

Pickleball in the Park – Code of Conduct

Pickleball in the Park Association Incorporated (PIP)

1. Introduction

Pickleball in the Park is committed to maintaining a positive, safe, and enjoyable environment for all members and participants.

All members are expected to conduct themselves with courtesy, integrity, and respect for others, both on and off the court.

Given the diverse membership base, the standard and style of play will naturally vary. Members should demonstrate patience, sportsmanship, and understanding toward players of all abilities. Unsolicited coaching or feedback should not be provided unless agreed to by both parties.

PIP recognises that some members play primarily for social enjoyment while others are more competitive. All members should be mindful of the playing context and adjust their approach accordingly.

If an apology is offered, it should be accepted in good faith.

2. Scope

This Code of Conduct applies to all **members, guests, volunteers, and visitors** participating in any PIP activity, including games, tournaments, social events, and online interactions.

It extends to all conduct that may impact the reputation or wellbeing of the PIP community.

3. Respectful Behaviour

Members are expected to:

- Show respect to all players, officials, volunteers, and visitors.
- Follow the rules of pickleball and any directions given by club organisers or hosts.
- Demonstrate honesty, fairness, and self-control during play.
- Represent the club positively at all times.

4. Inappropriate or Discourteous Behaviour

Behaviour that is disrespectful, unsafe, or disruptive will not be tolerated. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Use of threatening, abusive, or profane language
- Throwing paddles or equipment in anger or in a dangerous manner
- Deliberate damage to pickleball equipment or PIP property

- Physical, threatening, or intimidating conduct
- Bullying, harassment, or discrimination of any kind
- Sexual harassment or racial vilification

If any behaviour occurs that may be criminal in nature, the incident should be reported directly to the police, and the President should also be informed.

5. Addressing Behavioural Issues

Where possible, discourteous behaviour should be addressed immediately and informally.

Players are encouraged to discuss the issue calmly between themselves or, if needed, with the host present. If an apology is offered and accepted, no further action may be necessary.

If the matter cannot be resolved informally, it should be escalated following the PIP Complaints Handling & Disciplinary Procedure.

6. Consequences for Breaches

If a member or participant breaches this Code, the PIP Committee may take appropriate action, which may include:

- Verbal or written warning
- Temporary suspension from play or events
- Formal review by the Committee
- Termination of membership (in serious or repeated cases)

The Committee will always aim to ensure fairness, confidentiality, and proportionality in any disciplinary process.

7. Continuous Improvement

This Code of Conduct is a living document and may be reviewed periodically to reflect best practice, member feedback, and changes in the club's activities.

Approved by the PIP Committee: 27 October 2025

Next Review Date: October 2027

Contact: president@pickleballinthepark.com.au