

# Padel Rules



## FORMAT

All play in the sport of Padel is doubles format.

## SCORING

In the sport of Padel, the same scoring system is used as in the sport of tennis.

## SERVICE

With regard to service, the following rules apply:

- In Padel, all play begins with an underhand serve from the right service court into the opponent's court diagonally across, similar to tennis.
- The server must allow the ball to bounce once before hitting it and the ball must be hit below waist level.
- The serve must land in the opponent's service box. If the ball bounces in the service box and strikes the side or back wall, it is a valid serve and must be played by the opposing player. If the ball lands in the service box and hits the wire fencing, it is considered a fault.
- The server must keep at least one foot on the ground when hitting the serve. The server's feet may not touch or cross the service line while serving.
- In Padel, similar to tennis, the server has two opportunities to complete the serve.

## FAIR PLAY

The following are considered fair play situations in the sport of Padel:

- The court lines are considered in play only during the initial serve. Otherwise, they are not a factor in determining the outcome of each point in the game between opposing players.
- All players are permitted to play a ball off any of the walls on their own side of the court.

## LOSS OF POINT

The opposition wins a point when any of the following events occur:

- The ball bounces twice in any area on your side of the court.
- The ball strikes you or your teammate while in play.
- The ball hits the wire fencing, posts or any other fixture before going over the net or landing on the opponent's court.

## OUT OF BOUNDS

The ball is considered out of bounds and a point is given to the opposing players if the ball hits the wire fence or walls before bouncing on the opponent's side of the court.

## **OVERHAND STROKES**

The ball can be taken out of the air by any player except on the initial serve and the return of serve.

## **Winning the Game**

Matches are made up of 3 sets, with each set made up of six games.

To win a set, a pairing should win six games with two clear games. If the score gets to 6-6, a tiebreak is played in which the winner is the first side to get to seven points with two clear points.

The winners of two out of the three sets will be declared winners of the Padel match.

### *SUPER TIE-BREAK GAME TO DEFINE THE MATCH (10 POINTS):*

*When the score is one set all set, a tie-break game will play to decide the winner. This tie-break is final and replaces the last set.*

*The first pair to win ten points wins the tie-break and the match, provided there is a minimum margin of 2 points.*

*Note 1: When the match "tie break" is used to replace the final set:*

*The original order of service will continue, although the players may change the order of the server and that of the receiver.*

*Note 2: Balls will not be changed at the start of the "tie break" even if a ball change is due.*

## **ETIQUETE AND CONDUCT**

### **PUNCTUALITY**

Please show courtesy and respect for others. Be punctual, the game requires four players and it is good etiquette to be on time and not inconvenience the other players by being late.

### **ATTIRE**

Players will wear suitable sports clothing and footwear. Sleeveless t-shirts and/or swim wear are not allowed.

### **CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**

Players will behave courteously and respect others during any play or spectating.

Coaches, like players will behave with the same good conduct.

### **AUDIBLE AND VISIBLE OBSCENITIES**

Audible obscenity is defined as the use of words well-known and understood to be offensive and being spoken loud enough to be heard by other players, spectators and organisers of a competition.

Visible obscenities are defined as signs or gestures made with hands, rackets, balls or any other part of the body that commonly have an obscene meaning or offend reasonable people.

### **BALL ABUSE**

The players may not throw or hit the ball violently, in any direction, out of the court, or at players on the other side of the net when not in play.

### **RACKET OR EQUIPMENT ABUSE**

Players may not at any time throw, deliberately hit any part of the court, ground, net, walls, metallic fence or any other element of the facilities with their padel racket.

### **VERBAL AND PHYSICAL ABUSE OR AGGRESSION**

Aggressive, unsportsmanlike behaviour, attitudes and gestures by players will be treated with particular gravity, when made towards opponents, companions, spectators or any related person. It will be judged as verbal abuse, insults and likewise any oral expression that, without being considered insulting is contemptuous or intrinsic to belittling behaviour.

### **UNSPORTSMAN LIKE CONDUCT**

Players must always behave in a sportsman-like manner avoiding any action which goes against the sporting spirit, the competition or in general the respect of established norms or fair play.