

# ***Prior Lake Pickleball Beginner Information***

## What You Will Need:

- Your own paddle. We recommend starting with a lower cost paddle. As you become more accomplished, you may want to upgrade to a more advanced paddle that fits your goals and skill level.
- Your own balls. There are outdoor (small holes) and indoor balls (larger holes).
- We recommend putting your name or initials on your equipment.
- A good pair of court shoes.

## Where to Play:

- Indoor play options
  - Dakotah! - membership required
  - Shakopee Community Center – membership or pay for play
  - DropShot – indoor facility located in Shakopee, pay for play
- Outdoor play options
  - Spring Lake Regional Park (SLP) – Prior Lake
  - Savage Courts
  - Lakefront Park tennis courts

## Definitions:

- Open Play
  - Open Play means that all players, of any skill level, are invited to play on the courts. Some courts may be designated for Advanced Play which generally means a DUPR score of 3.5 or higher.
  - The spirit of Open Play is that everyone gets to play with different players in a recreational and fun setting. The objective of Open Play is to have people learn from playing with others. There is no rearranging of paddles so that people stick together.
  - Play is determined by paddle placement.
  - When courts are full, 4 players on 4 players off (except on challenge courts); when less busy, the winning team stays on to take on 2 new opponents, but splits up. On challenge courts, winning team splits up and takes on 2 new opponents.
- Doubles (most common) – two players against two players.
- Ladders

A pickleball ladder is a system for ranking teams (singles or doubles) based on the matches they win or lose. As teams play each other, they receive points. The more points a team has, the higher up on the ladder they will climb. The goal of a pickleball ladder, is to be at the top.

## Lessons

- Lessons are available through the City of Prior Lake in the spring and summer. You can register at: [Prior Lake recreation programs](#)

2023 Pickleball Rule book is posted on our Home page, if you have questions about the game.