



Brainwave SportsTech

All India Pickleball Association's Equipment Testing Laboratory

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AIPA Pickleball Court Certification Guidelines

1.0 About AIPA Pickleball Court Facility Certification

Certifying a pickleball court facility with AIPA ensures it meets standards of quality and safety, which helps create a consistent and enjoyable experience for players. Certification also promotes the facility as a legitimate and professional venue for competitions, leagues, and casual play. Obtaining pickleball court facility certification from AIPA demonstrates a commitment to providing high-quality, safe, and accessible facilities for the growing pickleball community in your area. Whether for recreational players or professional tournaments, certification ensures that facilities meet the necessary standards and continue to offer a positive experience for everyone involved. Here's an overview of the process and requirements for AIPA pickleball court facility certification through our own equipment testing and certification laboratory Brainwave SportsTech.

2.0 Certification Criteria

The criteria for certification focus on the following key elements. Certain criteria might change from case-to-case basis depending upon the scope of the facility.

2.1 Court Dimensions and Layout

- **Standard Dimensions:** The official dimensions for a pickleball court are 20 feet wide by 44 feet long for both singles and doubles play. Courts must also include a 10-foot clearance on both sides and 14 feet of clearance at the back to allow for safe movement.

- **Non-Playing Area:** A certified facility must have adequate space around the court for players to move freely without obstruction.

2.2 Surface Materials

- **Surface Quality:** Courts must be constructed with materials that provide proper traction while minimizing joint strain. Common materials include asphalt, concrete, or specially designed synthetic surfaces.
- **Flat, Smooth Surface:** The surface must be free of cracks, holes, or other imperfections that could interfere with the game.

2.3 Net System

- The net must meet official specifications, including a height of 36 inches at the sidelines and 34 inches at the center. The net must be properly tensioned and securely anchored.

2.4 Court Lighting (In Case of Day and Night Play)

- **Adequate Illumination:** For night-time play, courts must be equipped with sufficient lighting that illuminates the entire playing area without causing glare. Typically, lighting must meet a minimum of 30-50 foot-candles brightness level for competitive play.
- **Light Positioning:** Lighting should be positioned to avoid glare in player's eyes, and it must be uniformly distributed across the court.

2.5 Accessibility

- Courts must be designed to be accessible to all players, including those with disabilities. This includes ensuring wheelchair access, proper ramps, and space for wheelchair users to maneuver safely around the court.

3.0 Court Maintenance

- Certified facilities must commit to regular maintenance and upkeep. This includes cleaning the courts, ensuring the surface remains in good condition, and replacing worn-out equipment (e.g. nets and posts).
- **Repairs:** Any damage to the courts, such as cracks or surface degradation, must be promptly addressed to maintain safety and playability.

4.0 Facility Infrastructure

- Apart from the courts themselves, the overall facility should also meet certain standards for comfort and safety.
- **Restrooms and Amenities:** The facility should offer restrooms, drinking water, and shaded areas for players to rest between games.
- **Seating Areas:** Spectator seating, such as benches or chairs, should be provided in the viewing area if the venue is to be used for professional tournaments /leagues
- **Parking and Accessibility:** Sufficient parking spaces should be available, with designated spots for people with disabilities.

5.0 Safety and Signage

- **Warning Signage:** Clear signs should be posted around the facility to inform players about safety rules, such as the risk of injury from fast-moving balls or the correct way to use the court.
- **Emergency Equipment:** First aid kits, doctor on call and emergency procedures should be in place in case of an injuries / accident.

6.0 AIPA Court Certification Process

The process for obtaining certification generally involves the following steps.

1. **Application:** Submit your online application at <https://brainwavesportstech.com/> and complete your application by uploading required information and documents by payment fee.
2. **Facility Inspection:** A representative from AIPA / Brainwave SportsTech will visit the facility for inspection and evaluation. The date of visit will be mutually decided between the facility owner and the certification team. This may include reviewing blueprints, measuring court dimensions, inspection and testing of court surface, checking for proper light intensity, and ensuring safety and other compliances.
3. **Approval and Certification:** After ensuring that the facility meets the required standards, AIPA will approve it and issue a certification. The facility will be awarded court certification.
4. **Ongoing Compliance:** Once certified, the facility must be maintained to ensure that facilities and courts remain up to standards.

7.0 Benefits of AIPA Certification

- **Official Recognition:** Certification provides official recognition from AIPA lending credibility to the facility. The facility owner will be allowed to display boards “AIPA Certified Court” with AIPA logo.
- **Listing:** AIPA certified courts and facilities will be listed on AIPA and Brainwave SportsTech websites for better visibility assurance to the pickleball community.
- **Commercial Benefits:** Certified facilities endorsed by AIPA are more likely to be chosen to host official tournaments, leagues, and events. Certification can be used for marketing and promotion activity by the facility owner to attract players and pickleball enthusiasts for membership and thus enhance business potential.
- **Quality Assurance:** Certification ensures the players that the facility meets industry standards for safety, quality, and player experience.

8.0 AIPA Certification Fee and Other Terms and Conditions

- One-time fee of **Rs 25000/- plus GST** will be applicable for testing, inspection and certification for up to two courts at same venue (location).
- For every additional court **Rs 10000/- plus GST** will be charged extra for the courts within the same facility.
- Facility owner will bear the cost of to and fro Air ticket (to the nearest airport) or Railway AC First Class fare, if there is no airport available.
- Facility owner will bear the cost of accommodation and food for the AIPA/Brainwave SportsTech representative visiting the facility for inspection in a standard hotel.
- Facility owner will provide one assistant during actual on-field measurement and testing.
- Certification will be valid for **Three Years** from the date of certification after which review of court surfaces will be mandatory to ensure that they meet certification standards.

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