

LADDER GUIDELINES

Play is scheduled every week. All matches are played at Liberty Courts – Pickleball Center, Palm Ridge Courts. You will be scheduled to play every week unless you let the ladder captain know that you can't play by the deadline set for each ladder (see notification deadlines below). If you can't play, the schedule will be made up without you. The day before play, each ladder captain posts the schedule on the website. It is your responsibility to check the website each week to see who you are playing with, the time you are scheduled to play and the court you have been assigned. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your start time.

The following is the most important thing to remember out of all this information. If you have to cancel after the schedule is posted, **it is your responsibility** to get a sub of similar skill ability for your group. Remember, three other people are counting on you to either show up or get a sub. For the **Women's** ladders, there are 4 people playing above your group and below your group when staggered start times are in effect.; their phone numbers are listed on the schedule. Usually, the players below your group are your best bet to contact since everyone likes to play up in a higher group.

If you don't show up or get a sub, a penalty will be imposed (see penalties for each ladder below). Your best option is to cancel before the schedule is posted.

If there are an uneven number of players on the ladder, you will see on the schedule that a sub is needed. If you want to sub in one of those groups in addition to playing in your own group, contact the ladder captain; first person to contact the captain gets the sub spot.

You will play one game to 15 with each of the players in your group; win by 1. That means some games could end up 15-14. Teams change sides after 8 points. After each game is finished someone from your group should record the scores on the score sheets which are hanging outside some of the ladder courts.

On the score sheet there is a place to the extreme right of your name to make a note to the ladder captain. If you know you won't be playing the following week, just write N1 in that space. The ladder captain will leave you off the schedule for one week and automatically put you back on the schedule the following week. If you are going to be gone longer than one week, just write N and the number of weeks you will be gone. If you want to be taken off the ladder permanently, indicate you will be out until further notice. If you need to play at a specific time because of another commitment, indicate what time you need to play. The ladder captains will try and schedule you at that time, if possible (no guarantees). If it is not possible to schedule you at your requested time, you will be left off the schedule that week and will automatically be put back in the following week.

The results are posted on the website the day following play. The player with the highest score in your group moves up to the next group and the player with the lowest score moves down one group. If there is a sub in your group, the player with the highest score moves up and no one moves down. Because the ladder is so fluid with people coming and going each week, you

may get the most points but not move up because someone above you is returning to the ladder. If you got the highest score and 5 people above you return to the ladder, you will actually go down 5 positions. Whatever position you are on the ladder, if you miss a week or more, when you return to the ladder you will be one position lower than when you left (for example, if you are 17 on the ladder when you leave, when you return you will be put back in position 18; again, that position could change if several people above you return to the ladder.

Ladder Notification Deadlines and No-Show Penalties

Ladies Ladder (plays on Monday)

Deadline – Notify Ladder Captain by 10:00 am on Sunday if you can't play.

No Show Penalty – First offense, forgiven; Second offense, you drop down 8 positions; Third offense, suspended from the ladder for one month; Fourth offense, suspended from the ladder for the remainder of the season.

Men's Ladder (plays on Thursday evening) If you cannot play, notify the Ladder Captain by 8AM AM on Wednesday of change.

Otherwise, YOU are responsible for finding your own Substitute.

No Show Penalty – First offense, forgiven; Second offense, you drop down 8 positions; Third offense, suspended from the ladder for one month; Fourth offense, suspended from the ladder for the remainder of the season.