

# TABLE TENNIS

## GENERAL RULES

### RULES FOR RACKET

The racket may be of any size, shape, or weight but the blade shall be flat and rigid.

A side of the blade used for striking the ball shall be covered with either ordinary pimples rubber, with pimples outwards having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 2.0mm, or sandwich rubber, with pimples inwards or outwards, having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 4.0mm.

The covering material shall extend up to but not beyond the limits of the blade. The blade, any layer within the blade and any layer of covering material or adhesive on a side used for striking the ball shall be continuous and of even thickness.

Before the start of a match and whenever he or she changes his or her racket during a match a player shall show his or her opponent and the umpire the racket he or she is about to use and shall allow them to examine it.

## RULES FOR GAME

### 1. GAMES ARE PLAYED TO 11 POINTS

A Game is played to 11 points.

The best of five Games will be considered for winner.

### 2. SERVE

Service shall start with the ball resting freely on the open palm of the server's stationary free hand.

As the ball is falling the server shall strike it so that it touches first his court and then touches directly the receiver's court; in doubles, the ball shall touch successively the right half court of the server and receiver.

It is the responsibility of the player to serve so that the umpire or the assistant umpire can be satisfied that he complies with the requirements of the Law, and either may decide that a service is incorrect.

### 3. ORDER OF SERVING AND RECEIVING

The right to choose the initial order of serving, receiving and ends shall be decided by lot and the winner may choose to serve or to receive first or to start at a particular end.

In each game of a doubles match, the pair having the right to serve first shall choose which of them will do so and in the first game of a match the receiving pair shall decide which of them will receive first; in subsequent games of the match, the first server having been chosen, the first receiver shall be the player who served to him or her in the preceding game.

In doubles, at each change of service the previous receiver shall become the server and the partner of the previous server shall become the receiver.

The player or pair serving first in a game shall receive first in the next game of the match and in the last possible game of a double match the pair due to receive next shall change their order of receiving when the first pair scores 5 points.

The player or pair starting at one end in a game shall start at the other end in the next game of the match and in the last possible game of a match the players or pairs shall change ends when the first player or pair scores 5 points.

#### 4. OUT OF ORDER SERVING, RECEIVING AND ENDS

If a player serves or receives out of turn, play shall be interrupted by the umpire as soon as the error is discovered and shall resume with those players serving and receiving who should be server and

receiver respectively at the score that has been reached, according to the sequence established at the beginning of the match and, in doubles, to the order of serving chosen by the pair having the right to serve first in the game during which the error is discovered.

If the players have not changed ends when they should have done so, play shall be interrupted by the umpire as soon as the error is discovered and shall resume with the players at the ends at which they should be at the score that has been reached, according to the sequence established at the beginning of the match.

In any circumstances, all points scored before the discovery of an error shall be reckoned.

## 5. ALTERNATE SERVES EVERY TWO POINTS

Each side of the table alternates serving two points at a time. EXCEPTION: After tied 10-10 ("deuce"), service alternates at every point.

## 6. TOSS THE BALL STRAIGHT UP WHEN SERVING

Toss at least 6" straight up, and strike it on the way down. It must hit your side of the table and then the other side. NOTE: Once the ball leaves the server's hand it is in play, and so counts as the receiver's point if the ball is missed or mis-hit.

## 7. THE SERVE CAN LAND ANYWHERE IN SINGLES

There is no restriction on where the ball lands on your side or your opponent's side of the table. It can bounce two or more times on your opponent's side (if so, that's your point), bounce over the side, or even hit the edge.

## 8. DOUBLES SERVES MUST GO RIGHT COURT TO RIGHT COURT

The serve must bounce in the server's right court, and the receiver's right court (NOTE: landing on the center line is fair). Doubles partners switch places after their team serves twice.

## 9. A SERVE THAT TOUCHES THE NET ON THE WAY OVER IS A "LET".

During a RALLY, if it touches the top of the net and then otherwise lands as a legitimate hit. BUT not when serving. If a served ball hits the net on the way over and otherwise legally bounces in play, it's a "let" serve and is done over. There is no limit on how many times this can happen.

## 10. ALTERNATE HITTING IN A DOUBLES RALLY.

Doubles partners must alternate hitting balls in a rally, no matter where the ball lands on the table.

## 11. VOLLEYS ARE NOT ALLOWED .

In table tennis hitting the ball before it bounces on your side of the net results in a point for your opponent. NOTE: When your opponent hits a ball that sails over your end of the table without touching it and then hits you or your paddle, that is still your point.

## 12. IF YOUR HIT BOUNCES BACK OVER THE NET BY ITSELF IT IS YOUR POINT.

If you hit the ball in a rally or on a serve and it bounces back over the net after hitting your opponent's side of the table (due to extreme spin), without your opponent touching it, that is your point.

## 13. TOUCHING THE BALL WITH YOUR PADDLE HAND IS ALLOWED

If the ball touches your PADDLE hand and otherwise results in a legal hit, there is no rule violation and play shall continue as normal. Your paddle hand includes all fingers and the hand area below the wrist. But what if the ball touches a player's body anywhere else during a ping-pong rally? You may not touch the ball with your non-paddle hand for any reason. It will result in a point for your opponent. But if your opponent's hit sails over your side of the table without touching it, and hits any part of you or your paddle, that is still your point.

## 14. YOU MAY NOT TOUCH THE TABLE WITH YOUR NON-PADDLE HAND

You may touch the ball or the table with your paddle hand (after reaching in to return a short serve, for example), or other parts of your body. NOTE: If the table moves at all from your touching it during a rally, that is your opponent's point.

## 15. AN "EDGE" BALL BOUNCING OFF THE HORIZONTAL TABLETOP SURFACE IS GOOD

An otherwise legal serve or hit may contact the top edge of the horizontal tabletop surface and be counted as valid, even if it bounces sidewise. The vertical sides of the table are NOT part of the legal playing surface.

## 16. THE HONOR SYSTEM APPLIES TO DISAGREEMENTS

If no referee is present during a match and the players disagree on a certain call, the "honor system" applies and the players should find a way to agree, or play the point over. Ping pong carries a tradition of fierce but fair play. Help us keep it that way!

## 17. OTHER NOTABLE POINTS

You are allowed to towel off every 6 points during a match, starting from 0-0.

You are allowed a maximum rest period of 1 minute between games.

Both teams are required to report 30 minutes before their matches. In case a team does not report the latest after 15 minutes of the match time or if a player is short due to any reason, it will be disqualified and the other team will be declared as the winner. The decision of the referees will be final and all players must abide by it (without any exceptions).

The matches will be played with a STAG (WHITE) ball.

The final decision in all matters rests with the VRIDDHI TEAM.

**NOTE:**

If a team has 4 players A, B, C, and D. If player A plays the first single then he is allowed to play doubles along with another player forex. B, then the other single match cannot be played either by A or B it can only be played by player C or D.

Also, all the singles and doubles matches can be played by different players.

All the teams have to bring their own kits and balls will be provided and the replacement of the ball will be according to the wish of the referee.