

PICKLEBALL
ASSOCIATION **BERMUDA**
CARIBBEAN NATIONS CUP & CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

We are thrilled to report on Bermuda's performance at the 2025 Caribbean Nations Cup and Championships in Cayman Islands, held February 6-9, 2025. Our national teams achieved remarkable success across both team and individual events, highlighted by the **Elite team's dramatic gold medal victory in the Nations Cup.**



THE CARIBBEAN NATIONS CUP – OPEN DIVISION

Open Division Round Robin

The Elite team showcased exceptional skill and determination throughout the round robin phase, finishing with an impressive record of 4 wins and 1 loss. Their journey began with a dominant 4-0 victory over Bahamas, setting a strong tone for the tournament. A subsequent 1-3 loss to hosts Cayman Islands in their second match proved to be their only setback of the round robin stage.

The team demonstrated remarkable resilience following this loss, stringing together three consecutive victories: a convincing 3-1 win over Trinidad & Tobago, followed by another 3-1 triumph against Jamaica, and concluding with a commanding 4-0 victory over Antigua & Barbuda. This strong performance secured Bermuda a place in the semi-finals against Jamaica.

In addition to Bermuda's starting 4 players, 3 additional players participated in the elite round robin matches: Mical Russell, Naphisa Smith and Jaden Jones, one of Bermuda's most promising junior players.

Open Division Semi-Final

In the semi-final matchup against Jamaica, Bermuda demonstrated their growing confidence with a clinical 3-0 victory. The team's commanding performance in this straight-sets win set up an eagerly anticipated rematch with Cayman Islands in the final, giving Bermuda the opportunity to avenge their only loss of the round robin phase and their loss to Cayman in the round of 16 at the World Cup in Peru in October 2024.

Open Division Final

Bermuda's Elite team's journey to earning the **Gold Medal** culminated in an unforgettable tiebreaker final against hosts Cayman Islands. After falling behind 0-2 in the gender doubles matches, Bermuda staged a remarkable comeback through the mixed doubles pairs. The partnership of Sasha Fisher and Gavin Manders secured the first point for Bermuda, followed by Imani Phillips and Benjamin Jones leveling the match at 2-2, forcing a decisive tiebreaker; rotating singles to 21 points.

The tiebreaker provided a fitting climax to the tournament, with Bermuda initially trailing 0-4 before mounting another comeback. In a display of exceptional leadership and skill, team captain Gavin Manders delivered a crucial performance when deadlocked at 16-16, winning three of four points against Cayman's top player Michael Carse to push the score to 19-17. Benjamin Jones then closed out the historic victory, securing the gold medal for Bermuda in the inaugural Caribbean Nations Cup with a final score of 21-17.

CARIBBEAN NATIONS CUP 2025 - ROUND ROBIN STANDINGS - OPEN DIVISION

Rank	Country	Wins	Games For	Games Against	Win %	Population
1	Cayman Islands	5	19	1	95%	66,000
2	Bermuda	4	15	5	75%	63,000
3	Jamaica	2	9	11	45%	2,800,000
4	Trinidad & Tobago	2	9	11	45%	1,400,000
5	Bahamas	2	8	12	40%	400,000
6	Antigua & Barbuda	0	0	20	0%	98,000

Open Division Round Robin Results:

- Defeated Bahamas: 4-0
- Lost to Cayman Islands: 1-3
- Defeated Trinidad & Tobago: 3-1
- Defeated Jamaica: 3-1
- Defeated Antigua & Barbuda: 4-0

Open Division Medal Round Results Semifinals:

- Cayman defeated Trinidad & Tobago
- Bermuda defeated Jamaica

Gold Medal Match:

- Bermuda defeated Cayman

Bronze Medal Match:

- Trinidad & Tobago defeated Jamaica



THE CARIBBEAN NATIONS CUP – SENIOR DIVISION

Senior Division Round Robin

The Senior team's journey through the round robin phase demonstrated their competitive spirit despite facing tough opposition. Their campaign opened with a challenging match against eventual gold medalists Cayman Islands, resulting in a 0-4 loss. However, the team showed impressive mental fortitude, bouncing back immediately with a commanding 4-0 victory over Antigua & Barbuda.

A crucial encounter with Bahamas followed, resulting in a hard-fought 1-3 loss that would ultimately influence the final standings. The team concluded their round robin campaign on a high note, securing a decisive 4-0 victory against Trinidad & Tobago, setting up a rematch for the bronze medal.

Senior Division Bronze Medal Match

In the bronze medal contest against Trinidad & Tobago, Bermuda's Senior team delivered a masterful performance, securing a convincing 3-0 victory. The women's doubles pair of Myra Virgil and Marie-Helene Pare set the perfect tone with a commanding opening win. The men's doubles team of Vincent Chaves and Senior Captain George Thomas then showcased their resilience, fighting back from an early deficit to secure the second point. The bronze medal was clinched in style by Marie-Helene Pare and Vincent Chaves in the mixed doubles, completing a clean sweep and adding another medal to Bermuda's impressive results. In addition to Bermuda's starting 4 players, Natalie Chaves participated in senior round robin stage, partnering with Vince Chaves to secure a victory against Trinidad and Tobago.

CARIBBEAN NATIONS CUP 2025 - ROUND ROBIN STANDINGS - SENIOR DIVISION

Rank	Country	Wins	Games For	Games Against	Win %	Population
1	Cayman Islands	4	15	1	94%	66,000
2	Bahamas	3	11	5	69%	400,000
3	Bermuda	2	9	7	56%	63,000
4	Trinidad & Tobago	1	3	13	19%	1,400,000
5	Antigua & Barbuda	0	2	14	13%	98,000

Senior Division Round Robin Results

- Lost to Cayman Islands: 0-4
- Defeated Antigua & Barbuda: 4-0
- Lost to Bahamas: 1-3
- Defeated Trinidad & Tobago: 4-0

Senior Division Medal Round Results

Gold Medal Match:

- Cayman defeated Bahamas

Bronze Medal Match:

- Bermuda defeated Trinidad & Tobago



CARIBBEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Caribbean Championships, held in the days preceding the Nations Cup, provided an invaluable opportunity for Bermuda's players to acclimate to the tournament venue and gain experience competing against diverse international opposition. This individual event format allowed our players to test themselves across multiple skill levels and develop partnerships that would prove crucial in the Cup competition.

Pickleball Association of Bermuda - Tournament Results						
The Caribbean Championships						
Feb 6, 2025 - Feb 7, 2025						
Pickleball Cayman, George Town, Cayman Islands						
Open Division (Any Age)						
Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Team Bermuda Medal Winner(s)		Team Bermuda Player(s)
Mixed Doubles Skill: (5.0)	1			Sasha Fisher	Gavin Manders	
Mixed Doubles Skill: (5.0)		1		Imani Phillips	Ben Jones	
Mixed Doubles Skill: (3.5)						Sophie Pearson Christopher Jackson
Mixed Doubles Skill: (3.0)						Natalie Chaves Owen Stewart
Womens Doubles Skill: (4.5)	1			Sasha Fisher	Imani Phillips	
Womens Doubles Skill: (3.5)						Natalie Chaves Naphisa Smith
Mens Doubles Skill: (5.0)		1		Gavin Manders	Ben Jones	
Mens Doubles Skill: (4.0)			1	Jaden Jones	Mical Russell	
Mens Doubles Skill: (3.5)						Christopher Jackson Joe Rogan
Womens Singles Skill: (4.5)		1		Imani Phillips		
Mens Singles Skill: (5.0)			1	Gavin Manders		
Mens Singles Skill: (4.0)						Jaden Jones
Mens Singles Skill: (3.5)						Mical Russell
Senior Division (50 and Above)						
Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Team Bermuda Medal Winner(s)		Team Bermuda Player(s)
Mixed Doubles Skill: (3.5)						Marie-Helene Pare Vince Chaves
Mixed Doubles Skill: (3.5)						Myra Virgil George Thomas
Womens Doubles Skill: (3.5)			1	Myra Virgil	Marie-Helene Pare	
Mens Doubles Skill: (3.5)						Vince Chaves George Thomas
Womens Singles Skill: (3.0)						Myra Virgil Marie-Helene Pare
Junior Division (Under 18)						
Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Team Bermuda Medal Winner(s)		
Boys Doubles: (Under 18)	1			Jaden Jones	Owen Stewart	
Boys Singles: (Under 18)	1		1	Jaden Jones		
Boys Singles: (Under 14)		1		Owen Stewart		
	Total	Gold	Silver	Bronze		
Medal Count	12	4	4	4		
	Total	Gold	Silver	Bronze		
Open Medals	7	2	3	2		
Senior Medals	1	0	0	1		
Junior Medals	4	2	1	1		

Open Division Performance

Our elite players demonstrated their growing prowess at the highest level of competition, particularly in the 5.0 skill division. The mixed doubles events showcased Bermuda's depth, with an all-Bermuda final featuring Gavin Manders/Sasha Fisher claiming gold over Imani Phillips/Benjamin Jones. This success continued in women's doubles, where Imani Phillips and Sasha Fisher secured gold in the 4.5 division, while Gavin Manders and Benjamin Jones earned silver in men's 5.0 doubles. The singles events also yielded strong results, with Imani Phillips taking silver in women's 4.5 and Gavin Manders securing bronze in men's 5.0, demonstrating Bermuda's competitiveness across all formats.

Junior Division Success

The Junior Division results particularly highlighted the effectiveness of Bermuda's youth development program. Jaden Jones's dominant performance in the Under-18 category, securing gold in both singles and doubles (partnering with newcomer Owen Stewart), showcases the high-level talent emerging from our youth program. Owen Stewart's silver medal in Under-14 singles in his first international tournament further demonstrates the depth of Bermuda's junior development pipeline.

These achievements reflect the PAB's commitment to providing international competitive opportunities for our young players. By exposing our junior athletes to high-level competition at an early age, we are building a strong foundation for the future of Bermuda pickleball. The success of our junior players, competing against nations with significantly larger talent pools, validates our development approach and suggests a bright future for our national programs.

Senior Division Resilience

In the Senior Division, the bronze medal performance by Marie-Helene Pare and Myra Virgil in women's doubles 3.5 demonstrated the competitive spirit of our senior players. Their success against larger nations showcases how our senior program continues to develop and compete effectively at the international level.

The diverse medal haul across all divisions - Open, Junior, and Senior - reflects the comprehensive nature of Bermuda's pickleball talent and depth of our competitive play and programs. These individual tournament results provided valuable match experience and confidence heading into the Nations Cup team competition, where our players would build on these performances to achieve even greater success.

RAISING THE BAR: BERMUDA'S EMERGENCE AS A PICKLEBALL FORCE IN THE REGION

These results across both tournaments demonstrate the continuing development of pickleball in Bermuda and highlight the effectiveness of our national program in cultivating talent across all age groups. Our success against nations many times our size brings positive recognition to Bermuda and inspires the next generation of athletes in our community.

The performances in both the Nations Cup and Caribbean Championships have set new benchmarks for Bermuda pickleball, proving that with dedication and proper development, we can compete successfully at the international level.

Beyond the competitive achievements, the tournament showcased the very best of pickleball's spirit. Players from all nations demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship throughout both events, with intense competition on the court balanced by warm camaraderie off it. The bonds between players representing the seven participating nations, first forged at the World Cup in Peru, were strengthened further during this week.

The success of both events was made possible by the **outstanding facilities and professional management team at Pickleball Cayman**. Their **world-class venue** and meticulous organization provided the perfect setting for this historic competition. Pickleball Cayman extended special thanks to the Pickleball Association of Bermuda for our assistance with the organization and management of the Championships, reinforcing the collaborative spirit between our nations.

Looking ahead, Bermuda is honored to have been selected to **host both the 2nd Caribbean Pickleball Championships and the Caribbean Nations Cup in 2026**. These events will mark another significant milestone in Bermuda's pickleball journey and provide an opportunity to showcase our island's hospitality while further strengthening the Caribbean pickleball community.