

MINI-SINGLES

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is Mini-Singles?

Mini-Singles is a fun new version of half-court singles that is currently being played all over the world. It is less taxing on the body and strategic with every shot. Players who can no longer cover the full court can play mini singles and still play a high-level strategic game that includes dinking, driving the ball and more.

2. How is Mini-Singles played?

It is played on a standard pickleball court using only half of the court per point. The unique feature of Mini-Singles is that at each end, only one of the 2 courts, (i.e. the right [even] or the left [odd] court), is “in play” during a rally. The courts that are in play are determined by the required player positions. Each player’s position is determined by their individual score. This applies at all times, whether the player is serving or receiving.

3. Will it have a separate rating?

No, it will utilize the same ratings as standard singles.

4. When will it be effective for sanctioned tournaments?

April 1, 2022

5. Does it use the same rules as standard singles?

Only when it comes to the serve. Each player’s position is determined by their individual score. This applies at all times, whether the player is serving or receiving. Rule 4.B.5.c remains in effect. After the server loses the rally or faults, a side out will occur, and service is awarded to the opponent.

6. What is required for court conversion?

Painter's tape or non-marking tape will be needed to include an additional line which must be provided that extends the centerline of the court through each non-volley zone. The color of this line is not required to be the same as the other court lines but is recommended.

7. Is Mini Singles scored the same as standard singles?

Yes, scoring will be the same as all other approved events and according to the USAP rulebook win by 2.

8. Will it be approved for all sanctioned tournaments?

This new format will not be approved for golden ticket tournaments, Diamond Regionals or the National Championships, but it will be available for all other sanctioned tournaments.

9. Can someone perform an Erne in Mini-Singles since one side of the net is bounded by the net post and the other side just by the net? Yes

10. Why isn't this considered a new rule or set of rules for the new rulebook? *The Mini-Singles concept and instructions for use obtained USA Pickleball board of approval just like any other rule would. We wanted to get this format approved for use to meet the overwhelming player interest, which is why this was handled outside the normal rulebook cycle. This format will get the appropriate treatment in the 2023 Rulebook.*

11. There are several types of Mini-Singles that can be played recreationally. Can a TD pick any one of the various types or must they use this one? *This is the only option approved for sanctioned tournaments.*

12. Can the additional line in the NVZ remain on the court for normal doubles or singles? *The TD must remove it so as not to cause a distraction during doubles or standard singles play.*

13. If a player on the wide side of the net breaks the plane of the net that is not part of the court in play is that still a fault? In other words, is the whole net always considered in play or just when the ball is being played cross court? *The whole net is always considered in play.*

14. Why was this version of Mini-Singles selected? *This version is the most prevalent format that is being used based on feedback and input from players and tournament directors across the country.*