

## **Respectful Play**

The Nanaimo Pickleball Club (NPC) s Code of Conduct identifies its respectful play guidelines and the expectations of members behavior while on and off the court. Our Code of Conduct reflects the growth of pickleball and the importance and value of inclusivity within the Club. The NPC culture is based on sportsmanship and respectful play.

To meet this expectation all players are required to follow the new Golden Rule" - treat others how they want to be treated.

## **Definitions:**

- 1. **Culture**: the spirit or nature in how we interact with each other.
- 2. **Respectful Play**: Gaining consent by checking with the other person to see if they are open to feedback, coaching or observations prior to offering the information. If someone tells you to stop unwanted, unnecessary communication or behavior, then stop. Continuing to share comments, facial gestures, negative talk about others to another (i.e. eye rolling) is considered forms of harassment.
  - a. Read social cues, sometimes people don't know how to say no. If you see they are uncomfortable stop sharing information.

If people engage you and are sharing information back with you, this is a form of consent. If the other person decides that they no longer give consent they must tell the other player, they do not want to continue the exchange.

**Note:** Goodwill serves you better than insistence in the long run. People don t remember what you say and do, they remember the way you made them feel.

b. Honoring the game: When you sign up for a session you are committing to other players that you will be there for the whole session. This means arriving on time and leaving when the session is over. Arriving late or leaving early may result in scrambling to change the game format, and it may leave the session short on players.

## Procedure

- 1. If another player is behaving in a way that is unwanted and unnecessary, then in a respectful manner, ask them to stop.
- 2. If the player continues to behave inappropriately tell the Session Coordinator what has transpired providing as much detail as possible.



- 3. The Session Coordinator will report the interaction to the Coordinator Locator (CL) confidentially, specifying date, time, names, details of the interaction and witnesses. The CL will record the complaint and forward it to the NPC Disciplinary Committee. If the Player is not comfortable involving the Coordinator and the CL, they can write to the Disciplinary Committee via the NPC Website and completing the information under the "Contact Us!" menu item.
- 4. Soon after the complaint is received the Disciplinary Committee will investigate.
- 5. The complaint will be shared with the player, and they will be asked to respond.
- 6. The outcome of the complaint will only be shared with the player and not the complainant. The complainant will be informed when the matter has been resolved.
- 7. Should the player persist with violating the policy, the NPC Disciplinary Committee may provide the player with a written warning.
- 8. If the inappropriate behavior persists, the NPC Disciplinary Committee will determine if the player's membership will be terminated. This decision will be dependent on the nature of the inappropriate conduct and consideration of any mitigating circumstances.



