

SSAC Pickleball Assessment Procedure (Aug. 2016)

When you feel that you are ready to play pickleball at a higher level, review the SSAC Pickleball – Skill Progression Chart and talk to your current coach. Then:

1. Complete a self-assessment form for the level you feel you might be ready for. You will find the forms in a binder marked “Pickleball Assessments”.
2. If, once you have completed the form, you believe you might be ready to move up, give your completed assessment form to your coach. Your coach will then assess your skill set and complete his/her portion of the form.
3. Your coach will then arrange for you to play at the next level. At the pickleball session(s) at the next level, don't worry about winning, just play your game. The coach at that level will complete an assessment form. Where there is no coach available at that level, another assessor will be assigned.
4. The three assessment forms will then be reviewed.
5. If all three assessments recommend that you move up, you will be invited to move up to that level.
6. If only two assessments recommend that you move up to the next level, you will be invited back to that level to be assessed by another coach over one or two sessions (at the coach's discretion).
7. In that case, the fourth assessment will determine whether or not you move up at this time.
8. In any event, you will receive feedback from the assessments.
9. You may ask to be re-assessed every two months. Assessments are dependent on coach availability.
10. If you move up but later decide that you would benefit by returning to your former level, feel free to do so – just let the coaches know.
11. Generally, players will move up one level at a time, but there may be exceptions. This will primarily apply to people coming to the Beginners level who clearly have the skills needed to move to another level right away (for example, they have played pickleball elsewhere). Using the Skill Assessment Chart and the discretion of the coaches, players who demonstrate the requisite skills and knowledge may move up two or more levels in a single assessment.
12. If in the opinion of the SSAC Pickleball Coordinating Committee any player appears unable play at the minimum required skill level of his or her current designated Level the player will be notified and their situation discussed with the committee. At the discretion of the committee the player may be requested to move to the next lower level or undergo an assessment. After two months at a lower level the player may apply for an assessment under the provisions 1 -11 outlined above.