

National Titles on the Line as 2026 Oceanview USA Pickleball National Championships Return to San Diego

The nine-day championship returns Oct. 31-Nov. 8, featuring elite competition, free general admission, live entertainment, and community programming

SAN DIEGO , CA, UNITED STATES, October 20, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [2026 Oceanview USA Pickleball National Championships](#) will return to Barnes Tennis Center in San Diego from Oct. 31 to Nov. 8, with free general admission for fans. USA Pickleball, the sport's National Governing Body, hosts the nine-day tournament, bringing together qualified athletes from across the United States and around the world to compete for national titles.



First held in 2009, the USA Pickleball National Championships are the sport's longest-standing national championship, distinguished by a qualification-based pathway for amateur athletes. The tournament brings together junior players, collegiate standouts, accomplished amateurs, wheelchair athletes, and elite professionals, showcasing the sport's range of talent and competition.

With the theme "THE STAGE IS EARNED. NOT GIVEN." the 2026 championship celebrates the dedication and perseverance required to reach the national stage while welcoming fans to experience the excitement of the sport through free general admission, premium spectator experiences, live entertainment, and community programming.

"Nationals represents the very best of what competitive pickleball has become and where the sport is headed," said Mike Nealy, CEO of USA Pickleball. "Every athlete who steps onto the court has earned the opportunity to compete on this stage, and that is what makes this championship so special. From our youngest competitors to elite professionals, Nationals brings together the talent, dedication, and competitive spirit that continue to elevate pickleball across the country.

We're proud to return to San Diego for another unforgettable championship."

Where Champions Are Made

For nearly two decades, the USA Pickleball National Championships have served as a defining stage for competitive pickleball.

Nationals feature a qualification-based pathway through USA Pickleball's Golden Ticket tournaments and Tiered Point System. Athletes earn eligibility and priority registration opportunities through their performance and participation in sanctioned competition throughout the season.

The result is a championship that brings together competitors who have dedicated countless hours to reaching the national stage.

Championship highlights include:

- Oct. 31-Nov. 1: Opening weekend competition, including junior, collegiate and wheelchair athletes.
- Oct. 31-Nov. 8: Amateur championship competition across age and skill divisions.
- Nov. 3: Concert on the Court, an evening of live music and entertainment benefiting USA Pickleball Serves.
- Nov. 4-8: Championship Court, presented by QVC, will host premium spectator experiences and professional competition.
- Nov. 7-8: Professional semifinal and medal matches.

The complete schedule of play is available at usapickleballnationals.com/schedule.

Award-Winning Tournament Returns to San Diego

The 2026 Oceanview USA Pickleball National Championships return to San Diego following a successful 2025 event that welcomed approximately 10,000 attendees, including more than 2,500 athletes from 47 states and 20 countries, and generated an estimated \$3 million in regional economic impact. Named Special Event of the Year at Sports San Diego's 2026 Rising Tide Awards, the championship will offer opportunities for fans and the community to participate beyond the competition:

- Free general admission, Oct. 31-Nov. 8: Fans can experience nine days of professional, amateur, junior, collegiate, and wheelchair competition at Barnes Tennis Center.
- VIP and Championship Court Experiences, Nov. 4-8: Fans can elevate their Nationals experience with VIP upgrades and premium seating on Championship Court, presented by QVC, offering an up-close view of elite professional competition. Tickets and upgrades are available at usapickleballnationals.com/tickets.
- Concert on the Court, Nov. 3: Yacht rock band Yachty Got Back will perform at Barnes Tennis

Center, with proceeds supporting USA Pickleball Serves. Separate general admission and VIP tickets are available at usapickleballnationals.com/concert-on-the-court.

- Future Champions Day, Oct. 30: USA Pickleball and USA Pickleball Serves will welcome approximately 200 children ages 5-18 from the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Diego's Oakes, Payne and Encanto clubs for hands-on instruction, athlete interactions and behind-the-scenes championship experiences.

Fans can find additional information, including the competition schedule, spectator tickets, and special events, at usapickleballnationals.com.

Media credentials: Members of the media interested in covering Nationals can apply at usapickleball.org/media/#credentials. The application deadline is Oct. 29, 2026.

About USA Pickleball

USA Pickleball is the official national governing body (NGB) for the sport of pickleball in the United States. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, USA Pickleball is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the game while advancing its growth and development nationwide. The organization supports players, clubs and communities by sanctioning premier tournaments, offering certified equipment testing, training referees, certifying facilities and providing a wide range of educational resources. USA Pickleball also maintains and updates the official rules of the sport, ensuring consistency and fairness at every level of play. Led by a board of directors and a dedicated national office staff, USA Pickleball delivers the infrastructure and strategic vision necessary to fuel the continued expansion of pickleball across the country, benefiting members with exclusive access to events, programs and tools that elevate their experience on and off the court.

Jennifer Rogers
USA Pickleball
jrogers@usapickleball.org

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