

Junior

PPA

PICKLEBALL TOUR

POWERED BY proton



2025 HANDBOOK



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# WELCOME TO JUNIOR PPA!

Junior PPA is a campaign dedicated to fostering youth pickleball players through competition events, development opportunities, and social activity. Junior PPA offers a spotlight for youth athletes around the world to showcase their talents, develop physical and mental skills, and compete against other top juniors in the rising community of pickleball. Junior PPA events will transpire alongside certain stops of the Carvana PPA Tour, where the top professional pickleball players in the world play.





## OUR MISSION

At Junior PPA, our mission is to promote, encourage, and advance youth pickleball by creating opportunities for athletes 16 years of age and under to compete, learn, and grow in a positive and fun environment. The Junior PPA's approach is intended to

## OUR VISION

We strive to be committed to youth development while encouraging continued participation in the community of pickleball. We hope to use our resources, platform, and passion to inspire the next generation of pickleball athletes.

# JUNIOR PPA TOUR

Compete against the top junior pickleball players around the country in traditional competition events, where you will have the opportunity to showcase your talents, refine your skill set, and #PlayWhereTheProsPlay.



# COMPETITION EVENTS

## DIVISIONS

- Boys Singles 16U
- Boys Singles 14U
- Boys Singles 12U
- Girls Singles 16U
- Girls Singles 14U
- Girls Singles 12U
  
- Boys Doubles 16U
- Boys Doubles 12U
- Girls Doubles 16U
- Girls Doubles 12U
  
- Junior Mixed Doubles 16U
- Junior Mixed Doubles 12U



# FORMAT

## **Junior PPA Events with 8 Teams or more (8+ players for singles) will play the following format:**

Doubles Elimination with No Come-Around (i.e. if a team loses a match, the best they can do from there is win Bronze and cannot come around for a chance to win Gold).

- Main Draw: 2/3 games to 11, win by 2
- Consolation: 1 game to 15, win by 2
- Bronze Medal Match: 2/3 games to 11, win by 2

## **Junior PPA events with less than 8 teams (less than 8 players for singles) will play the following format:**

Round Robin

3 teams: Double Round Robin, No Playoffs.

4 teams: Single Round Robin with Playoffs for top three teams.

5 teams: Single Round Robin with Playoffs for top three teams.

6 teams: Single Round Robin with Playoffs for top three teams.

7 teams: Single Round Robin with Playoffs for top three teams.

8+ teams: Double Elimination with No Come-Around.

- Pool Play: 1 game to 15, win by 2
- Playoff Seeding determined by Matches Won, followed by Point Differential tiebreaker
- Bronze Medal Match: 2/3 games to 11, win by 2

\*Events may be combined or canceled if there are less than 3 teams in Doubles or less than 4 players in Singles. Tournament organizers possess the right to combine events to provide the best overall playing experience, given the circumstances.

\*Brackets seeded by DUPR.

## REFEREES

All matches will be refereed at Junior PPA events as long as referee availability is sufficient.

## OFFICIAL BALL

Vulcan VPRO Flight Pickleball





# TOURNAMENT TIERS & POINTS

## NATIONAL

### Grand Slams

- 1,000 points awarded to first-place winners
- Most prestigious Junior Tournaments of the year
  - The Masters (Palm Springs, CA)
  - Atlanta Slam
  - Las Vegas Slam
  - Pickleball World Championships (Dallas, TX)

### Point Structure:

- 1st Place: 1,000
- 2nd Place: 800
- 3rd Place: 600
- 4th Place: 400
- 5th Place: 200
- 6th Place: 100
- Appearance: 50

## REGIONAL

### Regionals

- 500 points awarded to first-place winners
- Popular locations across the PPA Tour

### Point Structure:

- 1st Place: 500
- 2nd Place: 400
- 3rd Place: 300
- 4th Place: 200
- 5th Place: 100
- 6th Place: 50
- Appearance: 25

## RANKINGS

Junior PPA Rankings will be updated on the PPA website at [ppatour.com/junior-ppa-tour/](http://ppatour.com/junior-ppa-tour/)

# JUNIOR PPA FINALS

- December
- Season-Ending Invitational Tournament
  - 50+ top ranked Juniors from around the world come together to compete for the ultimate prize and recognition.
- Qualification
  - Determined by annual Junior PPA POINTS
  - Players can only choose partners based out of the pool of qualified players
- Wild Cards
  - "Wild Cards" may be selected to fill-in for select events depending on the number of players in each division.
- "Race to the Finals" storyline throughout the year
- Championships Live Broadcast



# JUNIOR PPA SERVES

In addition to competition events on the Junior PPA Tour, Junior PPA Serves will serve as a program focused on building opportunities centered around youth development and individual growth on and off the court. Junior PPA Serves embodies our mission of promoting, encouraging, and advancing the culture of youth pickleball.



## CLINICS & EVENTS

Junior PPA players will be offered the opportunity to participate in exclusive events that maximize the Junior PPA experience at our tour stops. These events and opportunities include:

- Camps/Clinics
- Q&A Sessions
- School Visits
- Family Nights
- Parent/Child Tournament
- Championship Court Ball Kids
- Play with the Pros

## EDUCATION & CHARACTER BUILDING

Junior PPA players will be given access to online and in-person instruction to learn fundamentals, prepare for competition, construct the right mindset, and build character to grow on and off the court.

- Exclusive Pro Engagement Access
- Pro Tips & Direction

## DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Junior PPA is dedicated to promoting the physical, but also the mental well-being of youth athletes through one-of-a-kind opportunities. Our goal is to accomplish the 5C's that promote youth development:

- Competence
- Confidence
- Connection
- Character
- Caring



# REGISTRATION

## **COSTS:**

Registration Fee: \$75

Event Fee: \$25

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- Ages 8-16
- 16U (Must be 16 years old or under)
- <5.5 DUPR (Must have less than a 5.5 DUPR rating)



## **REGISTRATION WINDOW**

Registration will normally close a week before the event begins. Please make sure you are registered, partnered up and paid ahead of the deadline. We will not allow any exceptions after the deadline. See payment policy for more information on payments.

## **PPA TOUR GROUNDS PASS**

All registered Junior PPA players will receive a FREE Grounds Pass for the week of the event. The PPA Tour Grounds Pass is included in the registration fee.

Registration will come with one complimentary grounds pass for a parent or guardian age 18 or older to accompany them on the day that they play. To claim, a parent or guardian must be present when the player that they are accompanying checks in.

Juniors are encouraged to watch the best professional pickleball players in the world.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Updates and/or Information leading up to the events will be communicated through email.

Registered players will receive a "Welcome Email" before the beginning of each tournament. Please ensure you are checking your email and reading the entirety of the email as it will provide valuable information.

Make sure your Pickleball Brackets account is updated with the appropriate email address and your text notifications are turned on.

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

If players are interested in gaining exposure and promotion through Junior PPA, we will provide talent release forms for you. These forms can be signed via email before the event.

# HOW TO REGISTER



## STEP 1: REGISTER TO PLAY

Register at the link below and make sure to sign up before the registration deadline. Junior players must have an account of their own to register.

[pickleballbrackets.com](https://pickleballbrackets.com)

## STEP 2: PICK YOUR EVENT

Junior PPA will offer age-based events ranging from ages 8-16.

## STEP 3: CHECK OUT

Please read and agree to terms of service to complete registration. Confirm payment and click submit to checkout.

# RULES & REGULATIONS

## PAYMENT POLICY

Players must be paid and have a registered and paid partner to be confirmed. Players not paid and without registered and paid partners will be moved to a waitlist if the division in which a spot is being held is filled with fully registered and paid teams.

## REFUND POLICY

During registration you may chose to purchase the [Registration and Weather Insurance Policy](#) in the event you have to cancel out of the event after the cancellation deadline (Cancellation Deadline will be listed on each registration site). See the policy for specific coverage details. The insurance will cover your event fee in the case your event is cancelled due to weather without a make-up day option.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If weather or any unforeseen circumstance occurs the PPA will do all it can to play matches. If brackets are in mid-play when a weather or unforeseen circumstance occurs, the situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if the bracket may be finished or if winners may be determined.

You are encouraged to purchase the [Registration and Weather Insurance when registering](#). Please see the Refund Policy.

## PARTNER REPLACEMENT POLICY

After registration is closed, any registered player losing a partner must replace that partner with an already registered player. The replacement partner must fit the eligibility requirements. Replacements need to be known and communicated to the registration contact by 5pm the day before you are scheduled to play. Replacements can also be found on the players needing partners list.

## ONE EVENT PER DAY POLICY

Players are allowed to play in one event per day. You will be asked to withdraw from one event if you are registered for two. If you have any questions, please reach out to us.

## COACHING POLICY

Coaching is allowed before matches, during timeouts, in between games, and after matches. Coaching is not allowed in between points and during points.

Parents may not be physically on the court. If you intervene when not appropriate, your child will get penalized. After 3 warnings, you will be asked to leave the court.



# PARENTS



## EXPECTED ROLE

The expected role of parents is to manage, encourage, and support their youth athlete(s). Parents should strive to serve as a role model for their child. Parents should be willing to commit to providing their child with resources to participate in activities while supporting them every step of the way. Parents are expected to be respectful of PPA Staff, officials, results, policies, and the integrity of the game.

# SPORTSMANSHIP

We define sportsmanship as the behavior of treating others with respect, fairness, and kindness, especially in a competition setting.

## PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

- Honesty
- Respect toward all opponents, staff, and officials
- Appropriate behavior and language
- Tapping paddles with opponents at the end of each game
- No boasting
- No cheating
- Supportive phrases to opponents
- Follow all the Rules
- Unselfishness
- Promote the integrity of the game



# WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER



**Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns throughout your experience on the Junior PPA Tour.**





# STAY CONNECTED

## INSTAGRAM

Follow @junior.ppa to stay up to date on announcements, events, opportunities, and more.

## NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our newsletter for announcements, upcoming events, updates, celebrations, and more!

## WEBSITE

Check out [ppatour.com/junior-ppa-tour/](https://ppatour.com/junior-ppa-tour/) for more information.