

# MLP League Rules

## Pool Play

- Captains submit the 4 designated teams before each match. Teams can change for the next match and for playoffs, but no substitutions are allowed during a game, except to replace an injured player.
- Each match in pool play will consist of the 5 games listed below. **All 5 games are played for each match.** A team can win 3-2, 4-1, or 5-0.
- Women's Doubles - Men's Doubles - Mixed A - Mixed B - TeamMaker™
- Each game is to 21 using Major League Pickleball's rally scoring. Win by 2 points. You must win on your serve.
- Play continues until one team reaches 21 using rally scoring.
- Two time-outs per game
- Switch sides at 11 points

## TeamMaker™ - The Fifth Game

- The TeamMaker™ is similar to Major League Pickleball's dream breaker, but in TeamMaker™, teams play doubles rather than singles. The order is as follows: Women's Doubles - Men's Doubles - Mixed A - Mixed B
- **Switch teams every 4 points (or every 4 serves when scoring is “frozen”)**
- Teams must rotate into games in the pre-determined order
- Each game is to 21 using Major League Pickleball's rally scoring. Win by 2 points. You must win on your serve.
- Two time-outs per game
- Switch sides at 11 points

## Court Positions

- Players on a team choose a side of the court to play – left or right.
- Odd-even serving, i.e., the right-side player serves when the score is even, and the left-side player serves when the score is odd.
- Unlike side-out scoring, the team will only get one complete serve. The team continues to alternate servers (odd/even) until they make an error, and then the opponents get the serve AND a point.
- Players remain on their original sides of the court and may only change sides (right or left) after a time-out or during the side change after the first team reaches 11 points.
- Please let your opponents know you have switched to avoid confusion.

## Play-offs

- Play-off seeding will be based on wins and losses from all pool play matches.
- Wins v. Losses
- 1st tie-breaker is head-to-head
- 2nd tie-breaker is total points

**Note:** Games that extend beyond 21-19 (e.g., 24-22), will be scored as 21-19 in the standings.

## Medal Rounds

- In brackets, with only one pool of teams, the 1<sup>st</sup>- and 2<sup>nd</sup>-place teams will play for gold and silver medals. The 3<sup>rd</sup>- and 4<sup>th</sup>-place teams will play for bronze medals.
- The medal match format will be the same as pool play, except that all matches do not need to be completed. As soon as a team wins 3 of the 5 games, the match is over.
- In brackets with multiple pools of teams, teams will be seeded, and specific teams will advance to a single elimination bracket, where the format is the same as the pool play, except that not all matches have to be completed.