

Court Behavior by Terry Holmquist

The joy of pickleball is the fun and laughter that it generates but sometimes some behaviors can cause angst for others.

Scoring truly is the hardest part of the game, is that because we are an “elderly on the verge of dementia” community or is it just darn hard? In reality we all have to accept that sometimes we honestly simply forget things whether it is who served, the score, to move our feet, our water bottles, balls, rackets, jackets and lowering the umbrellas. We are all part of a team and want to protect our courts so if one of us has forgotten something, simply do it for them with a little smile to yourself knowing that the next person may be doing the same for you.

If you find someones' watch is running a little fast and they happen to be warming up a few minutes before nine, no reason to chastise them, if someone left trash behind throw it away, if someone is using the wrong ball, say something nicely.

We all play at different levels and do the best we can. We like to win but for some it really is about exercise and having fun. We serve as our own referees and it's up to the opponent to call “in or out” not the observers on the sidelines. We have a very good coach on hand and if someone wants lessons they will ask for help. Just like in golf, don't offer advice unless asked.

Remember to appreciate what we have and don't let the wind get in the way of fun.