Dear Pickleball Players,

We are looking forward to a fantastic time of competition August 6-10, at the Chattanooga Convention Center (1 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37402).

We have 655 players registered!

Thank you in advance for reading this lengthy email, full of important information.

## **START TIMES and PLAYER REPORTS**

To view start times and player reports broken down by age group and skill division please click this link. Documents are posted at the top:

## TSO Pickleball Page

Please note that the most up-to date list of players may be accessed through the participants list posted on the page above. Many of our reports are dated and we cannot repost a report after every change is made.

## **BRACKETS/FORMAT**

Detailed brackets broken into divisions will be posted on **Global Pickleball Network** starting **ONE WEEK before each age group/division plays** . To view: <u>TSO Global Pickleball</u> Network

You will be asked to create an account if you do not have one.

\*PLEASE TAKE NOTE, THE INDIVIDUAL RATINGS ON GLOBAL NETWORK ARE NOT WHAT WE USE- THEY ARE INACCURATE. WE USED THE RATING THAT YOU SUBMITTED WHEN REGISTERING\*

5 Teams and less will be Round Robin format.

6 or more Teams will be Double Elimination.

As over 150 brackets have been prepared, **switching teams into other divisions will not be allowed.** 

All games are win by 2. Games to 11 will be capped at 15. Games to 15 will be capped at 19.

### **BALL**

Tournament ball: Yellow Indoor Onix Fuse.

\*Players Must Not Wear Yellow or Orange color attire.

### PLAYER CHECK-IN

**Tournament check-in** will be held **INSIDE** the convention center exhibit hall (A/B/C/D) at **tournament desks**. Signs will be posted as to age and skill group tournament desk assignments. Please check-in 30 minutes prior to play.

All players will check-in each day of play at tournament desks for court assignments and other information.

Shirt and ID check-in will be available at the convention center outside of halls A/B/C/D from 7am to 2pm each day (exception- Wednesday 8/6 starting at 1:00 pm and Sunday 8/10 check-in will end at 10:00 am ). As lines may be long, please know that you can check-in at any time including after play. This is a one-time stop during your stay.

Please bring proof of age.

June athletes- those of you who participated in Franklin in June may skip the initial shirt check-in outside the hall and go straight to your tournament desk. However, June athletes are welcome to come purchase a pickleball shirt for \$10 to add to the state finals shirt you received in June.

### **HOTELS/PARKING**

If you are still in need of a hotel, please check this link although many cut-off dates have passed: <u>Hotel Info</u>.

If staying in a downtown hotel, you may ride the electric shuttle for free. Please click this

#### link to review the route:

### Hotel Shuttle Route

If coming in from outside the area, you may park at the Chattanooga Convention Center garage. The parking garage can be accessed from Carter Street or Chestnut Street. After parking, follow signs and monitors into the Convention Center. We will be playing in Halls A/B/C/D.

Current parking rates in that garage are as follows:

0-1 Hours \$3.00 1-3 Hours \$6.00 3-5 Hours \$8.00 5-8 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

As concession sales have been very low in the past since most players are concentrating on competition, concessions will NOT be offered. The TSO is responsible for any shortages and as a non-profit we are not in a position to cover this. In addition, the \$2500 cost of renting and filling water coolers is beyond our reach, so please bring a water bottle. Water fountains and touchless water refill stations are available.

Players are **NOT** allowed to bring meals or coolers into the venue, per Chattanooga Convention Center rules.

Please click this link for food options close to the convention center and know that you can ride the escaltor up into the hotel to eat as well. The link also contains a Chattanooga special events calendar. Have fun while in Chattanooga!

Restaurant and Other Info

#### SCOREKEEPING AND RULES ADVISORS

We are so fortunate that volunteers from BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee and others will be coming to help with medals, scorecard running, and various tasks.

However, for simplicity we will not be providing scorekeepers for all 36 courts. Scorekeeping will be the responsibility of players.

Please call your score clearly when serving so that your opponents can hear. Players will call their own lines.

We are excited to announce that again we will have Marne Smith, a rules advisor, on hand during the competition so that any rule questions that might arise can be handled.

As with all TSO sports, protests are allowed for rule interpretation issues, not judgment calls. Forms and instructions (including a protest fee) will be available if needed.

## **OPEN PLAY**

The courts (36 total) will remain extremely busy throughout the tournament, however open play will be allowed at the end of each day from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Wednesday, 8/6; Thursday 8/7; Friday 8/8 and Saturday, 8/9 6:00 pm-8:00 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.

Please also know that during tournament play although you might see open courts, it is not permissible to jump on to warm-up or play extra games. This makes it confusing for the tournament staff to know which courts are free.

## SAFE TESTING

Are you ready to take your pickleball performance to the next level? This year we are excited to offer Sustained Athlete Fitness Exams (SAFE) tailored for athletes ages 50 and up. These quick, free, evidence-based screenings evaluate key indicators like balance, grip strength, joint mobility and muscular performance—helping you stay in the game longer, stronger, and safer.

What you need to know:

- We are licensed physical therapy volunteers
- We are researching older athletes
- We help optimize sports performance

Interested in signing up? Register for a spot on Wednesday, 8/6 from 1pm-4:30pm or Thursday, 8/7 from 8am- 12:30pm.

Sign-up here: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CA4AF2AAAFFC61-57589120-sustained">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CA4AF2AAAFFC61-57589120-sustained</a>. Walk-ins also welcome.

Whether you are aiming for gold or just love the game, knowing your fitness baseline can help prevent injury, improve play, and guide your training. Let's keep you moving well—on and off the court!

#### **SPECTATORS**

Spectators are welcome, free of charge. Chairs will outline the perimeter of the outside courts to be used for viewing. You may also bring your own chair.

## 2027 NATIONAL QUALIFYING INFO

Please be aware that the qualifying cycle for the 2027 Nationals begins this fall. Many of our sports (including pickleball) will require participation in 2025 or winter 2026 districts in order to move on to the 2026 state finals. The 2026 state finals are the official qualifier for the 2027 Nationals.

Check district dates and make the most of this journey toward health and wellness.

Find your district information here.

THE ROAD TO TULSA, OK 2025 DISTRICTS. 2026 STATE. 2027 NATIONALS

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

TSO Staff Christine Dewbre Kelly Price

# Traci Meador

Questions?

christine@tnseniorolympics.com kelly@tnseniorolympics.com

615-200-8760 (leave a message)