

## SSAC Pickleball - Skill Progression Chart

	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0
<b>Serve</b>	Serves occasionally show variety or depth and are often in	Serves show some variety or depth and are usually in	Serves show some variety and depth, are consistently in	Serves often show depth and variety, are consistently in	Serves are usually deep or have spin, are consistently in	Serves are rarely out. Depth, placement or spin force some errors
<b>Service Return</b>	Consistent contact is made, most simple serves are returned	Consistent contact is made, some difficult serves are returned	Most serves are returned, some shots are deep with pace	Serves are usually returned, many with good depth or pace	Serves are returned consistently, most with good depth, pace	Returns are rarely missed, consistently deep or have spin
<b>Court Coverage</b>	Covers centre of court, plays safely in a balanced manner	Covers main areas of court, reaches at least a few perimeter shots	Covers main areas of court, sometimes gets to well-placed shots	Covers most of court, can often reach well-placed shots	Covers court quickly to reach most well-placed shots	Covers all areas of the court quickly to return difficult shots
<b>Forehand</b>	Player is beginning to develop proper shot technique	Strokes are somewhat reliable, occasionally have depth or speed	Strokes are fairly consistent, have some depth and speed	Shots are becoming consistent and have medium depth, speed	Shots are consistent using a variety of depths and speeds	Shots are highly consistent, vary both depth and speed
<b>Backhand</b>	Player is beginning to develop proper shot technique	Strokes are somewhat reliable, occasionally have depth or speed	Strokes are somewhat consistent, have some depth and speed	Shots are becoming consistent and have medium depth, speed	Shots are consistent using a variety of depths and speeds	Shots are highly consistent, vary both depth and speed
<b>Directional Control</b>	Shots show basic control, some are intentionally directed	Shots show some control and ability to direct the ball	Shots show fairly good control with some use of angles	Shots are often well controlled with some good use of angles	Shots are usually well-controlled, make good use of angles	Shots are consistently controlled, are often angled or with spin
<b>Shot Making</b>	Overheads, lobs, and volleys are occasionally tried	Overheads or lobs or volleys are sometimes accurate	Overheads, lobs, and volleys are occasionally accurate	Overheads, lobs, and volleys are sometimes accurate	Overheads, lobs, and volleys are often accurate	Overheads, lobs, and volleys are all frequently accurate
<b>Net Play</b>	Dinks or drop shots are occasionally attempted	Some dinks or drop shots are attempted with occasion success	Dinks or drop shots are regularly tried, sometimes effectively	Dinks or drop shots are often tried, are sometimes effective	Dinks or drop shots are played regularly and are often effective	Very effective dinks or drop shots are used regularly
<b>Court Play</b>	Court position often correct, learning to stay out of "kitchen"	Court position usually correct, forgoes many obvious "out" shots	Position consistently correct, forgoes most obvious "out" shots	Position consistently correct, plays few obvious "out" shots	Rarely out of position, shows good teamwork, plays few "out" shots	Rarely plays any "out" shots, shows advanced teamwork <sup>1</sup>
<b>Strategy</b>	Knows basic rules and scoring, shows a little strategy	Sometimes gets to net and tries to hit to a variety of locations	Often gets to net, accurately plays some balls to open spots	Uses some 3 <sup>rd</sup> shot strategies <sup>2</sup> , gets to net, plays to open spots	Often uses a 3 <sup>rd</sup> shot strategy, tries to hit to opponent's weakness <sup>3</sup>	Regularly uses 3 <sup>rd</sup> shot strategies, hits to opponent's weakness

1 Examples: When appropriate, calls "mine" to ensure that both partners don't make a play. Player effectively covers for a partner who is out of position.

2 Drop shots, lobs and fast-paced ground strokes used to force an opponent away from the net.

3 Examples: shots to an opponent's backhand, at their feet, down the middle of the court, or directly at an opponent during net play.

