



## Dear Pickleballers & Supporters,

Thank you for participating in the Inaugural [Cleveland Pickleball Challenge](#), a fundraiser supporting our local nonprofit, Greater Cleveland Sports Commission. We look forward to a fun day featuring awards & prizes, local celeb matches, a live DJ, food, beverages and more. Get ready for a pickleball party like no other.

Please review the important event information below prior to attending Thursday's fundraiser:

### EVENT SCHEDULE

1pm: Check-In & Practice

- Players and spectators may arrive between 1-3pm for check-in; practice available on courts

3pm: Competition begins, food & beverage opens

- Matches will occur every 30 minutes
- Half of the matches will begin at 3pm with the other half beginning at 3:30pm

4pm: Local Celebrity and Pro Match Demonstrations

- Two demonstration matches at 4pm
- Celebrity match between Stacey Kosich (FOX8) & John Kosich (WEWS - TV5) vs Besty Kling & Jay Crawford (WKYC - TV3)
- Pro Match featuring local pros

4:30pm: Competition Resumes

- If your team played at 3pm, you will play your remaining matches at 4:30pm and 5:30pm.
- If your team played at 3:30pm, you will play your remaining games at 5pm and 6pm.

6:45pm\* – Championship Matches

- All Championship & 3rd Place Matches (all divisions) will take place at approximately 6:45pm

7:15pm\* – Awards

- Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each division

**\* All schedule times are approximate based on length of matches**



## **PARKING**

Parking is available in the Nautica Parking Lots at no charge. Upon arrival, you will be given a ticket to scan upon exit.

## **CHECK-IN @ TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS**

All teams must check in at the Tournament Headquarters tent upon arrival.

- All teams should check-in by 2:30pm to ensure they are ready for play beginning at 3pm.
- At check-in, you will receive the following items:
  - A schedule of your teams' matches
  - Cleveland Pickleball Challenge Hat for your entire group (players and spectators)
  - Food and beverage tickets for your entire group (players and spectators)
- Spectators *do not need* to check-in. Your gifts and food & beverage tickets are included in the team packet.

## **FOOD & BEVERAGE**

Food & beverage tickets will be in the check-in packet provided to your team. Included in this packet:

- Food voucher for each person to use at one of our food trucks
- Drink ticket to be used on soda/water at one of our food trucks
- Two beer tickets to be used at our beer station

Additional food & beverage tickets will be available for purchase.

## **CORPORATE TABLES**

If you purchased a Three (3) Team Corporate Package, a table will be provided for your team marked by your company logo.



## **RULES & EQUIPMENT**

- **All participants must provide their own equipment.** The tournament will provide balls for competition.
- Cleveland Pickleball Challenge will follow USA Pickleball Rules unless noted in the Tournament Rules. To view the USA Pickleball Rules Summary, follow this link: <https://www.clevelandsports.org/files/assets/usapickleballrulessummary.pdf>
- This tournament does have its own set of **Tournament Rules** regarding scoring, calling of points: <https://www.clevelandsports.org/files/assets/2023clevelandpickleballchallenge-tournamentrules.pdf>

## **TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

- Pool play: teams will be placed into pools of 4 teams.
- Each team will play a match against the other 3 teams in their pool.
- Teams are placed in divisions based on their requested division when they signed up. While not guaranteed, we did our best to place everyone based on their requested skill level to make equal groups.
- There may be up to 8 pools in some divisions.

## **TIE-BREAKERS / TEAMS ADVANCING TO CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES**

After pool play competition is completed, each division (Dinkers, Picklers, Big Dills) will have a Championship Match between the 1st and 2nd seed, and a consolation match between the 3rd and 4th place seed. The following tiebreakers will be used to determine which 4 pool winners are the top seeds to advance to the Championship Round:

- Most Wins
- Point Differential of all games (Points For – Points Against)
- Total Points Against
- Total Points For
- Point Differential of game against team in 2nd place in same pool
- Point Differential of game against team in 3rd place in same pool
- Point Differential of game against team in 4th place in same pool

Questions? Reach out to Mark at 440-915-9055.