

DUPR Collegiate Pickleball

2024 Rulebook

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All rules subject to change at the tournament director's discretion

2024 Structure Summary

For 2024, DUPR Collegiate Pickleball will have 11 events

- 9 Super Regionals (February-October)
- 1 Collegiate Individual National Championship (June 1st-2nd)
- 1 Collegiate National Championship (November 1st-3rd)

Super Regionals

The goal of our Super Regionals is to act as a pipeline to the Collegiate National Championship (CNC). We want every college to be able to access at least one Super Regional, and the best performing colleges will receive a bid for the CNC. Super Regionals are designed to fit as much collegiate pickleball as possible in a weekend, with brackets for teams and open play.

Collegiate Individual National Championship

The Collegiate Individual National Championship (CINC) serves two main purposes: it allows us to showcase players from schools that may not have the best team, and it gives dedicated singles players a championship to vie for. There will be brackets for Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Men's Singles, and Women's Singles. Players can compete in as many brackets as they want, and must be partnered with someone from their school in the doubles brackets.

Collegiate National Championship

The Collegiate National Championship (CNC) is the main event of the competitive pickleball season. In order to be one of the 64 schools to participate, a school must obtain a bid earlier in the season. Bids are given out at Super Regionals and Campus Regionals. A school cannot receive multiple bids.

Game Format

For 2024, each game will be played with rally scoring to 21 points (win by 2). Players will change ends when one team reaches the score of 11. All games must be won by 2 points.

During rally scoring players do not switch sides after winning points. Player A for each team serves and receives on the right side when the score is even, and Player B serves and receives on the left side when the score is odd. A team may choose to switch player sides during a time-out or end change

Each team has a single 1-minute timeout per game.

Win-On-Serve Score Freezing

Our tournaments use win-on-serve score freezing. A team's score will be frozen (and cannot go up) only if they meet both of these conditions:

- They have game point (only one point away from winning)
- They are returning the serve

If both of those conditions are met, they cannot gain any points and their score cannot go up. Once either of those conditions are false, a team can gain points like normal

Since only one team can have game point, that means only one team can be frozen at a time. It also means that a team can be unfrozen if they no longer have game point.

Match Format

Each team bracket match will consist of four games to 21 (win by 2) with rally scoring (See Game Format for more information). The four games will be played in the following order: Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles, two Mixed Doubles. A singles tiebreaker DreamBreaker™ will be played to determine the winner of the Match if teams are tied at 2-2 in games.

Dreambreaker™

The DreamBreaker™ will use the same rally scoring used in the doubles games. 2 male and 2 female players will rotate in 4-rally rotations until the DreamBreaker™ is concluded (Player 1 plays 4 rallies, then Player 2 plays 4 rallies, then Player 3 plays 4 rallies, then Player 4 plays 4 rallies, and then the rotation repeats in the same order).

In terms of sides, singles players will serve from the side (left/right) of the court, based on their team score, as is typical in singles. The player will serve on the right side when that player's team score is even, and when the team score is odd, the player on that team will serve from the left side of the court. Each team has a single one-minute timeout.

Players must have played in at least one doubles game earlier in the match to be able to participate in a Dreambreaker. If your team brought more than 2 men or 2 women players, you must still select exactly 2 men and 2 women players for the Dreambreaker rotation.

Super Regionals

Regionals will have a Team Bracket and a Challenger Bracket, and will take place across two days. Clubs are not locked by location and can play in as many Super Regionals as they want.

Scholarship Money

• Challenger winner	\$250	(x1)
• Quarterfinals loser	\$250	(x4)
• Semifinals loser	\$500	(x2)
• Finals loser	\$1250	(x1)
• Finals winner	\$2500	(x1)
Total	\$6000	

Bid Distribution

The four teams that make the semifinals will receive a bid for their school. If their school has already received a bid, then the bid will be given to the next highest ranked school. Extra games may be necessary to determine this.

Entry Requirements

1. Have a doubles DUPR rating
2. Any eligible college students taking a minimum of 6 college credits can participate

Team Bracket

The team bracket will consist of a group play stage, and then a single elimination playoff stage. All teams are guaranteed to play in three matches, regardless of their performance. Every team will have a match on Sunday, either a consolation or a playoff match.

A team is made up of 2-3 men and 2-3 women players. Team games will use the Match Format listed in these rules. A school can submit multiple teams into the team bracket, although some Super Regionals will have a limit on how many

teams. Check the description in the DUPR to see if there is a limit for that Super Regional.

Challenger Bracket

Any doubles pairing with players from the same school can participate in the Challenger Bracket. Your school does not have to be represented in the Team Bracket for you to compete in the Challenger Bracket. The winning team from the Challenger Bracket will receive \$250. There are no bids given out in the Challenger Bracket.

The Challenger Bracket will consist of a group play stage, and then a single elimination playoff stage for the top teams. The specifics of these stages will change from event to event depending on the number of participants, the number of courts available, and the Team Bracket. ***A player can only be in the Team Bracket or the Challenger Bracket, not both.*** A school can have players in both the Team Bracket and the Open Division.

Campus Regionals

Campus Regionals are a way for DUPR Collegiate Pickleball to work with individual clubs running their own collegiate tournaments. If your club is running a collegiate tournament, and it meets certain requirements, the tournament can be a part of our Campus Regional series. Each Campus Regional will receive a Nationals bid to give out, as well as be featured on the DUPR Collegiate Pickleball website. [Here is the link for the application and more details.](#)

Dual Matches

Ready to challenge your local rivals? Got a free weekend and craving some Collegiate Pickleball? We have just the solution - introducing DUPR Duals. This new initiative will allow teams to organize matches against each other that count towards their team record and ranking. All dual matches following this format will be featured on the DUPR Collegiate Pickleball website. [Here is the link to our doc explaining how to conduct a dual match with another school.](#)

Collegiate Individual National Championships

We want to recognize the best college players, regardless of what school they are from. The Collegiate Individual National Championships (CINC) will have a Men's & Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and a Men's & Women's Singles bracket for any college student to compete in. All players are guaranteed 5 group play games, regardless of performance.

Date & Location

June 1st-2nd, 2024

7373 Kingsgate Way, West Chester Township, OH 45069, USA

Scholarship Money (Per Player Per Bracket)

- Quarterfinals loser \$125 (x4)
- Semifinals loser \$250 (x2)
- Finals loser \$500 (x1)
- Finals winner \$1000 (x1)

Entry Requirements

1. Any eligible college student taking a minimum of 6 college credits can participate
2. If you are playing in a doubles bracket, you must be partnered up with someone from the same school.

Schedule

June 1st 9am-1pm	Mixed Doubles Group Play and Quarterfinals
June 1st 1pm-7pm	Singles Group Play and Quarterfinals
June 2nd 7am-1pm	Gendered Doubles Group Play and Quarterfinals
June 2nd 1pm-7pm	All events semifinals and finals

Collegiate National Championship

To wrap up the collegiate pickleball season, we are once again having the Collegiate National Championship for the best schools in the country!

Date & Location

November 1st-3rd

Location: Brookhaven Country Club, Farmers Branch, TX

Scholarship Money

In total \$32,000 will be given out. The exact distribution is still being determined.

Team Bracket Entry Requirements (Main Competition)

1. Obtain a bid
2. Any eligible college student taking a minimum of 6 college credits can participate

Challenger Bracket Entry Requirements

1. Any eligible college student taking a minimum of 6 college credits can participate, your school does not need to have a bid in order to participate in the challenger bracket
2. You must be partnered with someone from your school

Format

64 schools from across the country will compete to be the 2024 champion! Schools will be split into 16 groups of 4, and every single team will advance to the single-elimination playoffs, March Madness style. Teams are still guaranteed 6 matches, no matter their performance. There will also be a challenger bracket at the 2024 CNC, which will be Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and Men's Doubles. A player cannot play in both the Team Bracket and the Challenger Bracket.

Gameplay

For the rules governing the actual play of the sport, DUPR will use Sections 1-11 of the [USAP 2023 Official Rulebook](#) with these exceptions:

- 4.B.3-4.B.6.e
- 4.F-4.G
- 4.J
- 10.A.Standard Time-Out

These rules contradict our style of play, and are replaced by our rules listed in other sections of this rulebook. If there is a contradiction between our rules and the USAP rules, use our rules.