Dear Pickleball Players,

We are looking forward to a fantastic time of competition the weekend of August 5-7 at the Chattanooga Convention Center (1 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37402).

We have 480 players registered!

Please read on for important information:

START TIMES

To view start times per age group please click this link. Documents are posted at the top: <u>http://www.tnseniorolympics.com/pickleball</u>

BRACKETS

Brackets, pools, formats, player names and divisions will be posted on **Global Pickleball Network**.

Kelly Price is doing an amazing job to take the time to divide the multitude of players out by age group and skill level and load all of this information.

It takes hours and we will send an e-mail and link out again when it is ready for viewing, approximately a week out from the tournament.

Please note that the skill breakdowns will be different for each age group, dependent on numbers within each skill division.

In addition, please know that in some large age groups with a great number of 2.0-3.0 players, we have created a 4th division. This will allow a great time of competition amongst this group but please know that division 4 will NOT be eligible to qualify on to Nationals scheduled for next July in Pittsburgh. However, medals will be awarded to all divisions.

Only the top four places (1st-4th) in each age group advance to Nationals- each age group is allowed three skill divisions.

Division three at Nationals is comprised of all players 3.5 and below. We want to make it abundantly clear that if you are in an age group at our state competition with 3 divisions and qualify in division 3, but are at a skill level lower than 3.5 you will still be placed with the 3.5's at Nationals if you choose to register.

HOTELS/PARKING

If you are still needing to book a hotel, the Downtown Marriott (connected to the convention center) has updated their cutoff date to July 28. Click our website to access the link:

http://www.tnseniorolympics.com/pickleball

If staying in a downtown hotel, you may ride the electric shuttle for free. Please click this link to review the route:

https://www.gocarta.org/routes-schedules/downtown-shuttle-route/

If coming in from outside the area, you may park at the Convention Center garage. Follow signs and monitors into the Convention Center.

Current parking rates in that garage are as follows:

0-1 Hours\$3.001-3 Hours\$5.003-5 Hours\$7.005-8 Hours\$10.008+ Hours\$15.00

Metered parking is also available on the street (free on Sunday) as well as other parking lots nearby. All have various costs. For those not parking at the garage, the best entrance to enter the Convention Center will be at Carter Street (look for TSO signs), although any door should work.

FOOD/CONCESSIONS

Players are NOT allowed to bring food into the venue, per Chattanooga Convention Center rules. **Concessions will be available.**

Water will be provided and touchless water refill stations will be available.

VOLUNTEERS

We are so fortunate to be having teams of volunteers from BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee and the Chattanooga Family Development Department coming!

These volunteers will be flipping scores only. At various times, we may not have enough volunteers so please plan on keeping your own score during those spans.

Please call your score clearly when serving so that the scorekeeper can hear.

Players will call their own lines.

Scorekeepers will be running scores and cards back to scoring tables. Players may not approach these tables.

PLAYER CHECK-IN

Check-in will be available at the Convention Center one hour before your group starts.

Please bring proof of age. In addition, if you did not participate in a June state finals event, you will receive a TSO dri-fit shirt. If you have already received a shirt, it will help the table desk if you state that when arriving.

Players will then check-in at their appropriate tournament desk for court assignments.

OPEN PLAY

The courts (27 total) will remain extremely busy throughout the tournament, however open play will be allowed after singles is finished on Friday: Friday 8/5 4:00 pm- 6:30 pm.

This will be first come, first serve. If teams are waiting, we ask that after a game is complete, both teams rotate off to allow others to play. Teams can then get back in line.

For questions, please write <u>christine@tnseniorolympics.com</u> or <u>kelly@tnseniorolympics.com</u> or leave a message at 615-200-8760.

We are so excited about your participation! See you in Chattanooga.

TSO Staff

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