

San Miguel de Allende Pickleball Club

Code of Conduct

The mission of the San Miguel Pickleball Club (hereinafter “Club”) is to promote and grow the game of Pickleball by cultivating a fun, healthy, respectful, recreational, and social playing environment for all skill levels.

The Club adopts the following guiding principles:

- To create a safe and welcoming environment for recreational, organized, and competitive play for all skill levels;
- To promote fellowship, respect, and good sportsmanship amongst Club Members and the Community;
- To provide training, emphasizing player enjoyment and individual responsibility for skills improvement;
- To encourage all Club Members to “give back” by volunteering for Club activities.

To satisfy its mission, it is expected that each Club Member (Member) shall at all times comport themselves in good behavior, with respect for themselves and fellow Members, the Community, and in compliance with the guiding principles.

This Code of Conduct (Code) for Members conforms to and incorporates the Código de Conducta de la Comisión de Deportes del Estado de Guanajuato, as adopted by the Unidad Deportiva of San Miguel de Allende. In the unlikely event that a Member behaves in a manner which is determined to be in violation of this Code, disciplinary action will be used to restore good behavior and camaraderie amongst Members.

The following are examples of unacceptable conduct which may cause a complaint to be filed:

- Language or conduct that threatens, harasses, intimidates, or interferes with the peaceful enjoyment of Pickleball play by others. This includes, but is not limited to, uttering profanities directed at another person and negative or disrespectful comments made privately, publicly, or on social media forums.
- Actions which may be dangerous or may create a health or safety risk, including throwing a paddle, ball, or other object with intent.
- Destruction of property or other unlawful conduct.
- Discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, or age.

- Interfering with, jeering at, or criticizing persons during Pickleball play. This includes unsolicited advice and criticism on or off the court. Encouragement and cheering in recognition of good play is acceptable.
- Disturbances of the peace, including but not limited to, the filing or reporting of unjustified or frivolous complaints.
- Violations of the Código de Conducta de la Comisión de Deportes del Estado de Guanajuato, as adopted by the Unidad Deportiva, including smoking, public urination, public intoxication and/or unlawful drug use, and/or having pets on Deportiva property.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The following disciplinary actions are based on the examples of unacceptable conduct listed above. The Board may identify additional conduct violations that it determines to be more serious than others and may accelerate the actions described below. For example, a physical altercation may result in immediate dismissal from the Club.

Additionally, because Board members are held to a higher standard as representatives of the Club to its Members and to the community generally, conduct violations by Board members may result in resignation of or removal from the Board position despite the Board member not having committed a prior conduct violation.

In all cases of disciplinary action, if the member refuses to sign the disciplinary letter, continues to play or show up at the courts after a suspension has been levied, or otherwise refuses to acknowledge the Board's authority to administer this Code of Conduct on behalf of the Club, the review committee will work with the City Liaison from the Club to elevate the matter to Unidad Deportiva.

FIRST OFFENSE

The complaint shall be memorialized and a copy archived by the Board. A disciplinary letter shall be provided to the offending Member along with a request that the Member sign a copy of the same in acknowledgment of receipt. The signed copy of the disciplinary letter shall be associated with the complaint and archived. The offending Member shall be suspended from organized play for two weeks. If the offending Member refuses to sign the disciplinary letter, the attending Board member will indicate this on the letter, and the Board member and a witness will sign the letter, which will be archived with a copy of the complaint.

SECOND OFFENSE

The complaint shall be memorialized and a copy archived by the Board. A disciplinary letter shall be provided to the offending Member along with a request that the Member sign a copy of the same in acknowledgment of receipt. The signed copy of the disciplinary letter shall be associated with the complaint and archived. The offending Member shall be suspended from organized play for one month, and Unidad Deportiva shall be informed of the Member's conduct. If the offending Member refuses to sign the disciplinary letter, the attending Board member will indicate this on the letter, and the Board member and a witness will sign the letter, which will be archived with a copy of the complaint.

THIRD OFFENSE

The complaint shall be memorialized and a copy archived by the Board. A disciplinary letter shall be provided to the offending Member along with a request that the Member sign a copy of the same in acknowledgment of receipt. The signed copy of the disciplinary letter shall be associated with the complaint and archived. The offending Member shall be ejected from the Club, and the action reported to Unidad Deportiva for any action the facility deems appropriate. If the offending Member refuses to sign the disciplinary letter, the attending Board member will indicate this on the letter, and the Board member and a witness will sign the letter, which will be archived with a copy of the complaint.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

If either the offending Member or the Member who initiated the complaint disagrees with the decision of the Review Committee, they can request an appeal. To appeal a decision of the Review Committee, the appealing Member must provide a written statement to the Vice President outlining the reasons for the appeal within five (5) days of receiving the written decision.

After receipt of the appeal request, the Vice President shall notify the full Board. The President shall review the Review Committee's decision, and if warranted, can choose to refer the matter to the full Board for review. The Board may decide to overturn the decision of the Review Committee, or to let that decision stand.

If the President decides not to refer the matter to the full Board, the decision of the Review Committee shall stand.

In all cases, the Member appealing the matter will be informed of the result in writing, but the matter shall not be discussed outside the Board in respect of the Member who initiated the complaint, and the Member whose conduct caused the complaint to be initiated.