



December 27, 2024 / Equipment

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# Paddle Certification Updates



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## Paddle Certification Updates

USA Pickleball is dedicated to preserving the sport's equity and accessibility for players of all skill levels and varying abilities. To ensure consistency and maintain the integrity of the sport, we've introduced an enhanced testing standard, PBCoR (Paddle/Ball Coefficient of Restitution) in Q4 of 2024, to measure paddle performance and limit the "trampoline effect."

The trampoline effect on pickleball paddles refers to the phenomenon where the surface of a paddle deforms and then rapidly returns to its original shape upon contact with the ball, effectively "springing" the ball off the paddle. This effect can amplify the ball's speed and force beyond what is typical for normal play.

In pickleball, excessive trampoline effect can compromise the integrity of the sport by reducing the emphasis on finesse, control, and skill, giving players an unfair advantage. USA Pickleball regulates this characteristic by setting limits, such as through the Paddle/Ball Coefficient of Restitution (PBCoR) standard, to ensure fair play and maintain the sport's competitive balance.

The following paddles have exceeded testing standards and will be sunset on **July 1, 2025** for sanctioned tournament play only:

- Joola: Perseus 14mm Mod TA-15

- Joola: Perseus 16mm Mod TA-15
- Gearbox: Pro Power Elongated
- ProKennex: Black Ace Ovation
- ProKennex: Black Ace Pro
- ProKennex: Black Ace LG
- ProKennex: Black Ace XF

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part of this initiative, paddles exceeding the initial threshold will be sunset and removed from certification for sanctioned play starting July 1, 2025. This phased transition, developed in collaboration with equipment manufacturers, provides a balanced adjustment period for the industry and players. As part of these efforts to provide an elevated level of equipment testing, the screening process continues for existing equipment with the list of equipment updated as screening continues in parallel to new PBCoR equipment testing. Through these efforts, USA Pickleball is committed to supporting the growth and success of pickleball for years to come.

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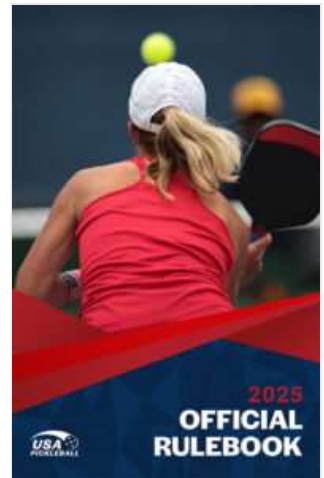
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