

KEY RULES OF PICKLEBALL

DOUBLES

COURT

Pickleball is played on a court which has the same dimensions as a badminton

THE GAME, HOW PLAYED

Played by 2 pairs using Pickleball Paddles and a Pickleball Ball

SCORE

A game is usually played up to 11 points and must be won by 2 clear points

POINTS, HOW SCORED

A point can only be won by the serving player/team

A ball that hits a line is 'in', unlike in squash when a ball hitting a line is 'out'

SERVICE

Serves are diagonal, like tennis, starting on the right-hand side and alternating

- The serve must
 - clear the NON-VOLLEY ZONE (including the non-volley line)
 - be played underhand with the paddle below the wrist and below the waist
- The server must
 - keep both feet behind the back line when serving (as with tennis)
 - Serve the ball from the air without being bounced (as with tennis)
 - Announce the score before serving, 3 numbers: server's score; receiver's score; server number (1 or 2)

A server gets 1 service attempt except if the served ball touches the net and lands in the appropriate area of the receiver's court in which case the serve is retaken.

At the start of a new game only 1 player in a team serves, initially after saying the score 0-0-2. When the service is lost and 'Side Out' occurs and then both players in the opposing pair get to be the server

GENERAL OPEN PLAY

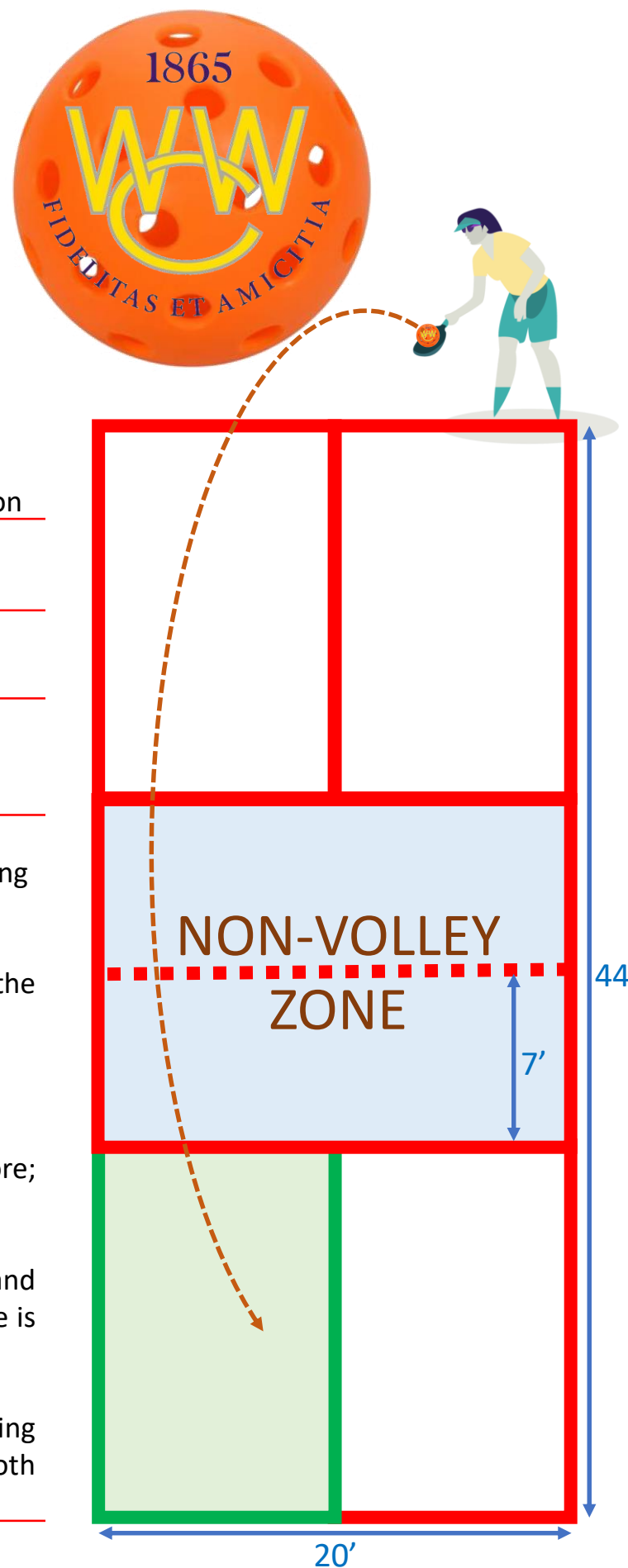
The struck ball, whether volleyed or hit after a single bounce, must cross to the opponents side of the court in the same manner as a tennis shot (i.e. without bouncing on the strikers side of the net or hitting a ceiling etc)

VOLLEYS

Volleys are only allowed when both of the player's feet are behind the non-volley zone line. Also, the point is lost if the volleyer's momentum carries the player into the NON-VOLLEY ZONE after volleying (like running into the tennis net)

DOUBLE BOUNCE RULE

Each team must play their first shot off of the bounce. That is, the receiving team must let the serve bounce and the serving team must let the return of the serve bounce before playing it. Once these two bounces have occurred, the ball can either be volleyed or played off the bounce.



SINGLES

THE GAME, HOW PLAYED

Played by 2 players

SERVER

Before serving the server calls out the score, the server's score first and then the receiver's score

THE SERVICE

The server's score determines the side from which to serve. Serves are executed on the right side of the court when the server's score is an even number (0, 2, 4, ...), the left side when the server's score is odd (1, 3, 5, ...)