

TRIPLE TEAM PB LEAGUE - ILLINOIS RULES 2026

The Triple Team Illinois PB League will follow the National Triple Team League Rules and Guidelines, with the exceptions and additions below. The National Triple Team League Rules can be found [HERE](#)

Matches

1. Even if a match starts late, it will still finish at the scheduled time.
2. Warm up courts are not guaranteed and visiting captains should check with the host club before each match if there will be court availability to warm up.
3. There is a 5-7 minute warmup at the beginning of the first round, and no warmup for the second and third rounds. All necessary off-court situations should be attended to prior to the warmup so play can start immediately after the warmup ends.
4. Scores must be recorded immediately after each game to reduce confusion and incorrect scoring.
5. All facilities must have an easy to read clock or timer to serve as the official match clock. This clock is used for determining match end time and late arrival penalties.
6. All cell phones should be turned off during play. If a cell phone goes off during a point, that team loses the point. If it goes off between points, there is no penalty but it should be turned off immediately.
7. When only 5 minutes of the 2 hours allocated to match play remain, if one team is ahead in the game (by 1 or 2 points) the game is complete and that team wins the game. If the game is tied, play one more point (following the current serving rotation) to determine the winner of the game.
8. Players are allowed a bathroom break between games if necessary but they should not leave the court during a game.
9. Match fees are to be billed by the home club. Match fees will be set at a cost of **\$20 per player per match played**. All Home and Away team players will pay the match fee for each match in which they are rostered and paid prior to the match start time at club check in.

Ratings (Taken from the Triple Team National Rules)

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY BASED ON RATINGS: Team rosters must consist of players with skills that are consistent with the flight skill level in which their team is playing. Captains oversee maintaining the “skill integrity” of their team.

Players competing in each division must have a MAXIMUM rating of the following:

- 3.0 Division → 3.49
- 3.5 Division → 3.99
- 4.0 Division → 4.49
- 4.5 Division → 4.99

For the 2026 competition year, there is no MINIMUM rating a player must have to roster on a team, although it is highly recommended that players be no more than 0.5 lower than the listed rating for that division of play.

APPROVED RATING SYSTEM FOR PLAY:

1. While multiple rating systems exist in the pickleball world, the 2026 Official Ratings Partner for Triple Team is DUPR.

- a) All players competing in their local league must have a DUPR account.
- b) All players competing in their local league will compete under the rating listed for their DUPR on the day they registered for local play.
- c) All results from local play and the National Championships will be uploaded to DUPR.
- d) If a player has 10 or less matches in DUPR, their DUPR rating will not be used for the local league qualifying season. The player will enter the agreed upon rating as a “SELF RATE” at the level they intend to play. (1) 3.0 Self-rate Players will enter 3.0 on their league registration sheet.
- e) Any results garnered during the local league season or other results will NOT impact the player’s “division eligibility” for that season.

Rescheduling Matches & Team Defaults

1. **Match Rescheduling Requests.** A request to reschedule must be made as early as possible. Rescheduled matches should be played at the original home team’s club unless otherwise agreed upon by both clubs. Home clubs are not obligated to play away if there is no court time to reschedule. In this case, the requesting team will have to forfeit. If it is too late to request a reschedule, you must attempt to field a team for the original match time.
2. **Team Defaults & Cancellation Policy.** Teams are expected to make every effort to field a complete lineup for scheduled matches.
 - A minimum of **48 hours’ notice** is required if a team is unable to fulfill a scheduled match.
 - If the **visiting team** cancels or defaults with less than 48 hours’ notice, that club will be responsible for reimbursing the home club for any court fees incurred.
 - In the event your team can not field at least 2 courts (4 players), that match will be recorded as a forfeit.
 - Forfeited matches will be scored **11-0 for all games (36-0 match points)**.
 - Forfeited matches and games will **NOT** be scored in any official rating system such as DUPR.

Teams are encouraged to communicate roster challenges as soon as possible to allow for alternate arrangements when feasible.

On-Court Disputes

1. The Triple Team Illinois PB League is self-officiated on the honor system.
2. Players should settle on-court disputes among themselves.
3. If there is a score dispute that can't be resolved, go back to the last score that both teams agree upon.

Match Format

MATCH PLAY

A. SINGLE GENDER & COMBO FORMAT. All team matches will be three (3) rounds of three (3) lines, two (2) games each. 3 courts required for 2 hours.

1. Round Robin (as follows)

a) Round 1:

- (1) Home Team 1 plays Visiting Team 1
- (2) Home Team 2 plays Visiting Team 2
- (3) Home Team 3 plays Visiting Team 3

b) Round 2:

- (1) Home Team 1 plays Visiting Team 2
- (2) Home Team 2 plays Visiting Team 3
- (3) Home Team 3 plays Visiting Team 1

c) Round 3:

- (1) Home Team 1 plays Visiting Team 3
- (2) Home Team 2 plays Visiting Team 1
- (3) Home Team 3 plays Visiting Team 2

2. Home teams **STAY** on the same courts for each round of play. Visiting teams **SWITCH** courts after each round.

Miscellaneous

1. Players may be added after the season begins but must be listed on the team roster on the MatchTime website prior to playing in a match.
2. Players may only be rostered as a player at one club and may only be a full time player on one team. If a player subs up in a higher division for more than 3 times, they will be moved up to the higher level permanently.

3. Substitute players not rostered in a lower division may play up to 2 matches on any one team. After 2 matches on any one team, they will be rostered to that team permanently
4. Scores must be reported on the MatchTime website no later than the Monday after a team's match. The home team Club Coordinator is responsible for reporting the match score.
5. Match fees are to be billed by the home club. Match fees will be set at a cost of \$20 per player per match played. All Home and Away team players will pay the match fee for each match in which they are rostered and paid prior to the match start time or at club check in.
6. For the Winter 2026 season, the team in first place for each division at conclusion of the league season will be declared winners and will have the opportunity to advance to the Triple Team National Championships.
7. A minimum of 4 teams with each team playing a minimum of 6 matches is required in any one division for qualification to advance to the Triple Team National Championships.