

Official Rules 2027 SentryWorld Pickleball Open Tournament

1. **SPONSOR:** Sentry Services, L.L.C. ("Sponsor"), 1800 North Point Drive, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, 54481.
2. **OVERVIEW:** The 2027 SentryWorld Pickleball Open Tournament (the "Tournament") offers doubles pickleball competition in three divisions: Men's, Women's, and Mixed. The top teams in each division after qualifying events will be invited to the Championship Event which is currently scheduled to begin on March 12, 2027.
3. **IMPORTANT DATES:** The following dates are currently scheduled for the Tournament:

1st Qualification Event – February 5 – 7, 2027

2nd Qualification Event – February 26 - 28, 2027

Championship Event – March 12 – 14, 2027

Dates, sites, and start times are subject to change for any or no reason at the discretion of Sponsor; Sponsor will post any changes to the Tournament entry page.

4. **ELIGIBILITY:** The Tournament is open to all players who are legal residents physically residing in the 50 United States (including DC) who are 18 years of age or older and have reached the age of majority in their state of residence at the time of entry. The Tournament is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. Void where prohibited or restricted by law or regulations. Participation constitutes player's full and unconditional agreement to these rules and Sponsor's decisions, which are final and binding in all matters related to the Tournament. At the time of registration, players must register as a doubles team and the players comprising the team must each provide an established Dynamic Universal Pickleball Rating ("DUPR"). Sponsor may verify any player's DUPR and may decline or revoke an entry for a rating that cannot be verified or that materially misstates a player's skill.
5. **HOW TO ENTER:** To enter, visit the entry page <https://sentryworld.com/explore/music-live-events/sentryworld-pickleball-open> to register for a specific qualifying event. An entry fee of \$195 per player (\$390 per

team) is required. This fee includes breakfast, lunch and dinner, two drink tickets, a gift and prizes for the winning teams (as set forth in Section 9). Registration will remain open in each division until each qualifying event is full (maximum of 16 teams for each of the men's and women's divisions and 32 teams for the mixed division at each qualifying event). There is no additional registration fee for teams that qualify for the Championship Event. At the time of registration all players must sign a separate "Release of Liability/Assumption of Risk and Photo/Video Consent" before being allowed to play in the Tournament.

- 6. CANCELLATION/REFUNDS:** Cancellations must be made at least thirty (30) calendar days in advance of the first day of the Qualification Event for which the team is registered to receive a full refund. Cancellations made less than thirty (30) calendar days in advance of the first day of the Qualification Event are not eligible for a refund.
- 7. TOURNAMENT FORMAT:** The Tournament will consist of three doubles divisions: Men's, Women's, and Mixed. Mixed doubles teams must consist of one male player and one female player. Division registration will be evaluated thirty (30) calendar days in advance of the first day of each Qualification Event to determine, at Sponsor's sole discretion, whether any division needs to be cancelled due to low participation (less than 50% of the maximum capacity stated above in Section 5). At the same time, Sponsor will also evaluate, at Sponsor's sole discretion, whether a team entry needs to be canceled to ensure an appropriate number of teams to facilitate pool play within a division. If a division or team entry is cancelled by Sponsor, full refunds will be issued. If it becomes necessary to cancel one or more team entries, cancellations will be based on the order of team registration, starting and continuing in order from last in time to register within the subject division.

Men's and Women's Divisions:

a. Qualifying Events

At each Qualifying Event, teams will be placed, at Sponsor's sole discretion, in pools based on the number of registered teams and each team's average DUPR rating. Initial pool placement is at the discretion of Sponsor which will determine an even distribution of skill levels in each pool. Assuming a full field, there will be four (4) pools consisting of four (4) teams at each qualifying event. In round one of pool play, the top three teams from each pool will advance to the Gold Round. The last

place team in each pool will advance to the Silver Round and play in a round-robin format to determine the champion of the Silver Round.

Teams advancing to the Gold Round will be placed into three (3) pools of four (4) teams based on their record in pool play. The top two teams from the three pools, for a total of six (6) teams at each Qualifying Event, will advance to the Championship Event.

If there is not a full field and Sponsor determines that play will occur, Sponsor will, at its sole discretion, determine the pool play based on, among other factors, the number of teams in the field.

b. Championship Event

At the Championship Event, teams will be placed into three (3) pools of four (4) teams each based on their record in the previous Gold Round pool play. The top two teams from each pool will advance to the Gold Final Round, and the bottom two teams will advance to the Silver Final Round. In each Round, the six (6) teams will play each other in a round robin format to determine the winners of the Round with the winners of the Gold Final Round declared champions of the division.

Mixed Division:

a. Qualifying Events

Teams will be placed, at Sponsor's sole discretion, in pools based on the number of registered teams and each team's average DUPR rating. Initial pool placement is at the discretion of Sponsor which will determine an even distribution of skill levels in each pool. Assuming a full field, there will be eight (8) pools consisting of four (4) teams at each qualifying event. In round one of pool play, the top three teams from each pool will advance to the Gold Round. The last place team in each pool will advance to the Silver Round and play in a round-robin format to determine the champion of the Silver Round.

Teams advancing to the Gold Round will be placed into six (6) pools with four (4) teams based on their record in pool play. The top two teams from the six pools, for a total of twelve (12) teams at each qualifying event, will advance to the Championship Event.

If there is not a full field and Sponsor determines that play will occur, Sponsor will, at its sole discretion, determine the pool play based on, among other factors, the number of teams in the field.

b. Championship Event

At the Championship Event, teams will be placed into six (6) pools of four (4) teams each based on their record in the previous Gold Round pool play. The top two teams from each pool will advance to the Gold Round, and the bottom two teams will advance to the Silver Round. In each Round, the twelve (12) teams will be placed into three (3) pools of four (4) teams based on their record in Championship Event pool play. The top two teams in each pool will advance, a total of six (6) teams in each Round, to the Gold or Silver Final Round. In each Final Round the six teams will play each other in a round-robin format to determine the winners of the Round with the winners of the Gold Final Round declared champions of the division.

All pool placement after initial pool placement is based on the team's record in the preceding round. This will be done by placing teams in different pools according to their records in a serpentine placement process (e.g., first place in pool A, second place in pool B, third place in pool C, fourth place in pool C, fifth place in pool B, sixth place in pool A, etc.).

In the event of a tie at any stage of the tournament, tiebreakers will be used as necessary and in the following order: (1) head-to-head results; (2) point differential; (3) points allowed; and (4) coin toss.

If a team invited to the Championship Event declines its invitation or fails to appear, Sponsor may invite the next-highest placed eligible team from the same division or adjust pool sizes.

NOTE: The number of pools and/or teams in pools may change, at the discretion of Sponsor, depending on the number of registered teams in each division for each qualifying event. Regardless of total number, the Tournament will follow a pool-based structure using team average DUPR rating to determine initial pool placement, similar to the examples set forth above.

- 8. RULES FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY:** The Tournament will follow the USA Pickleball 2027 Official Rulebook (the "Rulebook"). Sponsor will designate a "Tournament Director" who will oversee Tournament play and who will be the final authority for on-court rule disputes. The Tournament ball will be the Franklin x40.

Each match will consist of the best of three (3) games to eleven (11) points. Winners must win by two points.

Substitutions will only be allowed in cases of injury or illness. Approval of a substitute will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Substitutes must have an established DUPR rating that is within the same DUPR rating category (e.g., Beginner: 2.00 – 2.99; Intermediate: 3.00 – 3.99; Advanced: 4.00 – 4.99; Professional: 5.00 – 8.00) or lower as the player being replaced.

- 9. PRIZES AND APPROXIMATE RETAIL VALUE (“ARV”):** The winning teams of the Gold Final Round for each division, per the Tournament format, will be entitled to Prizes as set forth in this section. Winners of Silver Final Round do not receive a Prize.

The Prizes for each division are contingent on the number of teams entering the Tournament and are established based upon the size of each division’s field at the start of the Tournament as follows on a per team basis:

Full Field

Men’s and Women’s Divisions – 1st - \$2,000; 2nd - \$1,000; 3rd - \$600.

Mixed Division – 1st - \$3,000; 2nd - \$1,800; 3rd - \$1,200; 4th – \$600; 5th - \$400; 6th - \$200.

Less Than Full But At Least Seventy-Five Percent (75%) Field Capacity

Men’s and Women’s Divisions – 1st - \$1,200; 2nd - \$600; 3rd - \$360.

Mixed Division – 1st - \$1,800; 2nd - \$1,100; 3rd - \$700; 4th – \$350; 5th - \$250; 6th - \$120.

Less Than Seventy-Five Percent (75%) But At Least Fifty Percent (50%) Field Capacity

Men’s and Women’s Divisions – 1st - \$800; 2nd - \$400; 3rd - \$240.

Mixed Division – 1st - \$1,200; 2nd - \$760; 3rd - \$500; 4th – \$260; 5th - \$160.

Prizes will be awarded as set forth above based on the final field capacity of each division at the start of the Tournament.

Winning a Prize is contingent upon fulfilling all requirements set forth in these Official Rules. If any winning team fails to abide by these Official Rules, they may be disqualified, at Sponsor’s sole discretion, and the Prize will be forfeited and awarded to an alternate winning team based on final standings in the respective division.

All taxes on Prizes are the sole responsibility of the winners. Where not prohibited, affidavit of eligibility (including Social Security number), prize acceptance form, tax

information, publicity release, mutually acceptable liability releases and other documentation and information may be required from participants and winners. Prize is not transferable and no substitution or cash equivalent is allowed, except in Sponsor's sole discretion. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a Prize of the same approximate retail value if the advertised Prize becomes unavailable for any reason. If the value of the Prize exceeds the applicable IRS 1099 income reporting threshold in effect, the winners' Social Security number or taxpayer identification number will be required to issue a Form 1099-MISC showing Prize ARV as income to the winners. A Prize consists only of items specifically listed as part of the prize, above. All costs and expenses not specified herein relating to the Prize are the sole responsibility of the winners.

10. PLAYER'S AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY OFFICIAL RULES: By entering, player agrees to be bound by these Official Rules and agrees that any dispute with regard to the conduct of the Tournament, rule interpretation, or the awarding of a Prize shall be submitted to Sponsor (or Tournament Director as it relates to on-court disputes), whose decision shall be binding and final. Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to modify, cancel, or suspend the Tournament, or to amend and interpret the Official Rules at any time, at its sole discretion and without prior individual notice, should any factor or situation interfere with the administration, security, or proper play of the Tournament as contemplated by these Official Rules.

11. CHOICE OF LAW: All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of player and Sponsor in connection with the Tournament shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with the laws of Wisconsin, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules or provisions of any other jurisdiction that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than those of Wisconsin.

12. SKILL-BASED TOURNAMENT. This is not a game of chance; winners are determined solely by athletic performance and skill under the stated competition format, not by chance. Sponsor: Sentry Services, L.L.C., 1800 North Point Drive, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, 54481.