# Elite Island Resorts



# ENGLISH PEN

POWERED BY AFF



PickleballENGLAND

6-10 AUGUST 2025

# OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Telford International Centre International Way, Telford, Shropshire, England, TF3 4JH

# Welcome to the 2025 English OPEN



### August 2025

Thank you for choosing to join us at this year's English OPEN. We're back at the Telford International Centre for the third time, and for many of you, it probably feels like a familiar tradition — almost like a mini holiday.

Last year's 7-day schedule proved tough on our volunteers and sponsors alike. This year, we've streamlined the event to 5 days, while extending play from 8am to 8pm. Matches will be scheduled in shifts, so very few people will need to be on site for the entire day.

When registration opened, we were amazed to receive over 1,400 entries in just four hours. Some events filled up immediately. With 2,348 players from 41 countries, we're proud to host our biggest tournament yet.

We know many of you are seasoned English OPEN attendees — and we hope you'll help welcome first-timers, show them the ropes, and make sure everyone has a great time. While competition is central to the event, enjoying the experience and making new connections matters just as much.

Thanks to our headline sponsors, Elite Island Resorts and the Antigua & Barbuda Tourist Authority, there's a true holiday vibe this year — so we hope you'll soak up the atmosphere both on and off the court.

We have a packed schedule, and we appreciate your help in keeping things running smoothly: please be on time for your matches and return scores promptly.

We're excited to have even more referees this year, including USAP officials Byron and Marsha Freso, and Ron Ponder — who has attended every English OPEN to date — along with many referees from the UK and across Europe.

This year, we welcome APP pro players and members of the Next Gen National Team, along with most of Team England. Don't miss the chance to watch them play — or even grab a quick autograph.

A big thank you to our sponsors, all featured in this programme. Many have booths on-site, and we encourage you to visit them. Each booth will stamp the passport in your programme — fill it up, and you'll be entered into a prize draw for an all-inclusive holiday for two in Antigua (just cover your flights).

We wish you all a competitive, friendly, and memorable tournament.

Karen, Chris, Frank, Trevor, Louise and Salli 2025 English OPEN Tournament Committee

**Sponsorships: James Chaudry & Karen Mitchell** 

**Graphic design: Salli Griffith** 

**Referee Co-ordination: Kelly Dawson** 

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Tip: Keep an eye on the scrolling screens to see if your game is ready to start early!

### **Tournament Schedule**

### **Wednesday 6th August**

8am-8pm

Men's+ Gender Doubles Day - 50+ - 70+ Women's Gender Doubles Day - 50+ - 70+

### **Thursday 7th August**

8am-8pm

Mixed Doubles Day - 50+ - 70+

Wheelchair Event

Para Event

Clinics and Play with a Pro at Telford Pickleball Centre

### Friday 8th August

8am-8pm

Singles Day

50+ starts at 8am

15+ starts at approximately noon

Seminars in the Ludlow Suite

### **Saturday 9th August**

8am-8pm

Men's+ Gender Doubles Day - 15+ - 35+

Women's Gender Doubles Day - 15+, 35+

### **Sunday 10th August**

8am-8pm

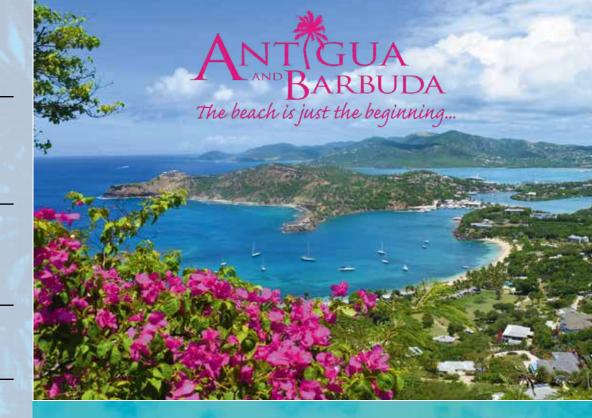
Mixed Doubles Day - 15+ - 35+

Men's+ Challenge

**Junior Events** 

(see event brackets page 6)





For more information: visitantiguabarbuda.com

### **Event Brackets**

### Wednesday 6th August

Men's+ Doubles

3.0 50+, 60+, 65+, 70+

3.5 50+, 60+, 65+

3.5+ 70+

4.0 50+, 60+

4.0+65+

4.5+ 60+

50+ SNR OPEN

### Women's Doubles

3.0 50+, 60+, 65+, 70+

3.5 50+, 60+, 65+

3.5+ 70+

4.0 50+

4.0+60+,65+

50+ SNR OPEN

### Thursday 7th August

**Mixed Doubles** 

3.0 50+, 60+, 65+, 70+

3.5 50+, 60+, 65+

3.5+ 70+

4.0 50+, 60+

4.0+65+

4.5+ 60+

50+ SNR OPEN

### Wheelchair Event Para Doubles

### Friday 8th August Men's+ Singles

3.0 15+. 35+

3.5 15+, 35+

4.0 15+. 35+

4.0 15+, 35<sup>-</sup> 4.5 15+

4.5+ 35+

**OPEN** 

### Women's Singles

3.0 15+, 35+

3.5 15+, 35+

4.0 15+, 35+

4.5 15+ merged with 4.5 35+

OPEN

### Men's+ Singles

3.0 50+, 60+, 65+, 70+ Skinny Singles 70+

3.5 50+, 60+, 65+

3.5+ 70+

4.0-4.5 50+

4.0 60+

4.0+65+

4.5+ 60+ **50+ SNR OPEN** 

### Women's Singles

3.0 50+, 60+, 65+

3.5 50+

3.5+ 60+ merged with 3.5 65+

4.0-4.5 50+

4.0 60+ merged with 4.0 65+

50+ SNR OPEN

### Saturday 9th August

Men's+ Doubles

3.0 15+, 35+

3.5 15+, 35+

4.0 15+, 35+

4.5 15+

4.5+ 35+

OPEN

#### Women's Doubles

3.0 15+, 35+

3.5 15+, 35+

4.0 15+, 35+

4.5 15+

4.5+ 35+

**OPEN** 

### Sunday 10th August Mixed Doubles

3.0 15+, 35+

3.5 15+, 35+

4.0 15+, 35+

4.5 15+

4.5+ 35+

### **OPEN**

### Men's+ Challenge

### Junior Event

Junior Event Group 1

Junior Event Group 2 Junior Event Group 3



ASSOCIATION OF PICKLEBALL PLAYERS

THE APP IS PROUD TO CONTINUE OUR SUPPORT OF THE ENGLISH OPEN.

WE WISH ALL 2025 COMPETITORS
THE BEST OF LUCK, AND MOST
IMPORTANTLY - HAVE FUN!

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE APP VISIT: THEAPP.GLOBAL

THE WORLD'S FIRST • THE WORLD'S BEST

### **OPEN Prize Events**

We have a prize money pool of £30,000 across all the OPEN events.

This means the prize money will be split as follows:

### Senior Men's+ Doubles and Senior Women's Doubles will have equal payout

Prize money listed is team level, to be shared:

Gold £1,000 Silver £600 Bronze £300

### **Senior Mixed Doubles**

Prize money listed is team level, to be shared:

Gold: £1,000 Silver: £600 Bronze: £300

### Senior Men's+ Singles & Women's Singles will have equal payout

Gold: £500 Silver: £300 Bronze: £100

### Open Men's+ Doubles and Women's Doubles will have equal payout

Prize money listed is team level, to be shared:

Gold: £2,400 Silver: £1,200 Bronze: £800 4th: £400

5-8th (losing QFs): £100

### **Open Mixed Doubles**

Prize money listed is team level, to be shared:

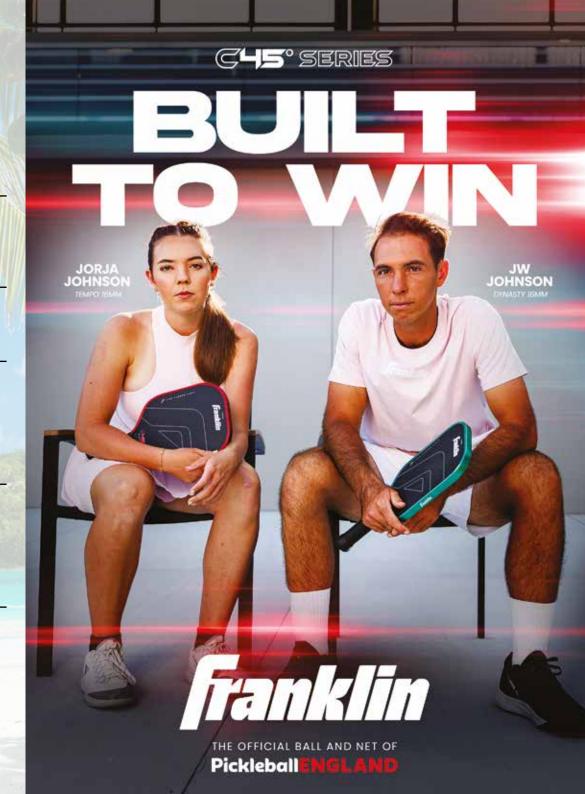
Gold: £2,400 Silver: £1,200 Bronze: £800 4th: £400

5-8th (losing QFs): £100

### Open Men's+ and Women's Singles will have equal payout

Gold: £1,200 Silver: £600 Bronze: £400 4th: £200

5-8th (losing QFs): £100



### **Rules**

The English OPEN follows USA Pickleball (USAP) rules, unless otherwise stated in this programme.

For example, we have set a maximum 2-minute warm-up time to help maximise court usage and keep the tournament running efficiently.

To support smooth scheduling, every player is responsible for knowing their assigned court for knockout rounds and ensuring they arrive at least 10 minutes before their scheduled match time.

Thank you for your cooperation and respect for fellow players and tournament volunteers.

### **Paddles**

All paddles used must be on the USAP Approved Paddle List as of 31 July 2025. Check that your paddle is on the list here: https://equipment.usapickleball.org/paddle-list/

It is your responsibility to verify that your paddle meets this requirement before the tournament.

If you are found using a non-approved paddle:

- It will be confiscated for the remainder of the tournament
- You will be provided with an approved paddle to use

For refereed matches and medal rounds, paddle inspections will be conducted by the assigned referee.

### **Paddle Testing**

For the first time at the English OPEN, we will have paddle testing equipment on-site.

- Open event players will be required to have their paddle tested.
- All other players may be subject to random paddle testing during the tournament.

Please cooperate promptly if you are called for paddle testing—it's part of ensuring a fair and level playing field for all.

### Referees

We will have a combination of USAP and EPF referees at the tournament. We thank the referees for taking the time to attend our tournament to elevate the player experience and to ensure fairness.

What to expect if your match is refereed

- The game will start promptly after the scoreboard has been taken
- A brief Paddle Check
- For doubles matches, the refe<mark>ree will ask which player is player 1 (for both teams) starting on the right hand/even side and ensure that they have a first server band</mark>

- The referee will ask one player to choose 1 or 2. If their call is correct, they will be asked if they want to choose: Serve, Receive, End or Defer
- The referee will call Short Serves, Non-Volley Zone and Service line faults including the centre line.
- The referee will ask you to re-serve if they think your serve did not meet all the requirements of a serve. If they are certain, it did not meet all the requirements, it is a fault.
- Players are responsible for line calls on their side of the court. If a player disagrees with a call, they can ask the referee if they saw the ball. If they did, they will provide the call. If they did not, the player's call stands.
- Remember to wait for the full score to be called before serving otherwise if you serve before the referee finishes the call it is a fault against the serving team.
   If you serve before the score is started, it is a replay.
- The referee should identify if a player is in the wrong position. If you are not sure, you can ask, 'Am I good?'.
- You can question score before the service has started or before the return of serve. If you stop play to question the score and you are wrong, it is a fault to you. If you question and you are right, it is a re-play.

### **Competition Format**

- The English OPEN is an age and skill level tournament.
- Each event will comprise round robin group games followed by a knock-out competition.
- Because of the number of events and players, event start times will be staggered. Please note that this means that the tournament will not finish early on Sunday. Some events could still be playing early evening.
- Qualification for the knock-out round will depend on where you finish in your group table.
  - Please make sure that you have checked the knockout match schedule for your event before leaving the venue (we have had people leave who thought they hadn't qualified when they had).
  - Please remember that if you are through to the semi-finals and you lose, there is still the bronze medal match to play.
- Table results will be sorted by number of wins, points difference, points scored and if there is still a tie then head-to-head result.
- A defined number of teams will go through to the knockout or single elimination rounds.
- The first named team is responsible for picking up the score sheet, from the court monitor, at least 10 minutes before the game starts.
- The score sheet provided to teams will define whether the game is played to 11, 15 or 21 and win by 1 or 2 and whether it is 1 game or best of 3.
- The winning team is responsible for entering the score on the score sheet correctly and getting both team's signature to agree the score is entered correctly.

- Score sheets should be returned immediately to the designated 'court monitor'
  by one of the players in the winning team. The winning player must verify that
  the score has been entered correctly before the court monitor submits the
  score to PETS [Pickleball England Tournament Software].
- Results uploaded into PETS are available for players to view online via your mobile phone. The link will be available via https://www.pickleballengland. org/2025-english-open.
- In the round robin matches there will be no time outs allowed. In the knock-out rounds, each team is allowed a 1-minute time out per game. In the event of a medical time out, a max of 15 minutes is allowed before the team calling the time out forfeits.
- 15 minutes of court time is allocated for singles games to 15 and 30 minutes for medal matches and OPEN knockout best of 3 to 11.
- 20 minutes of court time is allocated for doubles games to 11, and 40 minutes for medal matches and OPEN knockout best of 3 to 11.
- Court times include a maximum of 2 minutes of knock up is allowed before a game starts if required AND the schedule is not running late.
- Any team not arriving on court within 10 minutes of their game's start time may forfeit the match.
- In the event of a team withdrawing from the competition, all that team's games will be taken out of the table results.
- Late arrivals any matches forfeited due to late arrival will be scored as 6-0 but the team can continue in the competition if they arrive in time for their second match.
- · Gold, Silver & Bronze medals will be awarded.

# ENGLISH OPEN Tournament Etiquette

We want everyone to enjoy the English OPEN tournament. Here are a few tips to keep things fair and enjoyable:

- Games will start promptly at 8.00am every day. Please check your schedule to see what time your first game is and arrive at least 30 minutes before your first game is due to be played.
- All players' match schedules are available online.
- Paddle tap and thank your opponents for the game.
- Give your opponent time to get into position before you serve.
- The server should clearly announce the score before they serve.
- If the opponent claims there was a major distraction while hitting a shot (e.g. ball bouncing onto the court), don't hesitate to replay the point.
- Please do not walk behind a court whilst a rally is in progress.
- Please only call a ball out if it clearly is, if in doubt the ball is in!
- Please refrain from swearing whilst on court.
- Please do not throw your paddle.

(continued on page 14)



### (continued from page 12)

- Players are responsible for identifying foot faults. Be the kind of player that identifies their own foot fault!
- Treat everyone with kindness and respect.
- We will not tolerate bullying, verbal abuse or shouting.
- In the event of any dispute within a game, the game should be halted and the Tournament Director found to address the dispute.
- The decision of the Tournament Director is final. Any player not accepting
  the decision will be withdrawn from the event. No discussion will be entered
  into following the decision.

### **Spectators**

Spectators are welcome at no cost, but we do need to register attendance. If someone is accompanying you to the venue, please get them to register. The link can be found at www.pickleballengland.org/2025-english-open/



We have raised seating on the Championship Court. It would be great if there could be lots of people watching and making an atmosphere for the live stream. Some chairs will be placed around the courts in Hall 3 otherwise spectating will be limited to the gantry where access is at the back of Hall 1 via the stairs for a maximum 50 people.

If you want to be guaranteed a seat, we have VIP seating which includes some refreshments. Details can be found at the link above.

PICKLERALISH PEN 2025 SPECTATOR

ENGLISH PEN 2025 VIP SPECTATOR

### **Parking**

Telford International Centre (TIC) has plenty of parking but it is charged at £5 per day.

We encourage people to car share to save money. If you are staying at one of the hotels next door, the hotel parking is free, so we recommend you walk across to TIC.

Tip: Keep an eye on the scrolling screens to see if your game is ready to start early!

LET'S GO AGAIN.





### User Guide to PETS

Scan to access PETS information



### A quick user guide to PickleballENGLAND Tournament Software [PETS].

You can access the software via the 2025 English OPEN page on PickleballEngland.org or via a link that will be sent to all players or use QR code on this page.



The **HOME** screen includes a welcome message from the Tournament Committee From the HOME screen you can navigate to Tournament Terms & Conditions, which provide a general overview of how the tournament will be run, Competition Format and Player Etiquette.



**Playing Schedules and Results** are the most important page for players. You can look up your own name and see all your games listed either by event or the whole tournament. You can also select by game status, so once you have completed games, if you want to check your results you would select 'Played', if you just want to see games left to play, select 'To be Played' and then click on the search button.



You can search by player to see just your matches either by event or all events. If you select an event from the scroll down, you get all matches for that event. You can select an event and drill down into groups where you can see a results matrix and a league/standings table which is populated whenever a result is entered.



Then drill down to Knock-Out draw which will populate as soon as the Round Robin is finished. So, if there are 2 groups and Knock-Out is from Quarter Finals, then the top 4 from each group qualify for the Knock-Out where Group A winner plays Group B 4th etc.

#### **SCROLLING SCREEN**

This shows all matches in progress followed by next 2 matches. You can enter your name and just your events come up on the scrolling screen on your phone.

#### **MEDAL WINNERS**

Shows gold, silver and bronze winners for each event as they complete.

### Medals and **Presentations**

With 110+ event brackets, we have a plan to simplify the medal ceremonies.

We will be setting up a medal desk

next to the selfie pod and we ask that medallists come after your final and the bronze play-off final to the medal desk so we have gold, silver and bronze medallists together.

We will then present the medals and set you up for a photo on the selfie pod against our medal backdrop.

### and our Selfie Pod

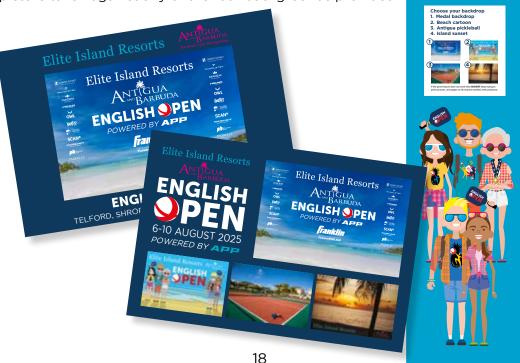
You can get a souvenir copy of your picture to take with you or QR code it straight to your phone. You will be able to access

**ENGLISH** 

souvenir photos

it online after the tournament has finished as well.

You can also use the selfie pod at any time to have your picture taken against any of the four backgrounds provided.





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### **Vendors' Village**

Inspired by our title sponsor, we've transformed the space outside Hall 3 into an island retreat! Stop by to meet **Elite Island Resorts** and the **Antigua & Barbuda Tourism Authority**, and discover stunning vacation destinations – with a side of pickleball.

Cool off at our **Tiki Bar** – perfect for celebrating your wins or simply unwinding after a match. Don't miss the **selfie pod** and **360° video booth** – great fun and perfect for capturing memories!

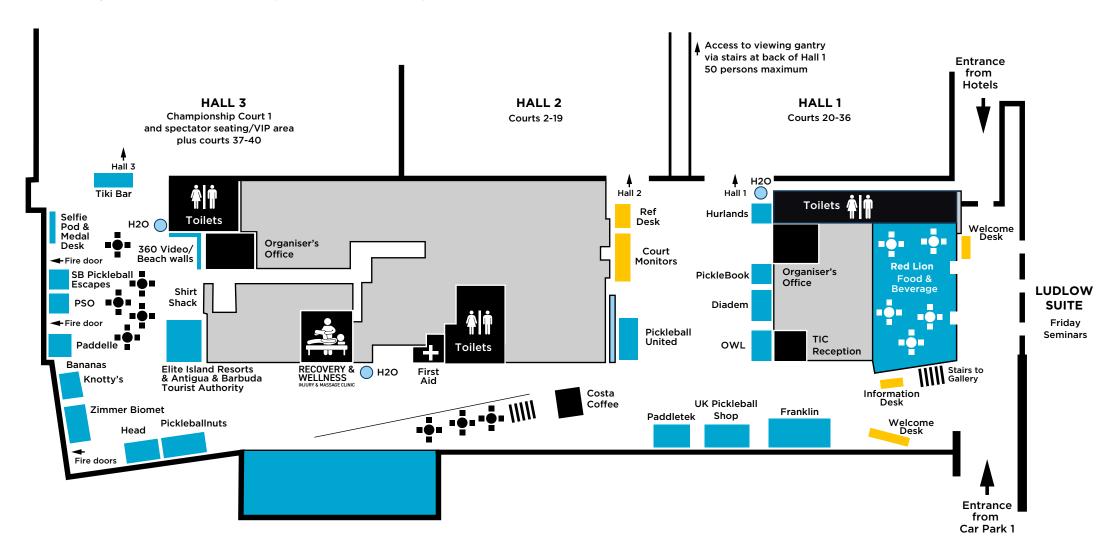
Explore 16 vendor booths along the concourse and take part in our **Passport to Paradise prize draw**. Collect a stamp at each booth, fill in your name and

email, and drop your completed passport into the postbox at the Information Desk for a chance to win an all-inclusive holiday for two in Antigua (excluding flights).

For refreshments, visit **Costa Coffee** or the **Red Lion Café**, both serving a range of hot and cold drinks and light bites.

You'll also find **Pickleball England Board Directors** taking turns at the Information Desk - stop by with your questions or just to say hello.

If you need support during the tournament, we have **first aid** on-site and **physios** available to help keep you match ready.



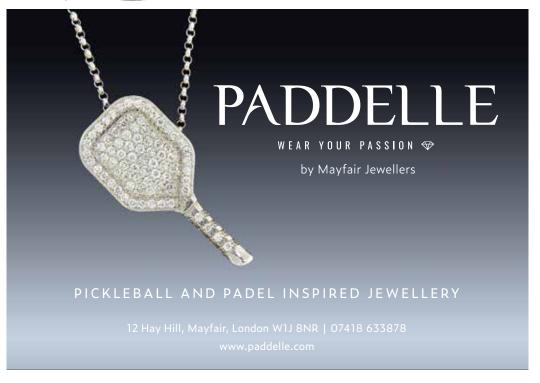


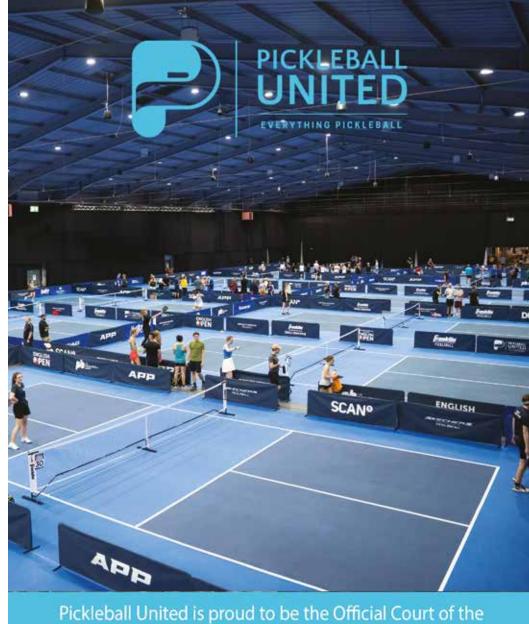
Add some fun to your English OPEN experience with our 360 video booth!

Set against a vibrant island backdrop and stocked with playful props, all you need is your imagination.

An iPad Pro on a rotating arm captures a 10-15 second video, which is instantly transformed with overlays into a shareable clip. You can send it to yourself via social media, email, or text.

Staff will be on hand to keep things running smoothly and answer questions. All videos will also be available in an online gallery.





Pickleball United is proud to be the Official Court of the EnglishOPEN and PickleballENGLAND

Contact details Pranav Kohli pran@iconicsportsco.com www.pickleballunitedusa.com



UK Distributor Ransome Sporting Goods gr@rsgsports.com

# Elite Island Resorts c A R I B B E A N

Elite Island Resorts Antigua & Barbuda **Tourist Authority** 

Franklin

Zimmer Biomet

Passport to Paradise

**Paddletek** 

Diadem

Head

**OWL** 

Knottvs

Pickleballnuts

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Paddelle

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Pickleball United

SB Pickleball Escapes

Hurlands

**Antigua Holiday Prize Draw Entry Form** 

To enter the prize draw for a luxury all-inclusive holiday for two in Antigua (excluding flights), please:

- 1. Visit all required booths to collect your 16 stamps
- 2. Complete the form below
- 3. Pull out these centre pages and submit your stamped and completed form to the prize draw collection point

Full Name:

Email address:

Marketing Consent (optional):

I agree that my email address may be shared with Elite Island Resorts and the Antigua Barbuda Tourist Authority, who may contact me via email with promotional offers and marketing communications. I understand I can unsubscribe at any time and that my data will be processed in accordance with their privacy policy, available on request.

Note: You do not have to tick this box to be entered into the prize draw.

**Polat Sports** Organisation



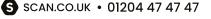
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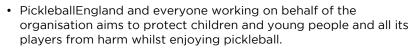








### **Safeguarding Statement**





- We believe that children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people to keep them safe.
- If you have any concerns, please seek out one of our Safeguarding officers, listed below.

### Filming and photographing children and young people

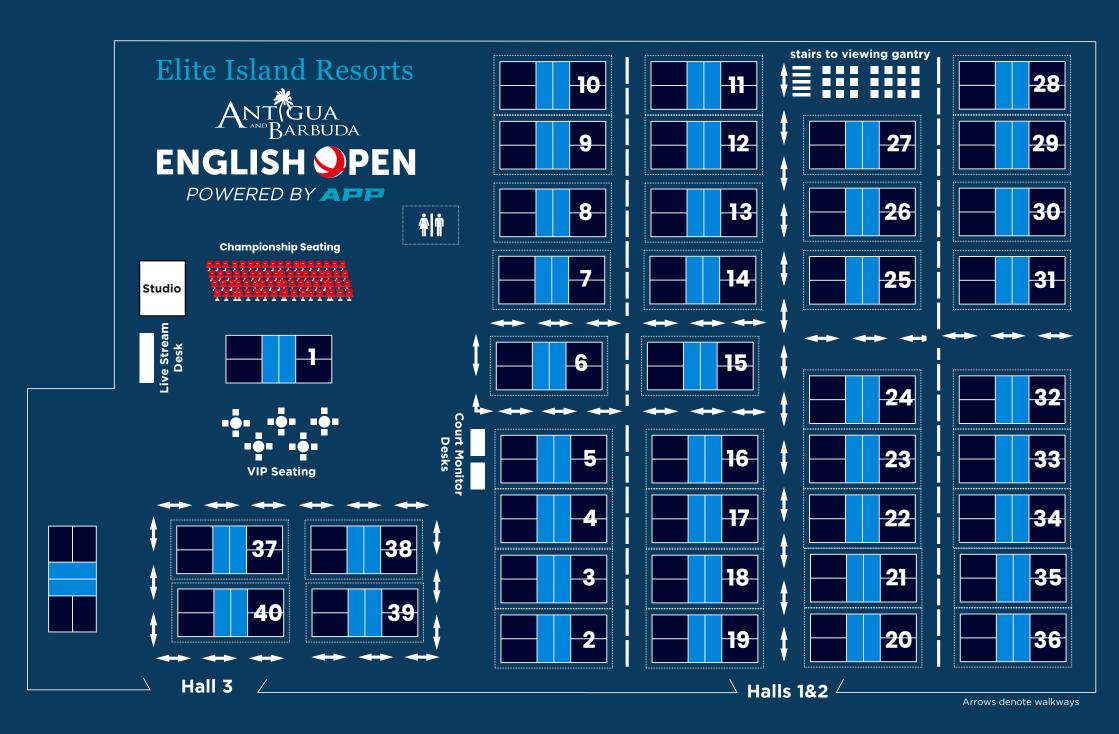
It's important that children and young people feel happy with their Pickleball sporting achievements and having photographs and films allows those moment to be captured and shared. But some children, parents or carers may have circumstances that may exist where they may not be comfortable with images of themselves or their children being shared. Parental and young person consent is required.

You can find our Safeguarding Policies and procedures at https://www.pickleballengland.org/policies/

Safeguarding Lead Officer: Stuart Trayler
Safeguarding Officers: Elaine Brown and Amanda Adams
PbE Board Safeguarding Lead: Karen Mitchell
Tel: 07739 739056

All Volunteers at this event have been advised of the Safeguarding process.





# Recreational Play

Telford Pickleball Centre



We are setting up the venue Monday and Tuesday. We do not anticipate courts being available for recreational play on Tuesday evening, therefore recommend that if you want to practice Tuesday you book a court at Telford Pickleball Centre - info@telfordpickleball.com is the email address for the centre (scan QR code above), which was the first of its kind in the UK. The English OPEN venue will have courts available prior to play starting at 8am every morning and there will be some courts available for recreational play as competitions end in the evening.

### Livestream

### Exciting News: Expanded Livestream Coverage at the English OPEN!

We're thrilled to announce that this year's English OPEN will feature two livestreamed courts! The ever-popular Championship

Court will once again be streamed by Shoot on Sight, and new for this year, Court 6 will also be live, thanks to the PickleB Livestream Team.

Pickleball is fast-paced and thrilling to watch—but if you're competing, you might not have a chance to catch the pro action live. The good news? All livestreams will be available to watch on-demand after the tournament, so you won't miss a moment.

### Why Watch?

Post-event viewing numbers are vital in showcasing the sport's growth and attracting future investment and media coverage. The more views we get, the stronger the case we make for pickleball on the global stage.

So whether you're a player, fan, or supporter—tune in, share the link, and help grow the game!

View on our Facebook page - @PickleballEngland or on our YouTube channel https://youtube.com/channel/UCKH2Wks\_x1lpIFI\_ULwbNPg









Facebook



### Senior pros from the US











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- Self-service your club listing update details anytime
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- Manage your club membership directly from PickleBook
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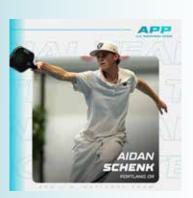
# PickleBook

come and find out more...

we're at the PickleBook booth!

# NE TGEN





























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### **TEAM ENGLAND**







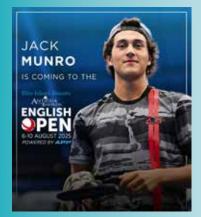






### **The USA Pros**

















@knottysnutbutters www.knottys.co.uk @nutri.butters www.nutributters.co.

### **Food & Drink**

Our Red Lion cafe area near the entrance can provide food and drink and will be set up for players with lite bite food options.

We will have a tiki bar open in our Elite Island Resorts area so go get that vibe of

Antigua and Barbuda serving soft or alcoholic drinks. You can relax with your pickleball friends after finishing your games for the day with a cold beer or an island cocktail - happy hour available.

There will be plenty of tables and chairs located within the concourse area.

There are water fountains outside Halls 1/2 and Hall 3.

There are cafés and restaurants at the Telford Centre next door to TIC and there is an Asda within walking distance.

#### Some restaurant choices in Telford Centre

Novello Lounge Bella Italia Wildwood Restaurant Miller & Carter TGI Fridays

Wagamama Wrekin Giant Cafe Britiano Umami World Aroma Cafe Bar

Zizzi Albert's Shed Coco di Mama **Urevs Street Food** Pizza Express

### **English OPEN** Wristbands

We have produced a souvenir wristband for the 2025 English OPEN.

Please wear one if you are the first server

for your team. It helps everyone keep track of who should be standing where for the score and if your game is being refereed, it is mandatory for the first server to wear a wristband.



A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers helping to make the 2025 English OPEN run smoothly.

Everyone involved in the tournament is a volunteer.

No-one is paid.

It is a labour of love for the game of pickleball.





pickleball.co.uk freddie@pickleball.co.uk



The UK's largest Pickleball retailer since 2015

This year we have products from Selkirk, JOOLA, ProXR, Paddletek, Engage, Skechers, Six Zero, OWL and many more!

We will also have new product launches from Paddletek and ProXR!

We have our full range of demo paddles. Please come over and try!

We have plenty of giveaways with purchases including bags, erasers, towels and much more!



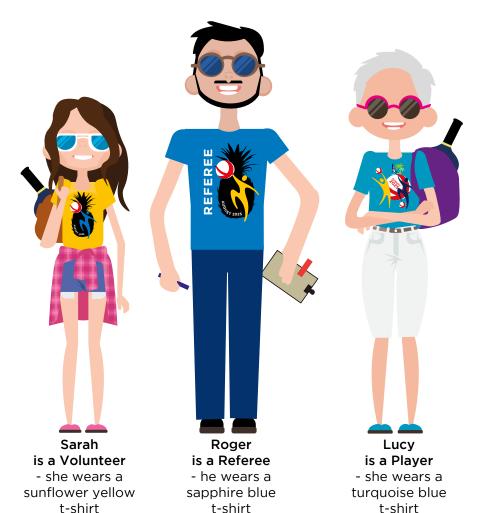
Finally, festival discounts! Please come over and say hello!

Look out for our bins around the venue to participate in schemes such as our ball-recycling initiative

### **Event T-Shirts**

Did you order an English OPEN t-shirt when you registered? You can collect it from the Shirt Shack in our Elite Island Resorts and Antigua & Barbuda Tourist Authority Caribbean area outside Hall 3. They are

turquoise blue with a brightly coloured design - don't forget to collect yours.



Wish you had ordered one?
We have them for sale at the same place - £20 each

Also available for purchase are t-shirts from last year's English OPEN, English Nationals and European tournaments.

### HURLANDS

PICKLEBALL + PADEL CLUB

# Introducing the new Pickleball and Padel club in Farnham.

Alongside our 13 pro-grade courts, you'll find a buzzing community, co-working spaces, a mouthwatering food menu, unmissable events, and as many rallies as you can handle.

Hurlands - A place to play. A place to belong.



COMING SOON

Come and visit us at the Hurlands stand

### About PickleballENGLAND

**PickleballEngland** (PbE) is a not-for-profit organisation established in 2019, with the ambition to be recognised as a world-leading National Governing Body. Our mission is to grow a diverse and dynamic sport that transforms lives, connects

communities, keeps people active, and inspires medal-winning performances.

In December 2024, we were proud to receive official recognition from Sport England—acknowledging pickleball as a unique sport and PbE as the recognised National Governing Body for England. We were equally thrilled that Pickleball Scotland also achieved NGB status and that Pickleball Wales was formally established in 2024. Together, these milestones mark a breakthrough year for pickleball across the UK. We estimate that by the end of 2024 there were approximately 45,000 players in England and over 50,000 players across the UK.

As of writing, PbE has around 12,800 members and 846 places to play across England. This represents a 50% increase, even after a major data cleansing exercise during our migration to the new PickleBook platform earlier this year. This transition has empowered clubs to manage their own listings on the club locator and allows us to roll out new features and benefits over time. With access to real-time national and regional data dashboards, we're better equipped than ever to support the growth of the game. PickleBook is exhibiting at this year's English OPEN—be sure to visit their booth to learn how your club or membership can benefit from the system.

The PickleBook rollout marks the **first of many steps** toward the professionalisation of our organisation. In May, we held a **Special General Meeting** where we presented our strategic direction and proposed a reorganisation of PbE. We are delighted that the proposal was **unanimously approved** by our members, and we are now progressing the next stages of this transformation.

### **Coach Education & Development**

We're proud to have recently piloted the **Level 2 PbE Coach Course**, with 24 coaches participating in two pilot weekends. We plan to offer additional course dates later this year. Since launching our **Level 1 Club Coach Certification** in 2024, we've now qualified 214 coaches. Our foundational **Pickleball Leaders Certification**, launched in 2020, continues to support grassroots growth. In the past year alone, **over 800 attendees** were certified, bringing the total number since launch to nearly **2,000**.

### **Safeguarding Commitment**

We've recently updated our **Safeguarding Policy and Procedures**, reinforcing our commitment to providing a safe environment for all players. Our Safeguarding Officer, **Stuart Trayler**, is present throughout the tournament and available to answer any questions (see page 27 for details).

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### **England Success on the International Stage**

In November 2024, England proudly hosted the **first-ever European Pickleball Championships**, where both our **Open and Senior England Teams** emerged victorious. Perhaps it was the home crowd advantage—but this year, our teams are headed to **Rome** to defend their titles and prove it wasn't just home-court luck!



#### International Collaboration

PickleballEngland continues to engage positively with the global pickleball community. Our Director, Karen Mitchell, has been actively involved in the unification efforts between the International Pickleball Federation (IPF) and the World Pickleball Federation (WPF). Following Special General Meetings in May, the member nations voted to merge the two bodies, and we are now proud members of the Unified World Pickleball Federation. We remain strong supporters of the European Pickleball Federation, and we continue to advocate for a single International Governing Body in the future.





### Our Team

### **Regional Directors:**North West - Elaine Shallcross

North East - Val Vladea

West Midlands - Michael de Groot

East Midlands - Pep Giuliano

South West - Richard Thoms

South East North - Christine Neyndorff

South East South - David Hughes

### **National Directors:**

Karen Mitchell

Martin Smith

### **Advisory Director:**

James Chaudry

### **Company Secretary:**

Guy Herzmark

### Safeguarding Officer:

Stuart Trayler

For a full list of our County Representatives, please visit: pickleballengland.org/county-representatives



To all our competitors who have travelled from near and far, we hope you had a wonderful time at the English OPEN and have enjoyed the competition and new friendships made. Travel safely home and we hope to see you next time.

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## PICKLEBALLNUTS

pickleballnuts.co.uk

Everything is close at hand, with places to stay and Telford Centre right on the doorstep with over 170 stores, cafés, bars and restaurants to choose from.

Telford International Centre







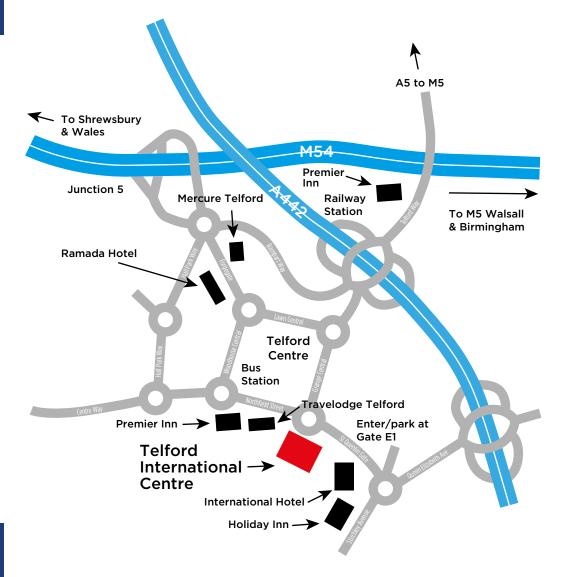












Telford International Centre International Way, Telford, TF3 4JH Phone: 01952 281500

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# PICKLEBALL IN PARADISE



Elite Island Resorts provides an ideal Caribbean escape for pickleball players and their families at four breathtaking, all-inclusive beachfront resorts in Antigua. Each resort features dedicated courts set amongst lush tropical scenery with stunning ocean views. Options include the boutique luxury of Hammock Cove, stylish The Verandah Antigua, the family-friendly St. James's Club & Villas, and the laid back charm of Pineapple Beach Club, recently named the top pickleball resort in the Caribbean.







Guests can perfect their game and then indulge in delicious dining, as well as enjoy a range of complimentary activities, including non-motorised watersports along Antigua's stunning shores.

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