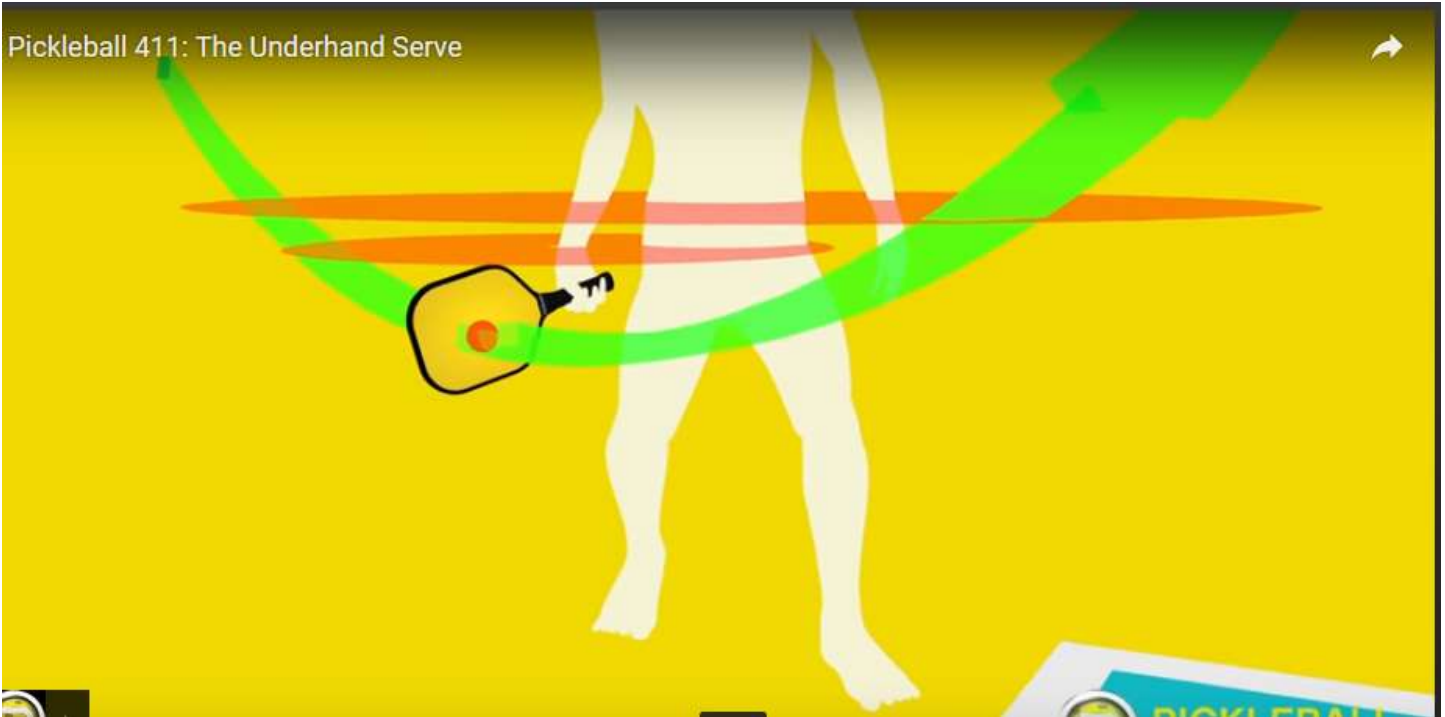


# The Pickleball Serve



## **ALL of the following three conditions MUST BE MET!**

1. Paddle must be in an upward arc as the ball is hit --- at least 1-degree.  
Thus, an “almost sidearm” swing is permitted.
2. When the ball is hit, the ball must be below the navel of the server.  
While the location of everyone’s navel might vary, start with a common sense estimate.
3. When the ball is hit, the highest part of the paddle must be below the wrist.  
Depending on the server’s motion, the part of the paddle that is highest might be a corner closest to the handle (as in the above diagram), OR it could be at the top end of the paddle.

**Evaluate your serve to avoid confusion and the chance of being called for a Service Fault.**

**A Tournament or League Referee can insist that players use an obvious “upward arc” and thus avoid that question concerning the legality of the serve.**

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