

East Valley Region East Valley Interclub League



EVIL Frequently Asked Questions:

What is EVIL? - EVIL stands for the **East Valley Interclub League**. It is a pickleball league for people 50+ years old. The league consists of pickleball teams from clubs around the Phoenix East Valley who enjoy participating in a competitive yet social environment. Participating teams have the opportunity to interact and meet new players at various matches throughout the East Valley. Currently there is a Men's Doubles League, Women's Doubles League, and a Mixed Doubles League. EVIL is a part of the Arizona Pickleball Players League (APPL) East Valley Region.

What is APPL? - APPL stands for the Arizona Pickleball Players League. It is a statewide team-based pickleball league. APPL is a nonprofit corporation led by a group of volunteers with years of experience in team-based league pickleball who want to make that experience available to players throughout Arizona.

EVIL has been around since 2012. Why has it become a part of APPL? - As EVIL has grown every year, it has set a great example of the need for a structured team based competitive pickleball league. Being a part of APPL allows EVIL to facilitate continued growth through the use of more standardized administrative processes and support, web-based communication tools, and marketing initiatives.

What is the match format? - EVIL matches use the APPL format which consists of 3 doubles teams playing on match day. Doubles teams play 2 games to 11 against each of their opponents' doubles teams. Therefore, 3 rounds of 2 games each are played on match day.

What levels of play are there? - EVIL will continue to have men's, women's, and mixed divisions with teams in 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0 flight levels. A 2.5 flight skill level will be offered in Season 2022.

How much does it cost? - See the website for current fee information. On a per player basis the cost PER SEASON will continue to be less than the cost to play in one USAP sanctioned tournament. As part of the East Valley Region, teams choosing to use the City of Phoenix's Pecos Park courts as their home courts would pay an additional fee per team, per season to the city to obtain league play day and time slots for 3 courts for their home matches.

How often would my team play? - That will vary depending on the number of teams participating in the various skill groups. The target is that there would be 8 to 12 matches per season.

Where would I play? - As part of the East Valley Region, EVIL teams will play either at city courts obtained through a city (for example city of Phoenix Pecos Park courts) or club courts obtained through a club throughout the East Valley depending on the team's home court selections. Visiting teams will travel to their opponent's home courts to play their matches.

How do I get on a team? - This is an interclub 50 and over league. If your pickleball club is not a part of EVIL you should talk to your club's officials to become one. Teams participating in EVIL must contain at least 50% club members. Since clubs may include up to 50% of their rosters from non-club players, you may want to utilize the APPL website by selecting "Players Seeking a Team," so captains know of your desire to play.

Can I form my own team? How do I do that? - Yes, you can. There is information on how to form and register your own team on the APPL East Valley Region website. Talk to your club officials about forming a team that you would captain in the East Valley Interclub League.

Do I have to be a member of a club to participate? Since this is an interclub league, teams must be from specific pickleball clubs. Teams may consist of players that are not members of the club if the club permits but the total non-club players on the team roster must not exceed 50%. You do not need to be a member of USAP.

Is there an age requirement? - The EVIL age requirement is 50 and over, and will be strictly enforced. To qualify, players must be or turn 50 years of age during the year the league starts.

When does the next season start? - Winter League play, which is the main EVIL league, typically commences during the first week of January.

Where can I get more information? - The APPL website is <https://www.arizonapickleballplayersleauge.org>. There you can find more detailed information and add yourself to the subscription list in order to receive future notifications.

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