



August 7, 2024

Dear Park & Rec Commissioners:

Please see below our updated proposal for signage to clarify pickleball etiquette and court rotation rules. The DRAFT proposal was posted on the fence at the courts for several weeks and on the Orcas Island Pickleball Club website. Feedback from the community was collected and integrated into this revised version.

We are requesting your review of the language. With your approval, we will create the layout and provide the OIPRD with files that are ready to print on outdoor sign material.

Also, in gathering community feedback, we did hear a recommendation that we replace or add to the current paddle racks with a system that has the capacity for the new demand we are experiencing at the courts. We will come to you separately to propose this solution – which may be materials only as we expect someone in our player community could build it.

Thank you for your consideration – and support for signage at the courts.

Best,

Suzanne Olson, OIPC Board Member

## Signage Proposal

Signage to include:

- 1) Number the four courts with signs on the fence behind each court (1-4). Preference for odd number courts closest to parking and even number courts closer to cemetery (there's some efficiency in being able to say "even and odd" for court movement).
- 2) Post welcome and court rules signage near the paddle racks at main entry gate off the parking lot.
- 3) Post STOP signs on gates to promote safe and courteous movement on/off courts

Language for Signs:

### **Welcome to Buck Park Pickleball Courts!**

- Courts are open to all, available on a first-come, first-served basis, seven days a week from sunrise to sunset.
- There are no court reservations. To help alleviate court congestion, we encourage use of *playtimescheduler.com*. Use of scheduler does not constitute a reservation.
- Occasionally, the courts are closed to the public for school use or authorized tournament use.
- Shared equipment (paddles, balls, etc.) is available in the wooden box. Ask club members for access, if locked.
- NO bicycles, skateboards or non-court shoes (they damage the surface).
- Keep the courts clean: no glass, no animals, pick up trash and recycle balls.
- Porta-potties are located along the path by the playground.
- Please be kind and inclusive, be safe and have fun!
- In an emergency, call 911.

## Pickleball Court Rules

*These rules for court rotation go into effect **when courts are full and people are waiting:***

### **One Game Limit**

- One game played to 11, win by 2.

### **Use of Paddle Rack**

- Waiting players place their paddles in the paddle rack.
- Move your group of paddles in the rack to the left as courts are filled.
- Players may have only one paddle in the rack at a time and may not have a paddle in the rack while they are playing.

### **Rotation When Players are Waiting**

- Four or more players are waiting with paddles in the rack:
  - All four players on the court rotate out.
- Fewer than four players are waiting:
  - Players rotate out to match the number waiting. One or more players may remain on the court.
  - If there are not enough players to make a foursome, 2-3 players may play a game to 11 of singles or cutthroat.
  - Four players who want to stay together may rotate in and out together.
- Players may opt to wait for a skill-appropriate group to rotate in with.
- Players may not hold a court.

### **Court Etiquette**

- Please limit warm up time to three minutes.
- STOP at gates and look around. Please wait for play to end before crossing courts. Close the gates.
- Players on near courts (1 and 3), please shift to far courts (2 and 4) when they are empty – to give new players easy access to the open court.
- Lessons and drilling are best scheduled during off-peak court times. If lessons and drilling are underway when court rotation system goes into effect, those players may have 15 minutes to complete their activity.
- All group activities (round robins, etc.) are subject to the same rules: no more than one game to 11.

*These rules are designed to ensure fair access and efficient rotation, giving all players an opportunity to participate and enjoy the game.*