

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. Players wishing to move up to a higher-level playing group should reference the current [Level Up - Player Movement Steps form](#) (available on SilveridgePickleball.com or as posted on the bulletin Board). A “paper copy” will be made available by request from your Round Robin Captain (RRC).

Although no system is perfect for assessing a member’s skill level, the club has developed a process that we feel provides some objective criteria beyond simply relying on the opinion of the player or others in his/her circle.

A PLAYER MOVEMENT COMMITTEE, chaired by the 1st Vice President, and including the President, and 2nd Vice President has been established to monitor all player movement within the club.

MOVING UP

New to Pickleball & 2.0 Skills Development Group

Players who are NEW TO PICKLEBALL are required to attend 1 - 2 **Orientation to Pickleball Sessions** before moving into the 2.0 Skills Development Group.

Players within the 2.0 Skills Development Group are required to attend several clinics that cover a specific curriculum focusing on skill development, pickleball knowledge and rules before active play on the court begins. Playing/Practice sessions will be scheduled within the club’s weekly schedule and will include mentors from higher playing groups who will help players further develop their skills and knowledge. These sessions will include drills and practice time and may include active game play.

Players wishing to move up to Group 2.5 must approach the mentors and coaches who will either approve the move or suggest that further development is required before upward movement can be approved.

If the players request to move to Group 2.5 is approved the mentors or coaches will notify the Player Movement Committee who will inform the Group 2.5 RRC that the player has qualified and ask the SUG administrator to initiate the move within SUG.

Group 2.5 and Above

When a player believes he/she has developed their skills above others in their current playing group (better short game, greater consistency, more strategic play) and wishes to move up to a different group level, follow these steps:

1. The player is encouraged to have discussions with other players in their current group, their current RRC, clinic/drilling coaches and mentors to solicit their feedback on the players’ readiness to advance to a higher group level.
2. The player must satisfy the mandatory attendance of clinics and drilling sessions and with mostly positive feedback from those mentioned above, the player will then inform their current RRC that they wish to be considered for potential movement up to a different level.
3. The RRC will provide the player with a paper copy of the [Level UP Player Movement Steps form](#), which can also be found on the club’s website.

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4. The player will complete the front and back of the [Level Up Player Movement Steps form](#). **The player must record all the required information (including names of partners and opponents) for the next 24-consecutive games regardless of a win or loss.** Someone will tally up the overall game results/data for the player.

5. Once completed, the player will hand in their form to their current RRC.

6. The completed and signed [Level UP Player Movement Steps form](#) will be given to the Player Movement Committee chairperson who will check the accuracy of the calculations.

In 24-consecutive games the approximate number of points possible is 264. Therefore, a player will have to have scored a minimum of 185 points (70% benchmark) to be considered eligible for moving up a level. As all games may not finish at 11 due to time running out, the total points may not equal 264, however the math remains the same, total points scored divided by total points available.

7. If the player has achieved the 70% benchmark and met the qualifications, they will be notified along with the RRCs in both groups that the player has qualified to move up to a different level.

Once the move is approved by the Player Movement Committee and the player is placed in the higher group they will be considered as a permanent player in that group. The player will not be subject to a probationary period.

8. The SignUpGenius (SUG) administrator will initiate the move within SUG and notify all those involved.

9. If the player does not meet the required qualifications, the Player Movement Committee chairperson will meet with the player to discuss the results.

If the minimum number of points is not scored, the player will remain in their original group and continue honing the skills required to be competitive at the next level.

10. The Player Movement Committee reserves the right to approve a move without first having a player track their scores for 24-consecutive games. Here are a few example scenarios:

- a) A player previously moved down due to injury, unfitness, or inactivity, but has regained their prior abilities;
- b) An individual new to the sport quickly exhibits the athleticism and strategic play that merits a transfer to a higher level.
- c) A player new to Silveridge Pickleball Club who has self-rated themselves will be placed in the level noted on their membership form. If the player clearly outperforms the other players in the group or if the players' skills or abilities are not reflective of the majority of the other players in the group, the Player Movement Committee may ask that the player be placed in a higher or lower group.

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

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MOVING DOWN

Eventually, every player could experience 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.

1. The player will ask their current RRC to have them moved down to a lower-level group.
2. The current RRC will inform the Player Movement Committee chairperson that the player wishes to be moved to the lower-level group.
3. The Player Movement Committee chairperson will advise the SignUpGenius (SUG) administrator who will initiate the move within SUG and notify all those involved.

If a member feels they are not in the correct group they can ask the advice of another member.

The decision to move down to a lower group is a personal decision that is only to be made by the player himself or herself.

In an exceptional case, if a member has a legitimate concern that a fellow member is playing at a level where their skills and or physical abilities clearly don't match their current group, the concerned member must submit a written request to the EC who will investigate the concern. The EC investigation may include contact with members expressing their concern and or the individual player identified. Only if the EC determines that there is a legitimate concern the player will be asked to consider making a change to a lower level.

PLAYER APPEALS

A player who has completed all the required documentation and requested a move up to a higher level but was not approved may make a written appeal (including all pertinent facts and information) by sending the appeal to silveridgepickleball@gmail.com.

All members of the Player Movement Committee will review the original Level Up Player Movement Steps form as well as the player's appeal. The committee will strive to make a decision and inform the player in writing within one week of notification of the appeal. The decision of the Player Movement Committee WILL BE FINAL.

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