

St. Charles Golden Games Table Tennis Rules

Revised November 2024

Competition Divisions are: Women's Singles, Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Men's Singles and Men's Doubles in the following age brackets: 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90-94, 95+

Schedule of matches will be posted in brochures, on-line and at the event.

It is recommended that players arrive 15 - 30 minutes before their match time to register and practice. Players will be defaulted if they have not signed in within 10 minutes after the starting time for their match.

Format:

1. All table tennis matches will be conducted in accordance with the USA Table Tennis rules. Any circumstances not covered in these rules will be ruled upon by the Event Coordinator.
2. The tournament is a single elimination event.
3. A game shall be won by the player scoring 11 points unless both players score 10 points, when the game shall be won by the first player subsequently gaining a lead of 2 points
Match is best 3 out of 5 games.

Rules and Play:

1. Paddles will be available. Players are encouraged to use their own paddles. They must have rubber on each side. No wood or sandpaper surfaces are allowed.
2. Players should not wear white or light-colored clothing. Clothing preferred should be dark, solid colors.
3. The choice of ends and the right to serve or receive first in a match shall be decided by a coin toss and the winner may choose to serve or receive first or start at a particular end. After each 2 points have been scored, the receiving player shall become the serving player and so on until the end of the game; unless both players score 10 points. If both players score 10 points, the sequence of serving and receiving shall be the same but each player shall serve only 1 point in turn.
4. The player serving first in a game shall receive first in the next game of the match. The player starting at one end in a game shall start at the other end in the next game of the match and in the last possible game of a match the players shall change ends when one player scores 5 points.
5. Doubles: The server must serve cross court. Failure to do so is loss of point. The server shall first make a service, the receiver shall then make a return, the partner of the server shall then make a return, the partner of the receiver shall then make a return and thereafter each player in turn in that sequence shall make a return.
At each change of service, the previous receiver shall become the server and the partner of the previous server shall become the receiver.

Service:

The server will state the score before each serve. The ball shall be placed in the palm of the free hand, which must be open and flat, with the fingers together and the thumb free. The free hand (serving hand) must remain above and behind the end of the table. Service shall begin by the server tossing the ball vertically upwards without spinning the ball. As the ball descends from the height of the toss, it is struck by the server so that the ball bounces once in the server's court, goes over the net and bounces in the receiver's court.

Tie Breakers will be determined by: 1) Head-to-head competition 2) Most games won 3) Most Points scored.

Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places at the end of each age bracket of competition.

