

Regular exercise is one of the best ways to keep both the mind and body fit. Exercise improves the heart and circulatory functions to better sustain our systems and organs. It's important to incorporate physical activity daily, especially as we age. Many of the physical issues seniors experience, such as muscle weakness or loss of balance, may be due to a sedentary lifestyle. It can be challenging for aging adults to find low-impact activities that won't cause undue strain, since as we age, we lose muscle mass and bone density, and this increases the risk of injury while engaging in sports. Pickleball is a low-impact sport that's easy on the joints. The sport is a fun workout, and it meets a wide variety of physical and emotional needs for seniors. Learn about the overall health benefits of pickleball for seniors now.

## **Improves Balance And Stability**

Pickleball improves balance and stability because it works all of the body's major muscle groups. The sport is similar to tennis, so there's a lot of running around involved during the game. It's also considered a weight-bearing exercise because players have to support their body weight while doing a variety of movements. Pickleball helps combat the loss of muscle mass and build strength in the arms, legs, back, and abdominals. The sport also improves hand-eye coordination, which is beneficial to many other areas of life, particularly for seniors. The game enhances physical agility, fitness level, and reaction times, so seniors are better equipped to handle situations that necessitate balance and stability as they arise.

# Assists With Memory And Cognitive Function

The brain is a muscle, and it needs exercise just like all your other muscles. Pickleball and similar forms of exercise assists with memory and cognitive function because they prompt players to learn, remember, anticipate, react, and plan. These tasks work to preserve and improve brain function. They exercise the brain and boost the link between the mind and body. They also help to preserve mental agility and concentration, as the pickleball requires quick thinking and



reflexes. The mind has to be attentive and responsive to play the game. Players are also required to strategize throughout the game, which requires brainwork. The brain functions better when it's challenged with a broad range of tasks and tests. Many seniors worry about the debilitating effects of the loss of memory and cognitive function, particularly when dealing with <u>dementia or Alzheimer's disease</u>. Regular activity and exercise like pickleball can help preserve a healthy mind and make life more satisfying and fulfilling

## **Increases Bone Density**

Pickleball involves many of the same movements required in tennis, and tennis is one of the best bone building exercises. Pickleball increases bone density because some of the movements like squatting force individuals to work against gravity. These types of exercises are considered weight-bearing, and they are the best for the bones. Exercise-induced bone gain of tennis players has been documented in many studies, particularly in the hip and lumbar spine regions. Exercise is especially important for bone density in seniors and <u>osteoporosis</u>patients. In addition, regular exercise through activities like pickleball helps seniors maintain muscle strength and coordination, which prevents falls and fractures.

## **Reduces The Risk Of Heart Disease**

Playing pickleball regularly boosts cardiovascular health and reduces an individual's risk of <u>heart</u> <u>disease</u>. Playing pickleball not only improves fitness, which is beneficial to the heart in itself, but it can also reduce blood pressure and combat heart issues. Seniors should make exercise a priority and incorporate it into their daily routine to maintain or improve their health. Regular exercise through pickleball also prevents or lessens the occurrence of certain forms of degeneration. Adults over sixty-five years old need at least twenty minutes of moderate activity every day to achieve cardiovascular benefits like improved blood circulation. A game of pickleball takes about fifteen to twenty minutes and is considered moderate physical activity

## **Increases Social Interaction**

Pickleball increases social interaction and the feeling of belonging. This type of emotional support is very important as we age. Seniors tend to become isolated, which leads to depression and other emotional difficulties. Loneliness weakens the immune system and increases blood pressure and the production of stress hormones. In addition, isolated seniors have a higher risk of hospitalization from illnesses like dementia and their complications. The social connections made during games of pickleball can have lasting effects. Psychological benefits like lower levels of depression can lead to positive outlooks on the aging process and more satisfying lives, according to studies published in the Journal of Positive Psychology.

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