

# Hardin Simmons University University Recreation Department

## **Table Tennis Rules**

### The Game

1. The current ITTF Rules will govern play except where modified herein.
2. Play date will be established by the University Recreation Department. All games will be played in the Moody Center Basement.

### Equipment

1. Participants are encouraged to provide their own equipment; however, there are balls and paddles for checkout from the University Recreation Department.

### Game Rules

1. A match shall consist of the best of 3 games or the best of 5 games.
2. A game shall be won by the player or pair first scoring 21 points unless both players or pairs score 20 points, when the game shall be won by the player or pair first scoring subsequently 2 points more than the opposing player or pair.
3. The right to choose the initial order of serving, receiving and ends shall be decided by lot and the winner may choose to serve or to receive first or to start at a particular end.
4. When one player or pair has chosen to serve or to receive first or to start at a particular end, the other player or pair shall have the other choice.
5. After each 5 points have been scored the receiving player or pair shall become the serving player or pair and so on until the end of the game, unless both players or pairs have scored 20 points when the sequences of serving and receiving shall be the same but each player shall serve for only 1 point in turn.
6. In each game of a doubles match, the pair having the right to serve first shall choose which of them will do so and in the first game of a match the

- receiving pair shall decide which of them will receive first; in subsequent games of the match, the first server having been chosen, the first receiver shall be the player who served to him in the preceding game.
7. In doubles, at each change of service the previous receiver shall become the server and the partner of the previous server shall become the receiver.
  8. The player or pair serving first in a game shall receive first in the next game of the match and in the last possible game of a doubles match the pair due to receive next shall change their order of receiving when first either pair scores 10 points.
  9. The player or pair 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 or pairs shall change ends when first either player or pair scores 10 points.
  10. As the ball is falling the server shall strike it so that it touches first his court and then, after passing over or around the net assembly, touches directly the receiver's court; in doubles, the ball shall touch successively the right half court of server and receiver.
  11. The ball, having been served or returned, shall be struck so that it passes over or around the net assembly and touches the opponent's court, either directly or after touching the net assembly.
  12. The rally shall be a let:
    - A. if in service the ball, in passing over the net assembly, touches it, provided the service is otherwise good or the ball is obstructed by the receiver or his partner;
    - B. if the service is delivered when the receiving player or pair is not ready, provided that neither the receiver nor his partner attempts to strike the ball;
    - C. if failure to make a good service or a good return or otherwise to comply with the Laws is due to a disturbance outside the control of the player;

### Protests

1. If during the competition a disagreement arises regarding the interpretation of a rule or eligibility, the decision of the Coordinator for University Recreation

will be final.

2. The Coordinator for University Recreation reserves the right to alter or change any of the above rules with the best interest of all concerned.

