

1st Honolulu Mayor's Cup Pickleball Tournament

Event Handbook



- Event Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026
- Check-in Opens: 8:00
- Tournament Hours: 9:00 – 18:00
- Venue : Pickles at Forté
1032 Fort Street Mall, Honolulu, HI ([MAP](#))
- Number of Courts: 14 indoor courts
- Number of Participants : about 250 players
- Participant Perks : Complimentary tournament T-shirt
Light refreshments will be provided

● Program (One-Day Festival Format)

8:00 Doors open, **Part 1: Newbie and Beginner Players Check-in**

8:30 Opening Remarks and Rules Explanation

9:00 Part 1: Sister City Challenge - **Newbie and Beginner Tournament Begins**

*Round-robin format, skill-based, individual competition

*Match format subject to change based on participant details

11:30 **Part 2: Intermediate, Advanced, and Pro Players Check-In**

12:00 Part 1: Newbie and Beginner Awards Ceremony and Photo Session

12:15 Part2: Rules Explanation

12:30 Part 2: Sister City Challenge - **Intermediate, Advanced, and Pro Tournament Begins**

*Round-robin format, skill-based, individual competition

*Match format subject to change based on participant details

17:00 Part 2: Intermediate, Advanced, and Pro Awards Ceremony and Photo Session

18:00 Closing

● Tournament Format:

- Newbie, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, and Pro Category Round Robin Tournaments
- Intercity Exchange Matches
- Newbies participate in game formats with coaches rather than tournaments

● Match Format: This event aims to foster player exchanges between sister cities. It will be held in a round-robin format, grouped by skill level, with an 11-point (gold, silver, and bronze medals determined by wins/losses and point differential). Participants will be paired with different partners each time, so individuals may join alone. Depending on registration numbers, we may consider gender-specific or mixed teams. Please note that the match format may change after registration.

● Match Flow : Your match order and court assignments will be given to you at check-in. Your partner for each match will have the same color (red or blue) and number. After the match, please record the results on the score sheet provided on the court and bring it to headquarters.

● Ball used : Franklin X40

● Paddle : Participants must have a UPA or USAPA approved paddle

● Skill Level :
1. Pro 4.5+
2. Intermediate&Advanced 3.5~4.5
*Depending on the number of applicants, the intermediate&advanced may be divided into two levels.
3. Beginner 3.0~3.5
4. Newbie 2.5~

● Medals : Gold, Silver, and Bronze
(based on win-loss record and point differential)

● Prizes : ZIPAIR round-trip economy for 4 (Honolulu-Tokyo)
Dinner voucher at Hy's Steakhouse worth \$350 × 2 couples
Joola paddles (including Pro IV models)
Sandbar cruise for 2 people
Outrigger Hotels & Resorts complimentary stay voucher x2, etc.

● Judging : Mostly self-judged

● If the ball touches the ceiling :
It counts as a fault (point lost) for the player (team) who hit the ball.

- **Parking :** Paid (\$5 per entry; fee applies again for re-entry)

- **Facility and Court Etiquette :**
 - Please wear non-marking indoor court shoes.
 - Please do not jump over court barriers.
 - If a ball rolls onto your court, please immediately stop play and replay the point to avoid injury.
 - Please handle all venue facilities and seating areas with care.

- **Water Stations :** Water stations are available inside the venue, so bringing a water bottle is recommended. They are located next to the restrooms on both the first and second floors.

- **Food :** At the venue, we are offering Saimin, a local noodle dish originating in Hawaii, provided by the tournament's main sponsor, Sun Noodle, for \$5. We encourage you to give it a try! Bringing your own food and drinks is allowed, but please be mindful not to soil the venue's facilities.

- **Venue Facilities :**

Air conditioning, restrooms, water stations, attached café, 2 massage chairs (paid).

Seating and tables are limited.

- **Bringing Your Own Chair :**

Seating at the tournament venue is limited. If you have a folding chair, such as a camping chair, please bring it with you.

- **Facilities Near the Venue :**

There are cafés, bento shops, bakeries, and other establishments near the venue.

- **Valuables :** We cannot store personal belongings, so please manage your valuables yourself.

● Purpose of the Tournament

The State of Hawaii and the City of Honolulu maintain sister-city and friendship-city relationships with 34 cities across Japan. As interest grows in strengthening these connections even further, we have organized a new exchange event centered around pickleball—an increasingly popular sport in Japan.

We are pleased to announce that the City of Honolulu has officially approved the launch of this event as the “1st Honolulu Mayor’s Cup.”



- Organizers : Pickleball Japan Federation (PJF)
Japan Hawaii Pickleball Association (JHPA)

- Sponsors : Pickles at Forté
SUN NOODLE
ZIPAIR
Hawaiian Host Group
JOOLA JAPAN
ESPN HONOLULU
Outrigger Hotels Hawaii
Roberts Hawaii
Ito-En Hawaii
Elders
Urgent Care Clinic of Waikiki
G. LION HAWAII (Hy’s Steak House)
CAPTAIN BRUCE (Heaven on the Sea Sandbar Cruise)

- Website : <https://www.pickleball-japan.org/honolulu>
- Tournament inquiries: customer@pickleball-japan.org