



Everything You Need to Know About

Hosting Collegiate Pickleball Events & Tournaments



The Collegiate Pickleball Landscape

- **Over 250 clubs** across the U.S. — and growing!
- Most clubs are **1–3 years old** and rapidly developing.
- **Minimal funding** – most clubs are student-run and students pay out-of-pocket for:
 - Travel & lodging
 - Uniforms
 - Court rental
- Many clubs **fundraise** through clinics, social tournaments, and events

A few elite clubs like **Utah Tech** and **UVA** have national titles, industry support, and multiple sponsors—but they are the exception, not the norm.



Collegiate Pickleball Organizations

Three major organizations run collegiate tournaments:

| Organization | Offers Regionals? | Hosts Nationals? | Team Format |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
| DUPR | Yes | Yes | MLP Style |
| NCPA | Yes | Yes | Div I & II |
| APP | Yes | Yes | Custom |

CollegiatePB partners with all three to support and grow the collegiate game!



Collegiate Pickleball Calendar

[View the Calendar](#) – The **only calendar** showcasing *all* collegiate tournaments: Regionals, Nationals, and independent events.

Free Listings — Hosting a college tournament? We'll post it for free.



Collegiate Pickleball Season: Key Timing

| Timeframe | What's Happening |
|-----------------------|---|
| Mid-Aug – Mid-Sept | Club tryouts, early-season planning |
| Late Sept – Early Dec | Teams compete at Regionals (to qualify for Nationals) |
| Mid-Dec – Mid-Jan | Winter break – minimal club activity |
| Late Jan – Late March | More Regionals + most Nationals |
| April – May | Clubs elect new boards, plan for next season |



Why Host a Collegiate Pickleball Tournament?



Gain Visibility

- Attract college students, fans, alumni, and parents
- Increase exposure for your venue
- Network with collegiate pickleball organizations



Support the Community


- Show commitment to student-athletes
- Help build a pipeline of passionate future players

Expand Programming

- Collegiate events offer unique formats & energy
 - Engage a dynamic, fun, and social age group
-

Scheduling Tips for Hosts

DO:

- Schedule events **after mid-September**
- Use weekends – students have weekday classes
- Check the [CollegiatePB Calendar](#) to avoid conflicts
- Consider hosting a **DUPR Campus Regional** (winning teams earn a bid to Nationals!)
 [DUPR Campus Regional Overview](#)

AVOID:

- Early fall dates (clubs are still organizing)
 - Conflicting with Regionals or Nationals
-

Marketing Tips

Send Us Your Flyer – We'll:

- Add your event to our **National Calendar**
- Promote it on **social media** — for free!
- All we ask is: **Spread the word about CollegiatePB!**

More Ways to Promote:

- DUPR will promote Campus Regionals on their calendar
- Target schools within driving distance (*even several hours away* 🚗)
[➔ Club Directory](#)
- DM clubs on Instagram — it's how they work!
[➔ Our Instagram - See Who We Follow](#)






💬 Need help? Email us at **CollegiatePB@gmail.com** – We'll send you a custom list of schools + Insta handles near your location!

Encourage attendance from:

- Friends, family, alumni
- Club members & local fans

Tips for Working With College Students

 Understand the mindset of your target audience:

-  **Affordability matters** – most clubs choose low-cost events
-  **Last-minute signups** – it's a student thing
-  **DM = Best Contact Method** – Instagram is key!
-  **Multiple teams** – local clubs often want to bring more than one
-  **Students first, athletes second** – be patient with replies

❤️ These student-athletes are **incredibly passionate** about growing the game — your event helps move the sport forward!