PING PONG STUDY GUIDE

HISTORY:
Ping Pong is thought to have been developed just before the 1900’s. While it was originally called, “ping pong”, it had to be changed to “table tennis” because toy the manufacturer PARKER BROS. patented the name "ping pong" so the sport was forced to change its name to “table tennis”. (1932)
Modifications to the game have included adding a hard rubber pimpled surface to the face of the paddle to allow greater spin on the ball. (Original paddles were just plywood.) Later, in the mid 1950’s a Japanese player showed up to the World Championship with a paddle covered with thick sponge and rubber. He totally dominated the competition because this allowed him to put tremendous spin on the ball.
While some recreational paddles have sandpaper coverings, those paddles are illegal in competitive play.

EQUIPMENT:
Tables are 9 feet long and 5 feet wide. The table top is considered the playing surface. The playing surface is 30 inches above the floor. There are “sidelines” painted on each side of the table and “end lines” painted on the ends of the table. The “centerline” is painted through the middle of the table…running length-wise. It distinguishes the serving courts for doubles.
The net is 6 feet long and extends 6’ beyond the side of the table on each side.

SERVING RULES:
Ball must be placed in the open palm of the hand. Fingers must be straight and together and the thumb free. Ball must be struck while dropping. Contact must be ABOVE the level of the table and BEHIND THE END LINE or its extension.
A player will serve 5 TIMES in a row to the DIAGONAL COURT. After the 5th serve is played out, the opponent on the RIGHT side will serve and the server and their partner switch spots.
You do NOT have to be serving to score a point.
A “LET” serve is can be declared if the following happens:
   - Ball is served to CORRECT COURT but hits the net first.
   - Server serves and the receiver was not ready.
   - Player is unable to serve or receive the ball due to interference from another table
   - The ball is broken during play.

IF A PLAYER ATTEMPTS TO SERVE AND MISSES THE BALL IT IS A POINT FOR THEIR OPPONENT!
Basic Rules: DOUBLES: (we will play doubles in class).
The choice of SERVE, RECEIVE, or END OF TABLE is determined by having one player
hide the ball in one hand under the table and the other side tries to guess what hand it is
in. You may also rock-paper-scissor.
During play, the ball must bounce on your side and then you must hit it over the net. THE
BALL MUST BOUNCE! Rally continues until someone fails to return the ball.
You may NOT move the table or come in contact with it by touching it with your non-
playing hand. You may NOT touch the net at any time during play.
Game is played to 21—first player or team to 21 wins...unless you are tied at 20 you must
win by 2 points. IF TIED AT 20-20 YOU WILL PROCEED TO ALTERNATE SERVES!
A player will lose point if the following happens:
Fails to make the serve over the net and a “let” is not called.
If a player fails to make a legal return.
If the paddle, or any part of the player or clothing, touches the net during play.
If a player comes in contact with the table during a rally.
If a player’s non-playing hand contacts the table during a rally.
If a player volleys the ball (hits before it bounces).

ORDER OF PLAY:
The SERVER serves 5 times. The RECIEVER becomes the next server. The player that
just FINISHED serving SWITCHES spots with their partner. The partner will serve the
next five serves. This rotation continues throughout the game. IF TIED AT 20. This
rotation continues, HOWEVER, EACH PLAYER ONLY SERVES ONCE.
ALL hits are alternated. NO player can hit the ball twice in succession. In doubles, a
player should hit and get out of the way. After your partner hits, you should position
yourself for the next hit. Throughout the game, you will ALWAYS hit to the same player
and receive the hits of the other player.


SINGLES:
Serve does NOT have to be into the diagonal court! Same concept of being tied at 20
applies.....ONE serve, alternating, until one player wins by 2 points.