

West Morris Area YMCA

Pickleball Participant Waiver and Code of Conduct

By participating in West Morris Area YMCA Pickleball activities, participants acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by the following terms and conditions.

Registration and Participation Requirements

To participate in West Morris Area YMCA Pickleball activities:

- A \$25 annual Pickleball registration fee is required for participation in any Pickleball program, activity, clinic, lesson, or Open Play session.
- A Balance & Coordination Evaluation is required for all new program participants. The evaluation fee is \$20 per participant.
- Registration and evaluation fees are non-refundable unless otherwise determined by the YMCA.
- The YMCA reserves the right to reevaluate if participant safety, balance, coordination, or ability becomes a concern.

Balance Evaluation – Requirement Not Met

- If a participant fails the balance evaluation, they will be referred to one of our free balance classes, and given a sheet of basic balance exercises to work on
- They must wait 1 month before registering for a re-evaluation
- They will be given 1 re-evaluation for free
- Failure of a re-evaluation will result in the same process as above, but with the \$20 fee attached to any future re-evaluations

Falls and Related Injuries During Open Play

- Any falls during open play that result in a safety team response will lead to a temporary suspension from open play
- If the fall results in an injury that requires medical attention, the member will be required to provide a doctor's note clearing them to return to play, as well as complete a complimentary balance & coordination re-evaluation
- If the fall results in a minor injury that does not require further medical attention, the member will be suspended from open play for 2 weeks, at which time they will be required to complete & pass a complimentary balance & coordination re-evaluation

Participant Conduct

Participants are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, safe, and sportsmanlike manner at all times by:

- Treating fellow players, YMCA staff, and volunteers with respect and courtesy.
- Following all YMCA policies, program rules, and staff directions.
- Refraining from abusive language, harassment, intimidation, threats, bullying, aggressive behavior, or other disruptive conduct.
- Promoting a welcoming, inclusive, and positive environment for participants of all skill levels.

The West Morris Area YMCA maintains a zero-tolerance policy for unsportsmanlike behavior. Any conduct deemed disrespectful, disruptive, threatening, unsafe, or otherwise in violation of this Code of Conduct may result in the immediate suspension or termination of Pickleball participation privileges and/or YMCA membership privileges, at the sole discretion of the YMCA, without refund, credit, or compensation.

Court Etiquette

- Adhere to all playing formats, rotation systems, and court-use guidelines established by YMCA staff.
- Respect court schedules, player rotations, and established program procedures.
- Avoid excessive court monopolization, intentional exclusion of players, or repeated refusal to follow rotation procedures, which may be considered unsportsmanlike conduct.

Safety Requirements

- Participation in pickleball involves inherent risks, and participation is voluntary and at the participant's own risk.
- Proper athletic footwear is required while on the courts.
- Any injury, unsafe condition, accident, or incident must be reported promptly to YMCA staff.

Staff Authority

YMCA staff are responsible for maintaining a safe, respectful, and enjoyable environment for all participants and have the authority to:

- Address rule violations, safety concerns, and conduct issues.
- Enforce program rules and YMCA policies.
- Remove participants from play or facility spaces when necessary.
- Suspend or terminate Pickleball participation privileges and/or YMCA membership privileges for violations of this waiver or YMCA policies.