

BASIC RULES TO START PLAYING PICKLEBALL BY TERRY

HISTORY-----PICKLEBALL WAS CREATED BY OUR FORMER LT GOVERNOR JOEL PRITCHARD AT HIS HOME ON BAINBRIDGE ISLAND IN WASHINGTON STATE AROUND 1966. ALWAYS BEING INNOVATIVE AND SINCE THEY COULDN'T FIND THE SHUTTLECOCK (BIRDIE) FOR BADMINTON, THEY LOWERED THE NET AND IMPROVISED WITH A WIFFLE BALL. THEY MADE PADDLES OUT OF PLYWOOD. THUS, PICKLEBALL WAS BORN, WHICH IS A CROSS BETWEEN PING PONG AND TENNIS. IT IS THE FASTEST GROWING SPORT IN AMERICA AND GROWING INTERNATIONALLY.

JOAN (JOEL'S WIFE), WAS A COMPETITIVE ROWER ON THE ISLAND. THE NAME OF THE GAME BECAME PICKLEBALL AFTER JOAN SAID IT REMINDED HER OF THE PICKLE BOAT WHERE OARSMEN WERE CHOSEN FROM LEFTOVERS OF OTHER BOATS. THE NAME DID NOT COME FROM THEIR DOG PICKLES, SINCE THE DOG WAS NOT THERE UNTIL TWO YEARS LATER. AN OUT-OF-TOWN REPORTER, A FEW IMAGINATIVE LOCALS, AND JOEL'S OWN WILLINGNESS TO HUSH-UP WHEN A GOOD AND BETTER INTERESTING STORY TOOK HOLD BECAME THE NORM.

1. SERVER-----SERVING TEAM ON THE VERY FIRST SERVE TO START THE GAME ONLY SERVES ONCE. **0-0 2ND SERVE.** TWO SERVES THEREAFTER (ONE SERVE PER PLAYER)

A) WHEN SERVING THE PADDLE HAS TO BE BELOW YOUR WRIST, BELOW YOUR WAIST, AND FOOT BEHIND THE BASELINE.

B) WHEN BALL IS HIT BY RECEIVER, SERVING TEAM HAS TO LET THE BALL BOUNCE ONCE.

2. POINTS-----POINTS ARE EARNED ONLY BY THE SERVING TEAM. FIRST TEAM TO REACH 11 POINTS BY A MARGIN OF 2 WINS THE SETS.

3. KITCHEN (7 FT NON-VOLLEY ZONE)-----CANNOT VOLLEY THE BALL WHILE INSIDE KITCHEN UNLESS BALL BOUNCES INSIDE KITCHEN FIRST. THEN YOU HAVE TO STEP OUT OF KITCHEN BEFORE YOU CAN VOLLEY (HIT WITHOUT BALL TOUCHING GROUND) AGAIN.

SIMPLE RULES, SIMPLE GAME

GREAT FUN!

WIN OR LOSE, HAVE FUN!!