

Central Coast Table Tennis Association

ITTF Service Rule

1. Service shall start with the ball resting freely on the open palm of the server's stationary free hand.
2. The server shall then project the ball near vertically upwards, without imparting spin, so that it rises at least 16cm after leaving the palm of the free hand and then falls without touching anything before being struck.
3. As the ball is falling the server shall strike it so that it touches first his court and then, after passing over or around the net assembly, touches directly the receiver's court; in doubles, the ball shall touch successively the right half court of server and receiver.
4. From the start of service until it is struck, the ball shall be above the level of the playing surface and behind the server's end line, and it shall not be hidden from the receiver by any part of the body or clothing of the server or his doubles partner; as soon as the ball has been projected, the server's free arm shall be removed from the space between the server's body and the net.
5. It is the responsibility of the player to serve so that the umpire or the assistant umpire can see that he complies with the requirements for a good service.
6. If the umpire is doubtful of the legality of a service he may, on the first occasion in a match, declare a let and warn the server.
7. Any subsequent service of doubtful legality of that player or his doubles partner will result in a point to the receiver.
8. Whenever there is a clear failure to comply with the requirements for a good service, no warning shall be given and the receiver shall score a point.
9. Exceptionally, the umpire may relax the requirements for a good service where he is satisfied that compliance is prevented by physical disability.