the first and second games respectively.

Set 3 (if required): Switch sides at 6 Points.

G) RANKING

i) General

- (1)** The worldwide rankings will reflect a player's participation and performance in RUC tournament play and determine player acceptances and seeding for all RUC Events. The Pickleball World Rankings (PWR) are computed and updated following each RUC Tournament. Points are earned based on a Player or Team's tournament results.
- (2)** The tournament will be:
 - (a)** Registered under PWR 1000 Series (Pickleball World Rankings) for global ranking and DUPR (Dynamic Universal Pickleball Rating) for global ratings.
 - (b)** Sanctioned by the Indian Pickleball Association (IPA) for national ranking points.

ii) Withdrawals, Byes, and Defaults

(2) Withdrawals.

- (a)** If a player or team withdraws or is withdrawn automatically from an event before playing his or her first match, he or she will not receive any PWR points for that event, and the event will not count on his or her ranking.
- (b)** In singles, if a player withdraws from a Tournament after the start of his or her first match, he or she will receive PWR points for participating in the round in which he or she withdrew, except that a player who advances through the qualifying round withdraws from his or her first round will receive PWR points from the qualified round.
- (c)** In doubles, if a team withdraws after the start of their first match, the team will

receive PWR Points for participating in the round in which they withdrew, except that a team who advances through the qualifying round and withdraws in their first round will receive PWR points from the qualified round.

(3) Byes

- (a)** If a Player or Team receives a bye and loses their first match played, the Player or Team will receive loser's points for the round they lost in.
- (b)** If a Player or Team receives a bye and defaults or withdraws from the first match, the Player or Team will not receive PWR Points for that round.

(4) Defaults

- (a)** For any disciplinary default occurring at a Tournament or after a match begins:
 - (i)** The advancing Player or Team will receive points for the round reached; and
 - (ii)** The defaulting Player or Team will lose all PWR Points earned for that event at that Tournament, except that if one member of a doubles team is not at fault for causing the default, he or she will receive PWR Points from the previous round.

iii) Tournament Cancellation or early termination.

(1) Tournament Cancellation Without Play Occurring

- (a)** If an event is canceled, and there has been no play, players will not receive any PWR Points.

(2) Tournament Cancellation After Play Has Begun

- (a)** If play has commenced for an event and is terminated before the first round is completed, players will not receive any PWR Points. However, if the first round has been completed, all players will receive PWR Points earned through the last completed round.

iv) Tie-Break Criteria (if players/teams have the same PWR Points):

(1) Singles & Doubles Ranking

- (a)** Head-to-head results (if applicable)
- (b)** Recent best tournament finishes
- (c)** Higher ranking in the most recent ranking list prior to the cutoff
- (d)** Random draw if all else is equal.

H) ENTRIES / SEEDING / QUALIFYING ROUND

i) Entries

- (1)** RUC will reveal draws for each tournament with a target of the Tuesday of the tournament week.
- (2)** Qualifying draws will be released at midnight the day before each tournament bracket starts to each professional player as well as marketed to pickleball fans around the world.
- (3)** The spots are awarded based on consultation with the Indian Pickleball Association (IPA).

ii) Seeding

- (1)** The seeding process will be randomized and recorded for the Rise Up Championship - Pickleball By The Bay tournament by the Indian Pickleball Association (IPA).
- (2)** The purpose of the tournament's randomized seeding process is to: (1) create dynamic match-ups in the event that rankings remain static; (2) to help tell a better story of the sport; (3) to tackle the growing number of players; and (4) to provide enhanced marketing opportunities for social media, television, and sports journalism.
- (3)** Seeding will be randomized as follows:
 - (a)** Seeds 1 and 2 will be set at the top and bottom of each draw respectively;
 - (b)** Seeds 3 and 4 will be randomized among the bottom of the first half and the top of the second half of the draw;
 - (c)** Seeds 5-8 will be randomized among the bottom of the first and third quarters and the top of the second and fourth quarters of the draw;
 - (d)** Seeds 9-12 will be randomized among the bottom of third and seventh eighths and the top of second and sixth eighths of the draw;
 - (e)** Seeds 13-16 will be randomized among the bottom of first and fifth eighths and the top of fourth and eighth eighths of the draw;
 - (f)** Seeds 17-24 will be randomized among the bottom of the third, seventh, eleventh, and fifteenth sixteenths and the top of second, sixth, tenth, and fourteenth sixteenths of the draw;
 - (g)** Seeds 25-32 will be randomized among the bottom of the first, fifth, ninth, and thirteenth sixteenths and the top of the fourth, eighth, twelfth, and sixteenth sixteenths of the draw



I) SCHEDULING / ORDER OF PLAY

- i) Changes to the schedule of events and the order of play shall not be made within twenty- four (24) hours of the start time for the event unless inclement weather requires changes to be made.
- ii) Player Obligations
 - (1) Players are expected to play when scheduled. Players may be required to play more than one event on any day of a tournament.
- iii) Television/Broadcasting
 - (1) When a tournament is televised/broadcasted, the commitments pertaining to this section will be taken into scheduling consideration.

J) WITHDRAWAL, RETIREMENT, CHANGE OF PARTNERS, AND NO-SHOW OFFENSES

- i) Withdrawal
 - (1) Player Responsibility
 - (a) RUC will accept withdrawals from a player or his or her designated coach or agent, but the player is ultimately responsible for all of his or her entries and withdrawals.
 - (2) Withdrawal Submission
 - (a) A player's withdrawal from a tournament is effective only if he or she submits a withdrawal in writing to the RUC or online via email provided at the registration portal.
 - (b) At the time of a withdrawal, a player must provide a statement containing the reason for his or her withdrawal and a suitable, in the RUC discretion, quotation that RUC may release to the media and public.
 - (c) The deadline for player withdrawals is Thursday, 11:59 PM local time, in the week preceding the tournament. In the event of a withdrawal, the vacated spot will be filled by a player approved by the Tournament Director in consultation with Indian Pickleball Association(IPA).
 - (3) Excused and Late Withdrawal
 - (a) The deadline for withdrawing is Thursday at 11:59 PM local time the week preceding the tournament. Withdrawals made after this deadline constitute a



late withdrawal and subject the player to penalties, at the RUC sole discretion, ranging from fines to suspension for multiple occurrences. However, withdrawals made after the deadline for injury or sickness will be considered excused and will not be subject to penalty.

- (i) All medal matches are required to be played and if a player withdraws from a medal match for reasons other than injury or sickness or otherwise fails to show up to the medal match, he or she will be subject to a minimum fine of Rs75,000.00 and a 250 PWR Point reduction for that event.

ii) Retirement

- (1) If a player retires from a match, he or she is required to:
 - (a) Prior to retiring from the match, call for the Head Referee and the Tournament Director to provide the reason for the retirement.
 - (b) Immediately following the retirement, the Player must submit a RUC Withdrawal Form to the Tournament Director and provide a statement containing the reason for his or her retirement and a suitable, in RUC discretion, quotation that the RUC may release to the media and public.

iii) Change of partners

- (1) The deadline to change partners is Thursday at 11:59 PM local time the week preceding the tournament. After the deadline, changing of partners shall not be allowed for any reason.
- (2) If a partner must withdraw after the deadline to change partners, the non-withdrawing player must also withdraw from the event that both of those partners were registered to play in as a team.
- (3) Once a Player has finalized his or her tournament entry, he or she may change their registered partner without penalty until fourteen (14) days before the start of the tournament.

iv) No-Show Offense

- (1) A player commits a No-Show Offense if he or she is entered and accepted into either the Main Draw of a Tournament, does not withdraw, and fails to attend his or her first match. In such cases, the opponent will be awarded a walkover into the next round.

v) Unsportsmanlike and Unprofessional Conduct

- (1) Late and Unexcused Withdrawals, No-Show Offenses, Withdrawals for unprofessional reasons, or Withdrawals that are damaging to RUC's image constitute unsportsmanlike and unprofessional conduct. A player who



withdrawals for one of these reasons will be subject to disciplinary review and penalties at RUC's sole discretion.

vi) Extraordinary Circumstances

- (1)** In an extreme personal emergency (i.e., a death in the family or a serious illness or life-threatening situation for the player or his or her family) or similar extraordinary circumstances ("Extraordinary Circumstances"), a player has the right to appeal a Late Withdrawal penalty. The player must submit a written appeal to RUC, which must include documentation that substantiates the Extraordinary Circumstances, within twenty-one (21) days after the date he or she receives notice of the penalty for the Late/Unexcused, Unsportsmanlike, or Unprofessional Withdrawal.

K) BALLS

i) Lost and Unplayable Balls

- (1)** If a ball is lost or becomes unplayable during the warm-up or before the start of the second game in the match, the ball will be replaced by a new ball, after the start of the second game, a ball of like wear shall be used as a replacement.
- (2)** If a ball is hit into the stands during play, the fan that catches the ball may keep it.
- (3)** If a ball breaks or becomes unplayable during a rally, play must be stopped immediately. The point will be replayed (let), with no change to the score. The same server will serve again from the same position.

L) OFFICIALS AND OFFICIATING

i) Head Referee

- (1)** The Head Referee shall:
 - (a)** Be able to assist the Referee or Tournament Director wherever needed and be present on site at all times during play.
 - (b)** In the absence of the Tournament Director, be responsible for all matters of rules. His or her decision is final for interpretation of rules.

ii) Referee

- (1)** The Referee shall:
 - (a)** Ensure that the on-court rules are observed by the Players, Line Judges, and Ball Persons. He or she must control the match in all respects. He or she can



be overruled by the Head Referee or Tournament Director only in matters of interpretation of the rules, not in matters of fact.

- (b) Promptly and accurately score matches using the approved methods provided by RUC. Be competent in using the scoring system. Track and record when balls are to be changed.
- (c) Take charge of all Line Judges and Ball Persons when on court.
- (d) Be responsible for the calling of net cord service lets.
- (e) Ensure that play is continuous within the rules.
- (f) Determine if a court continues to be fit for play. If a change in condition occurs during a match that the referee considers sufficient to make the court unfit for play or if weather conditions require stoppage of play, the referee should stop play and immediately notify the Head Referee and Tournament Director.
- (g) Give the result of the match to the Tournament Director immediately upon completion of the match and any action taken under the Code of Conduct during the match.
- (h) Provide a detailed report on any Code of Conduct penalty issued in connection with the relevant match.

iii) Line Judges

- (1) The responsibilities for Line Judges shall be as follows:
 - (a) Calling “Out” and “Fault” for their respective lines.
 - (b) To correct their call immediately upon realizing they have made a mistake
 - (c) To report immediately to the Referee any breach of the Code of Conduct.
 - (d) To defer questions from players to the Referee. A Line Judge shall not enter into any discussions with players.

3) PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES / ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES

A) CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- i) A Player shall dress and present themselves in a professional manner at all times on the Tournament site or any official practice site. Clean and customarily acceptable attire as approved by the RUC shall be worn. A player who violates this



section may be ordered by the Head Referee or Tournament Director to change his attire or equipment immediately. Failure of a player to comply with such order may result in an immediate default, fines, and/or suspension.

- (1) **Too Much Clothing:** Clothing shall be appropriate based upon weather conditions. Players shall be permitted to wear tights, leggings and other such undergarments in colder weather. However, sweatpants may only be worn with temperatures under 60 degrees Fahrenheit.
- (2) **Too Little Clothing:** Players may be asked by the Head Referee or Tournament Director, to cover up or add additional clothing at any time, if, at their discretion, the Player's lack of clothing is deemed to be inappropriate.
- (3) **Matching Attire:** Players shall make best efforts to match or color coordinate clothing with their tournament partner.
- (4) **Paddle Color/Design:** Paddle faces shall not be designed or decorated in a way which is likely to impair the vision of opposing players or distract opposing players from tracking the ball. For the purposes of this rule, a paddle face is defined as any area of the hitting surface above the top edge of the grip.

B) CONTINUOUS PLAY / DELAY OF GAME

- i) Once a match starts, play shall be continuous until the match finishes, except: a maximum of twenty-five (25) seconds is allowed between the time the ball goes out of play at the end of one rally, and the time the next ball is served; a maximum of ninety (90) seconds is allowed for a change of sides; and a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) seconds is allowed between games. Violations of this rule will be enforced as follows:
 - (1) A serving player or team will receive a Time Violation warning for the first offense in a given match and a Time Violation fault resulting in a loss of serve for each subsequent fault thereafter.
 - (2) A receiving player or team will receive a Time Violation warning for the first offense in a given match and a Time Violation fault resulting in a loss of point for each subsequent fault thereafter.
 - (3) The referee will be responsible for keeping time between points, changes of side, and games. The referee will announce a fifteen (15) second warning during the changing of sides and between games, but not for time between points.
 - (a) If, for reasons outside of the players control, necessary equipment including the paddle, clothing, or footwear becomes broken or needs to be replaced, the referee may allow the player to replace the broken item within a time the referee deems reasonable. If a player is intentionally delaying the game or taking an unreasonable amount of time to replace the broken equipment, the



referee shall assess a Time Violation warning if it is the first violation, or a fault if a warning was already given.

C) COACHING / COACHES / ELECTRONIC DEVICES

i) Coaching / Coaches

- (1) Players shall not receive coaching during a tournament match except during a timeout, a change of sides, or between games. Communications of any kind, audible or visible, between a player and a coach may be construed as coaching. The match referee shall determine coaching violations and issue penalties accordingly.
- (2) Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Tournament Director or Head Referee shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the player committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game. Prize money earned at that event shall be held by the RUC until the Tournament Director or Head Referee has concluded his investigation and made a determination.

ii) Electronic Devices

- (1) All players are prohibited from wearing or using any electronic devices from the start or warm-up to the end of the match including during a timeout, medical timeout, change of side, break between games, or any other pause in play. Electronic devices include but are not limited to phones, mp3 players, headphones, electronic watches, or any other wearable or non-wearable electronic device.
- (2) Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Tournament Director or Head Referee shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the player committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game. Prize money earned at that event shall be held by the RUC until the Tournament Director or Head Referee has concluded his investigation and made a determination.

D) DEFAULTS

- i) **During the match.** The Tournament Director may default a player either for a single violation of the Code (immediate default) or as outlined in the Penalty System.
- ii) **On-site.** The Tournament Director may withdraw a player from all events for a single violation of the Code occurring during the event but not during a player's

match.

iii) In all cases of default, the Tournament Director's decision shall be final and may not be appealed.

iv) Penalties:

- (1)** Any player who is defaulted shall lose all prize money (gross prize money to be paid to RUC)
- (2)** At the discretion of the Tournament Director, the player may be withdrawn from all other events, if any, in that tournament.
- (3)** In addition, if RUC determines that the default was particularly injurious to the success of the tournament or detrimental to the integrity of the sport, he may consider additional penalties (fines and/or suspensions).

v) The exception is when the offending incident involves:

- (1)** A violation of the dress and equipment provisions set forth in the Rulebook;
- (2)** As a result of a medical condition;
- (3)** A match ending on a delay penalty (Code Violation for Delay of Game) if the delay penalty was the result of a medical condition; or
- (4)** A member of a doubles team did not cause any of the misconduct code violations that resulted in the team being defaulted.

vi) In doubles:

- (1)** A default assessed for violation of the Code shall be assessed against the team.
- (2)** The Tournament Director will assess the default penalties against both players on the team, unless the provisions in (F)(v)(4) above apply.
- (3)** At the discretion of the Tournament Director, one or both of the players may be withdrawn from all other events, if any, in that tournament.
- (4)** The partner of the player who caused the default shall receive points and prize money from the previous round.

4) PRIZE MONEY

A) PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTION

- i) Total Prize Pool per Category: Rs. 5,00,000
 - (1) Winner: Rs. 1,50,000
 - (2) Runner-up: Rs. 1,00,000
 - (3) Semifinalists (2 Players/Teams): Rs. 75,000 each
 - (4) Quarterfinalists (4 Players/Teams): Rs. 25,000 each
- ii) Equal Opportunity
 - (1) Payment of the same prize money must be available to all competitors without discrimination.
- iii) Timing and Process
 - (1) Taxes
 - (a) The Tournament shall be responsible for withholding and payment of any taxes consistent with all laws concerning withholding taxes.
 - (b) The tournament must make best efforts to supply tax receipts or forms to the players before they collect their prize money. If tax forms are not available, players should be told when they will receive them and who they can contact if they have a problem. Players must receive the Tournament tax forms required by local law by the last day of the Tournament or such other date as required by local law.
 - (c) Players are solely responsible for their taxes and for providing current tax information on Tournament tax forms.
 - (d) RUC does not maintain current tax information pertaining to players nor does the RUC assume liability for Player tax obligations.

B) PRIZE MONEY BREAKDOWNS

- i) Total Distribution per Category:
 - (1) Winner: Rs. 1,50,000.00
 - (2) Runner-up: Rs. 1,00,000.00
 - (3) Semifinalists: Rs. 1,50,000.00 (75,000.00 x 2 Players/Teams)
 - (4) Quarterfinalists: Rs. 1,00,000.00 (25,000.00 x 4 Players/Teams)

C) TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION OR EARLY TERMINATION

- i) Tournament Cancellation Without Play Occurring
 - (1) If a singles or doubles event of a Tournament is canceled and there has been no play, players will not receive any prize money.
- ii) Tournament Cancellation After Play Has Begun
 - (1) If play has commenced and is terminated before the Tournament is concluded, players will receive prize money for the individual round reached.
- iii) Tournament Cancellation Without Completion of Finals
 - (1) If a Tournament is officially terminated before the finals have been completed, each finalist will receive runner prize money each. The remaining prize money will revert back to the Tournament.

D) WITHDRAWALS, BYES, AND DEFAULTS

- i) Withdrawals
 - (1) Any player who withdraws from a Tournament prior to his or her first match will not receive any prize money.
 - (2) A player who withdraws from a Tournament after he or she starts the first match will receive prize money for reaching the round in which he or she withdrew.
- ii) Byes
 - (1) A player or team who receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and loses his or her first match player will receive prize money for the round reached.
 - (2) A player or team who receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and defaults or withdraws from the next round will not receive any prize money.
- iii) Defaults
 - (1) For any disciplinary default occurring in a Tournament after the match begins,
 - (2) The advancing player or team will receive prize money for the round reached; and
 - (3) The defaulting player or team will lose all prize money earned for that event at that Tournament, except that if one member of a doubles team did not cause the default, he or she will receive prize money from the previous round.

5) CODE OF CONDUCT

A) GENERAL PRINCIPLES

It is the purpose of this Code of Conduct (the “Code”), as it may be amended from time to time, to serve as a guide for the acceptable professional behavior of players, officials, referees, tournament support personnel, coaches, credentialed persons, and spectators as it relates to the promotion of the positive image of Professional Pickleball and RUC.

All matches will be governed as per the Global Pickleball Federation 2025 Official Rulebook. Disputes will be addressed by the Tournament Referee. Unsportsmanlike conduct, use of abusive language, or misconduct will result in immediate disciplinary action

No player shall violate any provisions under the Code of Conduct of the RUC Tournament Handbook. Unless otherwise specified, any violation of this section may be subject to penalties including but not limited to loss of serves, loss of points, forfeiture of games, forfeiture of matches, ejection from the tournament, expulsion from RUC Tournament & events, fines, and any other penalty that RUC deems appropriate in its sole discretion.

B) APPLICABILITY

The Code of Conduct is applicable to all persons involved in any RUC event including: Tournament Directors and officials, players, referees, tournament support personnel, coaches, credentialed persons, and spectators.

i) Tournaments / Events

- (1)** The Code shall apply to all RUC Tournament and Events, RUC also reserves the right to take action on any code violation that occurs outside of a RUC Tournament or event.
- (2)** Each tournament shall agree to comply with all provisions contained in the RUC Tournament Handbook where applicable.

ii) Players

- (1)** Players shall at all times be subject to the Code and the Indian Pickleball Association Rules of Pickleball, as may be adopted by RUC. Each Player who is accepted to play in a Tournament (singles or doubles) must have signed an Participant Registration Form prior to commencement of play in the Tournament on arrival. The entry form provides that acceptance of the Rules, including the Rules that apply to Tournament entries, acceptance, withdrawals and scheduling, are binding on the player.



iii) Tournament Directors, Officials, and Referees

- (1)** The Code shall be upheld by Tournament Directors, Officials, and Referees at all times. It is the obligation of those named in the preceding subsection to uphold and enforce the Code to maintain and promote the integrity of the sport and RUC.

iv) Coaches, Tournament Support Personnel, Credentialed Persons, and Spectators

- (1)** Coaches, Tournament Support Personnel, Credentialed Persons, and Spectators are obligated to follow the Code and can be penalized according to this section five (5) for violations of the code.

C) RECIPROCITY

i) Sanctions by Other Pickleball Organizations

- (1)** RUC reserves the right to affirm, modify, or reject with respect to any or all RUC tournaments a suspension or other sanction issued against an individual or entity subject to the Code of Conduct either by or on behalf of any other pickleball organization.
- (2)** RUC may suspend provisionally any Covered Person under the Code of Conduct until completion of the RUC's final determination under this subsection (C).

ii) Sharing of Information

- (1)** RUC reserves the right to share information concerning a complaint and/or conduct an investigation in conjunction with any other pickleball organization or any other relevant authorities. RUC may also refer any complaint and/or information received during the course of investigating an allegation or prosecuting a charge to any authorities it considers appropriate in its absolute discretion. RUC shall have the absolute discretion, where it deems appropriate, to stay in its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations being conducted by other pickleball organizations and/or relevant authorities.

D) MAJOR OFFENSES

i) Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game

- (1)** The favorable reputation of the RUC, its tournaments, and players is a valuable asset and creates tangible benefits to its stakeholders. Accordingly, it is an obligation for players, officials, referees, tournament support personnel, coaches, credentialed persons, and spectators to refrain from engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of pickleball and the integrity of RUC, its sponsors, and stakeholders. Conduct contrary to the integrity of the



game, RUC, its sponsors, and stakeholders shall include, but not be limited to, any comments made publicly to the news, online, on podcasts, etc., that unreasonably attack or disparage any person or group of people, a RUC event, sponsor, player, official, referee, employee, or RUC at large.

- (a) In addition to other penalties that RUC shall determine to be reasonable, RUC may also suspend or expel a player without pay and assess fines to a player who violates sub-section 5(D)(i).
 - (2) Reasonable expressions of legitimate disagreement with RUC policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that one of the slated persons above knows or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a RUC event, sponsor, player, official, referee, employee, or RUC at large are expressly covered by this section.
- ii) Aggravated Behavior
 - (1) No players, officials, referees, tournament support personnel, coaches, credentialed persons, or spectators shall engage in any aggravated behavior which is defined as follows:
 - (a) One incident of behavior that is flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of RUC or its stakeholders or is singularly egregious, in the sole discretion of RUC.
 - (b) A series of two (2) or more violations of this code in consecutive years which singularly do not constitute aggravated behavior, but when viewed together establish a pattern of conduct that is collectively egregious and is detrimental or injurious to RUC or its stakeholders, an RUC event, a sponsor, player, official, referee, or an employee of RUC.

E) ON-SITE PLAYER CONDUCT AND OFFENSES

- i) Unfair and/or Discriminatory Conduct
 - (1) Each Player shall commit to facilitating a diverse and inclusive environment. Each Player acknowledges that discrimination, offensive remarks, or adverse action of any kind arising out of or in connection with an individual's protected status will not be tolerated, and a Player will face serious and significant sanctions, up to and including fines and suspensions, in the event such actions are determined to have occurred.
 - (a) For further clarity, Players shall not discriminate in the provision on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, age, or sexual orientation.
- ii) Usage of Drugs or Alcohol
 - (1) Players shall refrain from using drugs or alcohol or be under the influence of



alcohol or drugs while performing their playing duties (this applies to matches, practices, as well as other RUC events).

iii) Ball Abuse

- (1)** Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a ball while on the grounds of the tournament site except in the reasonable pursuit of a point during a match (including warm-up). For purposes of this rule, abuse of balls is defined as intentionally or recklessly hitting a ball out of the enclosure of the court, hitting a ball dangerously or recklessly within the court or hitting a ball with disregard of the consequences.
- (2)** Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System.

iv) Paddle or Equipment Abuse

- (1)** Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a paddle or other equipment within the premises of the tournament site. For purposes of this rule, abuse of paddles or equipment is defined as intentionally, dangerously and violently destroying or damaging racquets or equipment or intentionally and violently hitting the net, court, umpire's chair or other fixture during a match out of anger or frustration.
- (2)** Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System.

v) Physical Abuse

- (1)** Players shall not at any time physically abuse any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site. For purposes of this rule, physical abuse is the unauthorized touching of an official, opponent, and spectator or other person.
- (2)** Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Tournament Director or Head Referee may refer the matter to RUC who shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the player committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game. Prize money earned at that event shall be held by RUC the investigation has been concluded and made a determination.

vi) Verbal Abuse

- (1)** Players shall not at any time directly or indirectly verbally abuse an official, opponent, sponsor, spectator, employee, or any other person within the premises of the tournament site. Verbal abuse is defined as any statement about



an official, opponent, sponsor, spectator or any other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.

- (2) Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Tournament Director shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the player committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game. Prize money earned at that event shall be held by RUC until the Tournament Director has concluded his investigation and made a determination.

vii) Audible Obscenity

- (1) A player shall not use an audible obscenity while on-site. Audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard.
- (2) Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section shall also constitute the player as having committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

viii) Visible Obscenity

- (1) Players shall not make obscene gestures of any kind while on-site. Visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs by a player with hands and/or racquet or balls that commonly have an obscene meaning.
- (2) Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section shall also constitute the player as having committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

ix) Unsportsmanlike Conduct

- (1) Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a player that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the success of an event, RUC and/or the Sport. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interest of the event, the officiating thereof, RUC, or its stakeholders including but not limited to its sponsors, employees, referees, officials or any other person or organization affiliated with RUC.



- (2) Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Tournament Director shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the player committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game. Prize money earned at that event shall be held by RUC until the Tournament Director has concluded his investigation and made a determination.

x) Coaching and Coaches

- (1) Players may receive coaching during a match (including warm up) in accordance with Section (3)(D). Communication of any kind, audible or visible, between a Player and a coach other than that permitted in Section (3)(D) and the use of any electronic device during prohibited times as outlined in section (3)(D) constitutes a coaching violation.
- (2) Players shall prohibit their coaches on site from:
 - (a) Using an audible obscenity or making obscene gestures of any kind;
 - (b) Abusing any official, opponent, spectator, or other person, verbally or physically; and
 - (c) Engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis. Conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis shall include, but not be limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, that unreasonably attack or disparage a Tournament, sponsor, player, official, or RUC. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreements with RUC policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that one of the stated persons above knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interest of a Tournament, players, sponsor, official, or the RUC are expressly covered by this Section.
- (3) Violation of this subsection shall subject a player to be penalized in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the Tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Referee shall have the authority to relocate the position of a coach if there is reasonable belief that nonpermitted coaching is occurring, or the Referee may order the coach to be removed from the match site or Tournament site and upon his/her failure to comply with such order, may declare an immediate default of such Player.

xi) Best Efforts

- (1) A player shall use his best efforts during the match when competing in a tournament.



- (2) For purposes of this rule, the referee of a match shall have the authority to penalize a player in accordance with the Penalty System. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Tournament Director shall conduct an investigation to determine whether the player committed a Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game. Prize money earned at that event shall be held by RUC until the Tournament Director has concluded his investigation and made a determination.

xii) Sexual Conduct

- (1) In order to prevent sexual abuse and the negative consequences resulting from the imbalance of a dual relationship, sexual conduct of any kind between a player and his Support Personnel, expressly is discouraged. In addition, the following conduct specifically is prohibited:
 - (a) Players shall not advance towards, or have any sexual contact with, any person who is a) under the age of 17 or b) under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the conduct takes place or where the player resides.
 - (b) Players shall not sexually abuse a person of any age. Sexual abuse is defined as the forcing of sexual activity by one (1) person on another person a) of diminished mental capacity or b) by the use of physical force, threats, coercion, intimidation, or undue influence.
 - (c) Players shall not engage in sexual harassment (for example, by making unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct may create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment).
 - (d) Players shall not share a hotel room with a person who is a) under the age of 17 or b) under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the hotel is located or where the player resides, unless such person is the Player's legal guardian or is related to the player.
- (2) A violation of this Section shall constitute the major player offense of Aggravated Behavior.

xiii) Criminal Conduct

- (1) Players shall comply with all relevant criminal laws. For greater certainty and without limiting the foregoing, this obligation is violated if a Player has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to criminal charges or indictment for an offense including but not limited to:
 - (a) Use, possession, distribution, or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances;
 - (b) Sexual misconduct, harassment, or abuse; or



- (c) Child abuse.
- (2) Further, this obligation may be violated if, depending upon the nature of the crime, a Player or Support Personnel member has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to an offense that is a violation of any law specifically designed to protect minors.
- (3) A violation of this Section shall constitute the major player offense of Aggravated Behavior.

F) PLAYER CONDUCT OUTSIDE OF RUC TOURNAMENT AND EVENTS

i) Dishonorable or Unprofessional Conduct

(1) Avoidance of Criticism in Public or Media

- (a) A Player shall not address criticism of a Tournament, sponsor, player, official, RUC employee, RUC, or the RUC Tournament or event to the media or public. All such complaints should be forwarded to RUC.

(2) Confidentiality

- (a) A Player shall not disclose to any RUC non-members information identified as confidential in an official RUC communication ("Confidential Information") unless otherwise authorized by RUC in writing or until such time that the information becomes publicly available through RUC-authorized means.
- (3) A player who violates this subsection will be subject to penalties and fines imposed by RUC in accordance with the penalty and fine schedule which may also include suspension without pay, fines, and other penalties RUC determines to be reasonable

ii) Sexual Conduct

- (1) All players are to abide by the sexual conduct guidelines outlined in Section 5(E)(xii).

iii) Criminal Conduct

- (1) All players are to abide by the criminal conduct guidelines outlined in Section 5(E)(xiii).

iv) General Conduct

- (1) Players shall not promote any pickleball related event, tournament, entity, or the like, other than RUC and their related entities.

v) Player Interaction with Sponsors and Fans

(1) Player interaction with sponsors is a vital part of the RUC Tournament and events commitment to maintaining strong relationships with its partners. These interactions provide valuable exposure and help ensure the continued support and success of its tournaments, events, and programs. It is essential that all players uphold the highest standards of professionalism and commitment when engaging with sponsors and fans.

(2) Conduct Expectations

(a) **Professionalism:** Players must conduct themselves with courtesy, respect, and professionalism during all sponsor-related Events and Appearances. This includes but is not limited to sponsor meet-and-greets, play-with-pro events, luncheons and dinners, player signings, and camps/clinics (“Events and Appearances”)

(b) **Timeliness:** Players are expected to arrive on time and be prepared for all Events and Appearances.

(c) **Engagement:** Players should actively engage with fans, sponsors, and their representatives during interactions to ensure a positive experience for all parties involved.

(d) **Dress Code:** Players must adhere to any specified dress codes for Events and Appearances or wear RUC Tournament approved attire.

(e) **Compliance:** Players must comply with any additional requirements stipulated in their contracts or communicated by the RUC Tournament regarding Events and Appearances.

(3) Obligations

(a) Players are required to fulfill all sponsor related obligations and Events and Appearances as outlined in their contracts.

(4) Reporting and Appeals

(a) **Reporting:** Any issues or failures to comply with contractual obligations will be documented and reviewed by the RUC Tournament.

(b) **Appeals:** Players may submit an appeal in writing within seven (7) days of receiving notice of a penalty. Appeals will be reviewed, and a decision will be provided within fourteen (14) days.



G) CONDUCT OF OFFICIALS, TOURNAMENT SUPPORT PERSONNEL, AND CREDENTIALLED PERSONS

Accordingly, it is an obligation for Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons to refrain from engaging in conduct detrimental to the RUC or the RUC Tournament or contrary to the integrity of the game of Pickleball and to ensure that Tournament partners adhere to the same standard in the activation of their partnership with the Tournament.

i) Unfair and/or Discriminatory Conduct

- (1)** Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not engage in unfair or unethical conduct, including any attempt to injure, disable, or intentionally interfere with the preparation or competition of any Player.
- (2)** Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, age, or sexual orientation.

ii) Use of Drugs or Alcohol

- (1)** Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall refrain from using drugs or alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their officiating, coaching, or other duties (this applies to matches, practices, as well as other RUC Tournaments and events).

iii) Abuse of Authority; Abusive Conduct

- (1)** Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not abuse their position of authority or control and shall not compromise or attempt to compromise the psychological, physical, or emotional well-being of any Player.
- (2)** Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not engage in abusive conduct, either physical or verbal, or threatening conduct or language directed towards any Player, Tournament official, RUC staff member, on-court official, coach, parent, spectator, Credentialed Person, or member of the press/media.
- (3)** Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not exploit any Player relationship to further personal, political, or business interests at the expense of the best interest of the Player.

iv) Sexual Conduct

- (1)** Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not advance towards, or have any sexual contact with, any player who is a) under



the age of 17 or b) under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the conduct takes place or where the player resides.

- (2) Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not sexually abuse a player of any age. Sexual abuse is defined as the forcing of sexual activity by one (1) person on another person a) of diminished mental capacity or b) by the use of physical force, threats, coercion, intimidation, or undue influence.
- (3) Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not engage in sexual harassment (for example, by making unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct may create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment).
- (4) Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not share a hotel room with a player who is a) under the age of 17 or b) under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the hotel is located or where the player resides, unless such Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Persons is the player's legal guardian or is related to the player.
- v) Criminal Conduct

 - (1) Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall comply with all relevant criminal laws. For greater certainty and without limiting the foregoing, this obligation is violated if an Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Person has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment for an offense involving:

 - (a) Use, possession, distribution, or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances;
 - (b) Sexual misconduct, harassment, or abuse; or
 - (c) Child abuse.
 - (2) Further, this obligation may be violated if, depending upon the nature of the crime, an Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Person has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to an offense that is a violation of any law specifically designed to protect minors.
- vi) General Conduct

 - (1) No person who has been given a credential by a Tournament, including members of the media, may at any time during the Tournament engage in abusive conduct directed towards any player, official, spectator, other credentialed person, Tournament, or RUC staff.
 - (2) Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall be familiar with, and agree to abide by, the Rules and encourage players to abide by the same.



- (3) Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall at all times, whether at a Tournament site or not, refrain from engaging in conduct detrimental to RUC or the RUC Tournament or contrary to the integrity of the game of Pickleball. Conduct detrimental to RUC or the RUC Tournament or contrary to the integrity of the game of Pickleball shall include, but not be limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, which unreasonably attack or disparage any person, group of people, Tournament, sponsor, player, official, RUC or the RUC Tournament. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with RUC policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that an Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Person knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a Tournament, player, sponsor, official, RUC or the RUC Tournament are expressly prohibited by this Section.
- (4) Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and Credentialed Persons shall not disclose to any RUC non-members confidential Information unless otherwise authorized by the RUC in writing or until such time that the information becomes publicly available through RUC-authorized means.

H) SPECTATOR CONDUCT VIOLATIONS AND PROCEDURES

RUC seeks to foster a safe, comfortable, and enjoyable sports and entertainment experience for every person. In pursuance of this goal, guidelines for spectator conduct are outlined below. Spectators who choose not to comply with this Code of Conduct will be subject to penalty including, but not limited to, ejection without a refund, revocation of paid future admission, and/or prevention from attending future events. Those who choose not to comply may also be in violation of local ordinances resulting in possible arrest and prosecution.

i) Prohibited Conduct

- (1) Any conduct that is illegal.
- (2) Conduct that results in damage to the venue or other personal property.
- (3) Behavior that is unruly, disruptive, obscene, threatening or violent in nature, including verbal or physical harassment of Players, Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, Credentialed Persons, Staff, Spectators, or any other person on the premises.
- (4) Displaying signs, symbols, images, using language or making gestures that are threatening, abusive, obscene, or discriminatory, including on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, ability, and/or sexual orientation.
- (5) Displaying signs, symbols, or images for commercial purposes or for electioneering, campaigning or advocating for or against any candidate, political



party, legislative issue, or government action.

- (6) Entering or attempting to enter the court or any other location other than that permitted by the Spectator's ticket or credential.
- (7) Throwing objects of any kind whether on to the court or at other persons.
- (8) Failing to follow requests from venue staff regarding operations, policies and emergency response procedures.
- (9) Irresponsible use or consumption of alcohol or other substances.
- (10) Making unauthorized transmissions or play-by-play accounts of the match.
- (11) Any behavior that otherwise targets other fans or interferes with other fans' enjoyment of the game.

ii) General Conduct Guidelines

- (1) Spectators are expected to treat all Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, and all other persons on the tournament site premises in a professional and courteous manner.
- (2) Spectators shall sit only in their ticketed seats and shall show their tickets when requested.
- (3) Spectators may move to and from their seats between points or between games. Spectators are encouraged to move quickly and to cause as little disruption as possible.
- (4) Spectators are encouraged to report any inappropriate behavior or conduct violations to the nearest security guard or Tournament Support Personnel.

I) PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES FOR CONDUCT VIOLATIONS

i) On-Court Adjudication

- (1) Any violation of this Code that must by its nature be adjudicated prior to continuation of Tournament play shall be decided immediately by the official or officials given that authority under this Code. Any appeal of such decisions shall be made to the official making the decision, and the official's judgment with respect to any penalties other than fines shall be final in all cases. The fine portion of any on-court violation may be appealed to the Committee as set out below.



ii) Complaints

(1) Process and Timing for Reporting Alleged Player Violations

- (a)** Reporting a Player's violation of this Code by a Player may originate with RUC, any Player, or a Tournament official. Violations of the sexual abuse and sexual harassment rules may also be reported by the victim of the violation, in the case of a minor, by his or her parents or legal guardians, or by anyone who witnessed the violation. Complaints shall be directed to RUC. Complaints must be received by RUC within one (1) year of the alleged conduct and, where feasible, must be acted upon prior to the time of the next scheduled Committee meeting.
- (b)** No complaint, except for violations of the Sexual Conduct, or Criminal Conduct rules, lodged more than one (1) year following knowledge or reason to know of the incident or activity allegedly in violation of the Code may be considered by RUC.

(2) Process and Timing for Reporting Alleged Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Persons Violations

- (a)** Reporting a violation of this Code by Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Persons may originate with RUC, any Player, or a Tournament official. Complaints shall be directed to RUC. Complaints must be received by RUC within one (1) year of the alleged conduct and, where feasible, must be acted upon prior to the time of the next scheduled Committee meeting.
- (b)** No complaint, except for violations of the Sexual Conduct, or Criminal Conduct rules, lodged more than one (1) year following knowledge or reason to know of the incident or activity allegedly in violation of the Code may be considered by RUC.

iii) Review, Appeal, and Hearing

For those offenses which require RUC to conduct a thorough investigation, RUC may do so either prior or subsequent to notification being given to the Player or person involved. RUC and the Committee shall keep accurate records of all complaints and the disposition thereof and shall be responsible for recording all penalties imposed upon Players, Officials, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Persons during any Tour Year.

(1) Review Process

- (a) Notification of Charges**
 - (i)** If RUC determines there are grounds for the complaint of misconduct under this Code, the person so charged shall thereupon be notified orally, if possible, and in writing, specifying:

1. the provisions which he/she is charged as having violated; and
2. the penalty such a violation carries if so specified in the Code.

- (ii) If the penalty is not so specified, the person shall be advised that the penalty will be determined by RUC. This notification and any other in the course of a disciplinary proceeding shall be delivered to the player in person, sent to him/her by registered or certified mail, overnight delivery with confirmed delivery or sent by e-mail at his/her address as shown in the records of RUC or on the most recent Tournament entry application submitted by the Player prior to the notification. All such notices shall be deemed given five (5) days after mailing.

(b) Response to Charges

- (i) After receipt of notification of the charges and the potential penalties, a person charged with misconduct for which a fine is not automatic, shall have twentyone (21) days from the date of notice to respond in writing to the allegations. Failure to respond to the charges within the time limit cited above will subject the charged person to the imposition of the fines as determined by RUC, if RUC determines that the person committed the violation with which he/she is charged, and such person fails to appeal to the Committee as outlined in this Code.

(c) Request for Hearing

Any person sanctioned for an offense which is subject to appeal, may request a hearing before the Committee or, in the case of an appeal involving monetary penalties of Rs1,00,000.00 or more, a Major Offense potentially resulting in suspension from play, or other sanction of similar magnitude, a person may request a hearing before the Board of Directors. RUC must receive a request for a hearing within twenty-one (21) days following notification to the player of the fine or complaint against him/her.

(2) Hearing Process and Timing

(a) Notification of Hearing Time and Place

- (i) A Player, Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Person requesting a hearing shall be given at least ten (10) days' notice of the time and place of the hearing. Attendance at the appeal hearing is not mandatory.
- (ii) It is intended that the hearing requested take place as soon as possible. If he/she wishes to shorten the time required for notice, the Committee or Board of Directors will cooperate in good faith.

(b) Hearing Procedures

- (i) At the hearing, he/she may call witnesses testifying on his/her behalf and examine witnesses testifying against him/her. He/ she may, if he/she chooses, be represented by counsel at the hearing. The Committee or Board of Directors, as appropriate, shall make a determination, which shall be supported by written findings.

(3) Notification of Decisions

- (a) Within thirty (30) days of its decision, the Committee or Board of Directors shall give written notice to the Player, Official, Tournament Support Personnel, or Credentialed Person of its decision and the penalty to be imposed, if any, regardless of whether or not a hearing was requested. The decision of the Committee or Board of Directors shall be final and non-appealable.

(4) Findings and Action

- (a) Upon review of the complaint and, where appropriate, additional investigation, the Director may determine that the complaint does not merit further action.
- (b) However, if the Director determines the complaint does merit further action, after giving the accused individual the opportunity to present his or her views to the Director or his/her designee, either in person or in writing, at the Director's discretion, the Director may impose appropriate sanctions including:
 - (i) Denial of privileges or exclusion of the person in question from any or all Tournaments; or
 - (ii) Such other sanctions including monetary sanctions as the Director may deem appropriate.
- (c) In addition, the Director shall have authority to issue a provisional suspension, pending the completion of the investigation and issuance of a final decision on the matter.

iv) Penalty System

- (1) The Penalty Schedule to be used for violations of the code is as follows:

1st Offense	Warning
2nd Offense	Point Penalty
3rd and Subsequent Offenses	Game Penalty

- (2) After the third Code of Conduct Violation, the Referee or Tournament Director shall determine whether each subsequent offense shall constitute a default.
- (3) Point Penalties and Game Penalties must be appealed on site to the Tournament Director or Referee, whose decision shall be final. Any monetary penalties imposed in conjunction with a point penalty may be appealed in accordance with the appeal process in section 5(l).
- (4) Depending on the severity of the violation, the Tournament Director, the CEO or his/her designee may bypass the penalty schedule and directly issue a match forfeit, ejection, expulsion, or other penalty. These penalties in addition to associated monetary penalties for the Code of Conduct Violation may be appealed in accordance with the appeal process in section 5(l).
- (5) In addition to fines and point penalties, the RUC may also assess other penalties at its sole reasonable discretion including but not limited to suspension without pay

v) Fine Schedule

Category	Fines
Visible Obscenity	Up to Rs1,500.00
Audible Obscenity	Up to Rs1,500.00
Verbal Abuse	Up to Rs1,500.00
Physical Abuse	Up to Rs1,500.00
Ball Abuse	Up to Rs1,500.00
Coaching & Coaches	Up to Rs1,500.00
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	Up to Rs2,000.00
Best Efforts	Up to Rs2,000.00
Unacceptable Attire	Up to Rs1,500.00
Dishonorable or Unprofessional Conduct	Up to Rs2,000.00
Aggravated Behavior	Up to Rs5,000.00

6) SPORTS BETTING

A) INTRODUCTION

i) Background

- (1)** Rise Up Championship (RUC) Pickleball by the Bay 2025 Tournament is strongly committed to maintaining the integrity of the RUC Tournament, its events, players, coaches, and other RUC personnel. Gambling, particularly on RUC Tournament or events or other sports presents potential risks to the integrity of our competition and can negatively impact the association and its stakeholders. We, therefore, owe it to our fans and everyone associated with RUC to take all appropriate steps to safeguard our sport against possible threats from legal gambling as well as gambling in a legal, regulated context.
- (2)** This document sets out the guiding principles and provides general advice to all pickleball participants and officials on the issues surrounding the integrity of pickleball and betting. These guidelines are to be read with the Global Pickleball Federation 2025 Official Rulebook. These guidelines will be reviewed regularly by the RUC to ensure they maintain their relevance.

ii) Definitions

- (1)** “Covered Persons” – This RUC Sports Betting & Integrity Policy applies to the following persons:
 - (a)** All athletes, professional and amateur, who compete in RUC Tournament or events.
 - (b)** All coaches, trainers, or referees who may have access to privileged information.
 - (c)** Each employee of RUC.
 - (d)** Each independent contractor of RUC who has the potential or perceived influence over or privileged knowledge related to RUC Tournaments and events.
- (2)** “Sports Betting” – Sports betting, gambling, and wagering are defined as staking, risking, or receiving anything of value, financial or otherwise, in connection with a sporting event of any kind, regardless of the location in which the sporting event takes place or in which the wager is placed. This definition encompasses a wide range of activities including, but not limited to, those available in any gaming facility, casino, lottery facility, racetrack facility, or on the internet or electronically (i.e., mobile sports betting).
- (3)** “Rise Up Championship” – All tournaments, matches, or other events organized or promoted by the RUC Sports and Life Foundation.

- (4) “Pickleball” – A game between two to four players in which players use paddles to hit a plastic ball over a net. For clarity, this does not include tennis, table tennis, or paddleball.
- (5) “Insider Information” – Any information relating to a match or competition that an individual possesses by virtue of their position within the sport and that is not in the public domain or readily accessible by the public. Insider Information may include certain information regarding the competitors in a match or competition, the conditions, tactical considerations or any other aspect of a match or competition.

iii) Policy Scope

- (1) This RUC Sports Betting & Integrity Policy strictly applies to all Covered Persons defined in this document, although RUC expects all individuals associated with RUC Tournaments and events to understand and abide by the standards of conduct outlined in this policy.

iv) Standards of Conduct

- (1) All Covered Persons are expected to know the rules and regulations laid out in this document. Failing to abide by the rules and regulations laid out in this document will result in punishment by RUC. While participating in non-RUC Tour events, Covered Persons are expected to adhere to the guidelines and standards of conduct related to the governing body running such events. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please reach out to RUC Integrity Info via email at info@riseupchampionship.com. RUC expects all its athletes, employees, and other stakeholders to adhere to the highest level of integrity no matter the event.

v) Illegal Betting

- (1) Covered Persons may not engage or attempt to engage – nor instruct, ask, permit, cause, or enable other individuals or entities to engage or attempt to engage – in any form of illegal Sports Betting Activity in relation to any sport or event. Such activity includes but is not limited to, placing bets with illegal or unlicensed bookmakers (including, but not limited to, placing bets themselves and/or placing bets on behalf of or through a third party), operating an illegal or unlicensed bookmaker, or facilitating illegal or unlicensed bookmaking activity. Furthermore, Covered Persons may not engage in any illegal gambling activity that is unrelated to sports as this may jeopardize the integrity and standards of RUC. Covered Persons should be aware of and understand the sports betting laws and regulations in any jurisdictions in which they reside, compete, or travel.

vi) Betting on Pickleball Events

- (1) While participating as part of RUC, Covered Persons may not engage, nor attempt to engage in any legal or illegal Sports Betting Activity related in any way



to other Pickleball competitions.

- (2) Covered Persons may not instruct, ask, permit, cause, or enable other individuals or entities to engage, nor attempt to engage, in any form of betting on Pickleball competitions.
- (3) For clarity, this standard of conduct includes not only Sports Betting Activity pertaining to Pickleball Competition outcomes but also any other proposition bets in which individuals may wager on particular aspects or details associated with Pickleball Competitions.
- (4) This standard of conduct also includes Sports Betting Activity relating to multisport bets (often known as parlays) that combine Pickleball Competitions with other non Pickleball Competitions.
- (5) It will be deemed a violation of this Policy irrespective of whether the Covered Person receives or stands to benefit directly or indirectly from such a bet. Additionally, the outcome and nature of the bet do not determine whether or not the Covered Person violated the Policy.

vii) Betting on Non-Pickleball Events

- (1) Covered Persons may engage in legal Sports Betting Activity related to other sports that have no connection to Pickleball Competitions. Covered Persons may also engage in legal betting activity unrelated to sports (i.e., casino games, card games, etc.)

viii) Insider Information

- (1) Given Covered Persons position with RUC, they may have access to nonpublic information (i.e., injuries, coaching strategy, etc.). This information is considered sensitive information and can be used for the purposes of betting. Covered Persons may not request or disclose, directly or indirectly, any non-public information that could potentially provide an advantage in Sports Betting Activity related to Pickleball Competitions to any person that does not have a legitimate need to know such nonpublic information.
- (2) The use of any non-public information for the purpose of betting, or sharing it with another individual whether or not it is used for betting, is strictly prohibited under the RUC Sports Betting & Integrity Policy.
- (3) Covered Persons are expected to reasonably know and understand what information is considered to be non-public information and shall not disclose it via any official or non- official media channel, which includes social media.

ix) Event Manipulation

- (1) Covered Persons must play fair, act with integrity, and never manipulate the

outcome or any individual aspect of a Pickleball Competition. Furthermore, Covered Persons may not influence nor attempt to influence any Pickleball event in any such way that the outcome or any other aspect is determined by anything other than the competitors' merits. This includes but is not limited to, deliberately losing, deliberately underperforming, manipulating the number of points scored, the misapplication of rules, and interfering with any playing surface or equipment.

- (2) This standard of conduct also includes commenting on betting odds regardless of whether or not the individual participated in the competition on which they are commenting. Covered Persons should refrain from referencing betting odds relating to Pickleball events as this may cause there to be a perception that the results are manipulated for betting purposes. Covered Persons will be in violation of this standard of conduct even if their attempts to influence or manipulate are unsuccessful.

x) Bribery & Gifts

- (1) Covered Persons may not be involved, directly or indirectly, with the offering, giving, acceptance, or receipt of a bribe, gift, or any type of consideration, financial or otherwise, that could directly or indirectly result in the improper influencing or manipulation of any RUC Tournaments or any other Pickleball Competition in any way. This includes the solicitation or acceptance of any benefit that results in the potential manipulation of the outcome of any aspect of a Pickleball Competition. Covered Persons may be in violation of this standard of conduct even if they do not influence or manipulate any RUC Tournaments or any other Pickleball Competition.

xi) Sports Betting Endorsements & Services

- (1) Covered Persons, when acting in a personal capacity, must not advertise, promote, or provide services or endorsements to any third party that is related in any way to Sports Betting Activity unless authorized in writing by RUC. Covered Persons are also prohibited from advertising, promoting, or discussing any betting activity publicly in which they participate.

xii) Obligation to Report

- (1) Covered Persons are obligated to report suspected, anticipated, or known violations of this policy, without undue delay and unprompted at first available opportunity, by email at info@riseupchampionship.com.
- (2) Covered Persons must report such information whether or not they are directly involved with the matter or should have reasonably been aware of the matter.
- (3) Covered Persons must not retaliate against any individual who, in good faith, reports a matter in accordance with this Policy.



- (4) Failure to report any potential or known violations of this Policy will be deemed a violation of the RUC Sports Betting & Integrity Policy. If individuals have any questions pertaining to reporting, they should email their questions or concerns to info@riseupchampionship.com.

xiii) Obligation to Cooperate

- (1) Covered Persons are required to cooperate and affirmatively participate in any internal or external investigation of a suspected violation of this policy. Failure to cooperate with an investigation will be deemed a violation of the policy. This includes attending any interview with RUC, or any person appointed by RUC, which they are directed to attend and to fully and truthfully answer all questions asked of them in the interview other than a question where the answer would render the Covered Person liable to prosecution for an indictable offense.
- (2) Covered Persons must also cooperate by the following actions:
 - (a) Producing documents and records related to any matter that is the subject of an investigation being conducted pursuant to this Betting Policy (including telephone records and internet service records);
 - (b) Providing their mobile phone(s), other personal electronic device(s) and computer(s), as well as access to any cloud-based storage used in association with those devices so that it may be images and examined by forensic experts to assist with an investigation being conducted pursuant to this policy;
 - (c) Providing any login credentials necessary to access any device or system on which data are stored, including on any social media platform.

B) DISCIPLINARY ACTION

i) Interpretation & Enforcement

- (1) RUC reserves the sole right to interpret and enforce the standards of conduct outlined in this policy. Specifically, RUC shall maintain the sole responsibility and authority to issue disciplinary decisions relating to violations of this policy.

ii) Sanctions

- (1) Covered Persons whom RUC determines to be in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, which shall vary based on the nature of the violation. Examples of such disciplinary action include, but are not limited to, fines, termination of employment, and temporary or permanent bans from ongoing or future RUC Competitions. In appropriate cases, RUC reserves the right to refer violations of this policy to law enforcement. RUC also may share information with other relevant authorities, including Pickleball Administrators, bookmakers, and other Betting Organizations where RUC considers it



reasonably necessary to disclose such information for such third parties to carry out their respective functions.

- (a) RUC reserves the right to consider a wide range of mitigating or aggravating factors when determining appropriate disciplinary action in any particular case. Examples of such factors include, but are not limited to, timely or untimely admissions of guilt, involvement of blackmail or coercion, cooperation with investigations, isolated or repeated violations, and participation in training or education modules.

iii) Evidentiary Standards

- (1) RUC must satisfactorily demonstrate that there has been a violation of this policy prior to imposing disciplinary action for such violations. The severity of the alleged violation shall be used to determine the appropriate standard of proof. RUC reserves the right to review and assess all types and forms of evidence and will issue a written and reasoned decision following its assessment of the evidence.

iv) Appeal and Reinstatement

- (1) Written disciplinary decisions will outline, as applicable, conditions of appeal and reinstatement. Examples of such conditions may include but are not limited to, attendance at educational or counseling sessions, payment of fines, or cooperation with investigations.
 - (a) A Covered Person may file an appeal relating to disciplinary decisions related to any misconduct set forth in this policy. If an individual wishes to file an appeal, he or she shall make a written request addressed to RUC.
 - (b) RUC reserves the right to assess whether all terms and conditions have been met prior to reinstatement.

v) Mutual Recognition

- (1) RUC may, without conducting its own proceedings, recognize and give effect to integrity-related decisions and sanctions pertaining to current or prospective Covered Persons by other Pickleball organizations, including any suspensions or permanent ban by another Pickleball organization. Without limitation, RUC may deny entry to a RUC event to any athlete, trainer, coach, employee, or team member who is subject to an integrity-related investigation or disciplinary proceedings of another Pickleball organization.

7) RUC RIGHTS

A) ORGANIZER

- i) Matters not provided for in this Tournament Handbook and cases of Force Majeure

shall be decided by RUC whose decisions are final and binding.

- ii) All rights associated with the Tournament which has not been granted by this Tournament Handbook and/or specific agreements to any Participating Team or a Participant, shall remain with RUC.
- iii) RUC shall be entitled to delegate any power or authority bestowed on it under this Tournament Handbook to any other sub-committee or to any other person/entity either generally or in respect of any individual events or circumstances.
- iv) RUC shall have the right to delete, add or amend this Tournament Handbook. RUC adopted this Tournament Handbook on 12th August 2025.

