



Guideline for Changing Group Levels

If a player experiences meaningful improvement or decline in their skills, they can and should move to a level corresponding to their present abilities. When a player requests to change levels, the Round Robin Captains (RRCs) are best positioned to determine if a move is appropriate. Although no system is perfect for assessing a member's skill level, the club has developed a system that provides some objective criteria beyond simply relying on the opinion of the player or others in his/her circle.

A player needs to complete the [Tracking Form](#) in the group they wish to move to. The player will tally all points earned in the 24 consecutive games regardless of a win or loss. This will reward a player for high-scoring losses and highlight every point counts.

MOVING UP:

Group 2.0

When a member of Group 2.0 believes he/she is ready to move up to Group 2.5, the player will need to communicate the desire to move up to his/her Round Robin Captain (RRC). The 2.0 RRC will inform the 2.5 RRCs and must also email silveridgepickleball@gmail.com indicating a change in the player's group level is appropriate. The SignUpGenius (SUG) administrator will make the change as expeditiously as possible and notify the player via email once completed.

Group 2.5 and Above

When a player believes he/she is capable (better short game, greater consistency, more strategic play) of playing at a higher level, he/she needs to communicate his/her wishes to the current RRCs. The current RRCs need to inform the RRCs of the group the player will be moving to. They must also email silveridgepickleball@gmail.com indicating a change in the player's group level is appropriate. The SignUpGenius (SUG) administrator will make the change as expeditiously as possible and notify the player via email once completed.

Once the player has moved up, he/she will have two weeks of round-robin play to acclimate to the new level of play. The player will then be tasked with tracking the results of the next 24 consecutive games. This step provides the RRCs at the new level with objective criteria to help assess the player's degree of skill and competitiveness at the higher level.

If partners for a game during the 24-game tracking period are both working on moving up and are playing against established players in that group, the game should not be recorded. Example: Two players from the 3.25 group are playing in the 3.5 group and are matched as partners against two established 3.5 players.

If the player has scored approximately 70% of the total possible points in these matches, his/her request to change levels will be approved. In 24 consecutive games the approximate number of



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points possible is 264. Therefore, a player will have to have scored a minimum of 185 points to be considered eligible for moving up a level.

If the minimum number of points is not scored, the player should rejoin their original group and continue honing the skills required to be competitive at the next level. The higher level RRCs need to take the steps required to reverse the change, i.e. notify the player's original RRCs and send an email to silveridgepickleball@gmail.com. The SUG administrator will make the change as expeditiously as possible and notify the player via email once completed.

Note: RRCs at all levels have the discretion to approve a move without first having a player track their scores. Here are two example scenarios:

1. A player moved down due to injury, unfitness, or inactivity, but has regained their prior abilities;
2. An individual new to the sport quickly exhibits the athleticism and strategic play that merits a transfer to a higher level.

Use of such discretion without tracking scores shall, however, be limited to obvious cases.

MOVING DOWN:

Eventually, every player experiences a temporary or permanent loss of agility or consistency due to age, injury, or inactivity. If a player recognizes a change is in everyone's best interests and requests a move, the process is straightforward. When the player is moving down, the current RRCs need to inform the RRCs of the group the player will be moving to and must also email silveridgepickleball@gmail.com indicating a change in the player's group level is appropriate. The SUG administrator will make the change as expeditiously as possible and notify the player via email once completed.

In the event a player is struggling to remain competitive, but he/she does not appear to recognize that fact, the situation is a bit more delicate. It is recommended for all the RRCs to meet with the player to discuss the situation. The 2nd VP can assist by attending the meeting as well. If the player believes his/her skills still match the level of the other players at his/her level, then it is recommended the player tracks his/her next 24 consecutive games. Afterward, the RRCs and player should again meet to review the results and discuss whether no change is called for, additional instruction and practice would be beneficial, or a move down a level would be best for the player and the other competitors in the player's present group.

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