

Litchfield Pickleball Association

Member Information Package

(Revised December 2017)

Litchfield Pickleball Association

Dear Prospective Member:

We welcome you as a member of our Litchfield Pickleball Association (LPA). LPA was the first organized Pickleball association in southern NH - starting in 2011 with 42 members. We have operated continuously since and have grown to over 120 players. We hope to expand our membership going forward while working with other groups to expand Pickleball in southern NH and northeastern MA.

We play in Litchfield at Talent Hall, located at Roy Memorial Park on Albuquerque Ave. in Litchfield (entrance on Wood Hawk Way). In season, we also play outdoors at Sawmill Brook Park, off Albuquerque Ave. A current playing schedule is available on our web site (www.litchfieldpickleball.org/schedule). All times are subject to occasional changes due to facility availability. The weekend and evening sessions in particular are variable due to basketball leagues playing in the fall and winter. We communicate to members through emails and our web site; the telephone is rarely used. While a very few of our members don't use computers to communicate, regular and timely communications will be very difficult if you are not computer literate. You must have access to computer/tablet/smart phone to be accepted for membership.

The Town of Litchfield, NH has made space available at their Talent Hall facility and has agreed to support out-of-town residents as members of our Association. We have elected to donate each year to the Town's Recreation Department to cover our Association's use of the Talent Hall facility.

The LPA offers an economical means of learning and participating in the sport of Pickleball. A one-time membership fee of \$10 for Litchfield residents and \$20 for nonresidents is required for membership. For all members, a subsequent Annual Recurring Fee of \$10/ year for residents and \$20/year for non-residents is collected (or \$15 or \$25 if paid after January 31). We charge nonresidents a greater amount for membership because Litchfield residents indirectly fund Talent Hall through real estate taxes.

In addition, each session costs \$1: these session fees are collected on the honor system- if you don't have a buck, make it right the next time you play. All fees collected go to LPA overall expenses. We'll provide all members with a quarterly cash flow statement and an annual financial update. We do plan to purchase and make available various training aids to improve your prowess in the exciting sport of Pickleball. In the event we exceed our financial projections, we'll decide as a group how to spend the excess funds at the end of each calendar year. We do not plan on making any profits from our pickleball activities.

Application for LPA membership are included as the last two pages of this document. New members should fill out those pages and return them along with the appropriate membership fee to Talent Hall or mail them to

Bruce Rotenberg
32 Leybridge Drive
Hudson NH 03051

Upon receipt of the application and fee, you will be sent an invitation to SignUpGenius (SUG). Please click on the "Sign Up" button in the email and create your SUG account using your email address and a password of your choice. (If you already have a SUG account with another organization, you need not create a new one, simply use your previous account password to login in.) Once your account is create you will be able to sign-up for sessions on SUG.

LPA Membership Do's and Don'ts

- Please clean your shoes outside before entering Talent Hall. Please use the rear entrance to Talent Hall. In bad weather, we suggest carrying in your footwear and changing before playing. The floor has recently been finished- we'd like to keep it nice. During winter months, please use the door at the very rear of the building and bring shoes to change into while playing.
- LPA members are responsible for paying the \$1 session fee. Guests playing on the invite of an LPA member, pay a per session fee of \$2. Guest attendance is limited to three times within a three month period.
- New members are also required to purchase their own paddle shortly after joining. We have a limited amount of 'loaner' paddles available and these may be purchased at greatly reduced prices. Purchase of a new paddle is possible online: see the For Members Only page on our website for a discounted source for paddles.
- Please avoid interfering with play on the neighboring court; don't play recklessly or over-aggressively; don't retrieve and return back a ball from the other court during play; keep noise levels down.
- Be patient with new players- we all have to start sometime. It's demoralizing for a new player to be made to feel 'inferior' to more experienced players. If you are playing with someone who is just starting out, use the session as an opportunity to sharpen up your shot placement, practice shots from your weaker side, etc. We are all in this league for the social aspects and we should routinely expect to be playing with players of widely varying levels of proficiency. Treat your opponents as friends and colleagues, not as the enemy.
- We have scheduled sessions for Recreational, and Competitive and Advanced players. As well as open sessions.
- We use SignUpGenius (SUG) to schedule all sessions; this requires member's to use the internet. Guests should be listed on SUG in the comment section but not be included in the head count when signing up. If that total number of players (including guests) exceeds 12, a guests member sponsor must sit out whenever the guest plays.
- Bring liquids and drink often. The gym can be very warm, especially in the summer months. Dehydration is avoided by drinking often and resting between sessions. We are all not the athletes that we once were- remind your brain of that in order to avoid injury.
- All LPA members must sign the Litchfield Waiver in order to use the facilities.

Recreational sessions may include Competitive members, but the focus is on learning & playing opportunities that improve the skill levels of the Recreational players. Recreational players may play at Competitive sessions, but should assess if they have the requisite skills and desire to play competitively. Advanced sessions are for those players who are a minimum of 3.5 players, as defined by the USAPA skill levels. These sessions may involve practice drills. Members should not sign for Advanced sessions unless they meet the criteria and wish to play at a tournament level. If players are uncertain, ask several of the players who currently play at a tournament level

A person authorized by the Board must be present to open/close Talent Hall. E-mail contacts are available at <http://litchfieldpickleball.org/about-us/board-of-directors/>.

Outdoor courts at Sawmill Brook are not currently scheduled but members are free to play there at any time. Players must provide their own balls and racquets. Outdoor balls can be purchased at PickleballCentral.com.

Litchfield Pickleball Association
Membership Profile and Application

Name

Current Street Address

CityStateZip Code

Telephone: Home.....Mobile.....

Please circle which phone would you prefer to be contacted on? H M

Email address.....@.....

Emergency Contact:

Name.....Relationship.....

AddressCityState ...

Emergency Telephone Contact Number

Applicants verify that they have basic computer literacy skills and have access to a computer/ smart phone/ tablet with email and browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Opera) capability. Most communication is done via email or website; the telephone is rarely used.

Signed _____

Date _____

