



## **Table Tennis Rules**

These sport rules are taken from the National Ping Pong rules (table tennis) [www.robo-pong.com](http://www.robo-pong.com)  
Please note: The 2019 Valor Games are not a qualifying event for USA Nationals or other Paralympic sanctioned events.

### **2019 Valor Games Table Tennis Competition**

Tuesday, September 24th, 2019

#### **Table Tennis Competition**

1:00-2:00 PM - Open Play

2:00-6:30 PM – Competition & Awards

#### **Table Tennis Venue**

Marriott Plaza Hotel (La Villita Room B), 555 South Alamo St., San Antonio, TX

#### **Event Check-in and Packet Pick-up – MANDATORY for ALL Athletes!!**

Monday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> (5:00-9:00 PM)

Marriott Plaza Hotel – 555 South Alamo Street, San Antonio

#### **Disability/Competition Divisions**

- Open Division, Standing – No permanent physical disability
- Standing, Physical Disability – Can play standing, but does have a permanent physical disability
- Seated, Para Category A – lower limb impairment
- Seated, Quad Category B – Lower and upper body impairment

### **GENERAL EVENT RULES**

We will be using the basic Ping Pong (Table Tennis) rules from [www.robo-pong.com](http://www.robo-pong.com).

1. All Games will be played to 11 points. A match will be the winner of 2 games out of 3 games.
2. Tournament format will be a double elimination format. However, the championship game will not be double elimination, there will only be the one final Championship Game.
3. To start a match flip a coin, the winner chooses to either serve or receive first, or which end of the table to play at for the first game. The loser gets the remaining choice.
4. Alternate serves every 2 points until the end of the game (1 player reaches 11). If the score reaches 10-10 (deuce), alternate serves each point until 1 player is ahead by 2 points and wins the game.
5. The first server of one game becomes the first receiver of the next game.
6. Switch end of the table at the conclusion of each game. If the match goes to the 5<sup>th</sup> game, then switch ends when the score first reaches 5.





7. A legal serve:
  - a. Hold the ball in the stationary open palm of the toss hand. The ball should be held behind the end line. The ball must remain visible to the opponent throughout the entire service.
  - b. Ball must be tossed straight up to a minimum of 6 inches (no maximum) and strike it as it falls. If you fail to make a good serve after the toss, you lose the point, even if you don't contact the ball.
  - c. After the server contacts the ball, the server must first contact the server side of the table, clear the net without touching it, and land anywhere on the opponents side.
  - d. If the served ball hits the net and falls back on the server's side, or off the side, the point is lost. But if the server's ball contacts the net and lands on the opponents side, then the serve is called a "let" and is re-served. There is no limit to number of consecutive "let serves".
8. The ball can only bounce once on the receiver side before being hit back by the receiver. A return touching the net or its supports is still in play. Returns striking anything other than the net or the opponent's playing surface are out.
9. If a player obstructs the ball by touching it before it has a chance to land on the opponents side of the table, the point is lost.
10. A ball striking the top edge of the table is good, but a ball striking the side of the table is out.
11. Returns rebounding off the racket hand or any part of the racket are still in play. Returns struck by both hand and racket, or hand with no racket, or racket not in a hand are lost points.
12. A player touching the table or the net with their free hand during a point, loses the point.
13. A player cannot hit the ball twice successively.
14. Call a "let" and start the point over, if there is a disturbance during play.
15. A player will have 10 minutes to report to the designated table once the game time and table number have been assigned for their next match.
16. Male and Female athletes will compete together
17. Shirt must be a neutral color with respect to the color of the ball (we will be using white balls, so a player cannot wear a white shirt).
18. Logos on shirt can only be the Valor Games, service branch or Team USA.
19. Athletes must wear tennis shoes, no dress shoes or flip-flops.

### **Awards**

- Medals will be given to the top three athletes in each division.
- Medal ceremonies will be conducted at the Table Tennis venue immediately after the completion of the competition.

**For information on the Table Tennis competition, please contact the  
Table Tennis Sports Coordinator:  
Brooke Matula @ 210-336-4135 or [brooke@strapssports.com](mailto:brooke@strapssports.com)**

