

Welcome Letter SDBC Pickleball 2025-2026

Welcome to SDBC Pickleball. If you are visiting online, hopefully you will find the information you are looking for. We look forward to meeting you at some time in the future. If you have already attended one of our pickleball sessions, we hope you had fun and met some nice people while playing this increasingly popular recreational activity.

Please feel free to invite adult friends and family members to join us.

Below is some information on how we are organized at South Delta Baptist Church Pickleball.

Level of Play

The sessions at the church have been grouped to accommodate four levels of play in five groupings. Players self-assess their playing level by using the criteria set out on the link indicated on our pickleball webpage or those found in our monthly newsletter. We have combined the levels to make up five groupings: Advanced (Level 3.5- 4.0+ Competitive), Intermediate/Advanced (Level 3.25+ Competitive), Intermediate (Level 3.0 – 3.25), Novice/Intermediate (Level 2.5 – 3.0), and Beginner/Novice (Level 2.0 – 2.5). There may be variations of these levels at times. Each session has at least one host you can talk to if you have any questions or concerns. You can also contact us at pickleball@southdelta.org. We welcome feedback.

Complimentary Introductory Lesson

We offer a **complimentary introductory lesson** for those new to pickleball. See below on how to register using PlayTime Scheduler. We provide balls and paddles for you to use whenever you play in a session at the church so no need to buy any equipment in advance. Also, provided in this lesson is a complimentary pair of safety glasses for you to use as having eye protection is mandatory when you play at the church. We ask each participant to wear appropriate footwear and comfortable clothing.

How Do You Register to Play in a Session?

All players wishing to play at the church must register using PlayTime Scheduler (PTS) for each session (maximum two sessions per week). The directions on how to get a free account for PlayTime Scheduler is on our pickleball webpage along with instructions as to how you sign up for a session. Please refer to the link on our church website (southdelta.org/pickleball).

Sessions go live for registering six days before the session that you would like to play in. For example, if you want to play on Wednesday the following week at 4:30PM, you can register Thursday of this week at 4:30PM.

New Registration Conditions

Eye protection is mandatory for any sessions at SDBC. We offer safety glasses for \$1 if you don't have eye protection.

We have initiated some registration conditions to allow as many different players to register in the limited number of sessions we offer. The conditions are:

1. Players are only allowed to register or play in **one session per day**, including waitlists and skill sessions. **One exception:** If you are registered in a playing session and there is an opening for a skill session at 7AM that same day, then you can register for the skill session as well.
2. Players can register in up to **two sessions per week**. This includes waitlists and skill sessions as well.

One exception: If a playing session is not full by 7AM on the morning of the session, then players can register for an additional playing session for the week or go on the waitlist for the empty spot. The one playing session per day limitation still stands.

It is very important to sign up for the waitlist if you haven't registered that day or have not registered twice in the week. It gives us feedback as to where we may need to make adjustments to our schedule. It is equally important for players to cancel their registration as soon as you know they can't attend. This is a courtesy that allows someone else on the waitlist to attend. Please note that cancelling in the afternoon of the session doesn't always allow enough time for another player to take your spot so cancelling early is best.

How Much Does It Cost?

There is now a \$5 fee collected at the door when checking into each session. Please use paper money as much as possible; no quarters, dimes, or nickels, please. Note that \$3 of the fee will be used to support local charities primarily. In the past, we have donated to the SDBC Food Bank, Delta Assist, W.I.N.G.S. (women's shelter), Starfish Pack South Delta (school food program), and BC Guide Dogs for Autism. The remaining \$2 of the fee will be used to cover ongoing expenses.

SDBC Pickleball Ministry Newsletter

We send out a monthly SDBC Pickleball e-newsletter. We strongly encourage you to sign up for this newsletter as it contains updates, cancellations, tips, special monthly events, and other information. There are times when the church may have last minute cancellations due to a funeral, power outage, or weather. The newsletter is an efficient way we can contact all those who attend sessions at the church to inform them of last-minute changes. We will also try to use PTS to notify players signed up.

How Do I Sign Up for the Newsletter?

To receive our free monthly SDBC Pickleball Newsletter, go to our Pickleball Ministry page (southdelta.org/pickleball) then click on the button near the bottom of the page that says, "Join our mailing list." You can also scan the QR code on the trolley as you enter the gym. You will be asked to provide us with your name and email address. This is a legal requirement (CRTC) which will allow us to send the newsletter to you. If, at any time, you would like to have your contact information removed or have any questions, please contact us at pickleball@southdelta.org. You can also unsubscribe through our newsletter by clicking on the unsubscribe button at the bottom of each newsletter.

Weekly Schedule

Sessions are offered on Monday and Wednesday evenings after 4:30PM, during the day on Saturday as well as Sunday afternoon and evenings. Players are asked to sign up for **only one session per day (see exceptions above)** and sign up for a **maximum of two sessions per week (see exceptions above)** to allow more players to access the sessions. In addition to our playing sessions, we offer two identical Skills'n Drill practice sessions for **novice/intermediate players** on Saturdays to help develop skills. We also have a **beginner skill session** on Wednesday evenings. Our weekly schedule changes periodically so please check the church website for our current schedule at southdelta.org/pickleball or refer to listings on PTS. We do have unscheduled cancellations occasionally of which you will be notified via PTS or in our newsletter via Mailchimp.

The SDBC Pickleball Committee

Overseeing the organization of South Delta Baptist Church Pickleball is a committee made up of Mario and Brenda M., Wayne C., Mario and Jacqui M., Laurie G. and Dave S. Feel free to contact any of the South Delta Baptist Church Pickleball Committee members if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. You can email them at pickleball@southdelta.org.

Other Things You Should Know

- The church has kindly given us the use of the gym. It is our responsibility to make sure that the gym is cleaned up promptly and equipment put away in its designated spots after our final session for the day. Custodial staff have limited time to secure the building after we leave so it is important that we leave within 10 minutes of our closing times.
- Please bring a water bottle as there are no water fountains in the church.