

DELTA PICKLEBALL SKILL LEVELS

The simple "Yes or No" way to figure out your skill level. These ratings use Canada and USAPA standards

Yes = Yes to all statements

No = No to one or more statements

Newbie

2.0

- I know the correct positioning as the serve and return team
- I can keep the ball in play in short rallies using forehand and backhand strokes
- I am beginning to approach the non-volley zone to hit volleys and dinks
- I am aware of the soft game
- I can keep the score and my knowledge of the rules has improved
- My court coverage is weak but is improving

Beginner

2.5

- * I have the basic rules down 100%
- * I am more consistent on the serve and service return with medium paced balls
- * I am working on getting my dinking strokes shallower and lower
- * I am attempting lobs and dinks but am not that successful yet
- * My shot strokes and placement have improved but I still lack control over depth
- * I approach the non volley line quickly rather than staying back

Novice

3.0

- My serves and return of serves are often deep and 80% of them are in
- I am able to execute a 3rd shot drop shot in order to approach the net
- I am quick, mobile and have directional control on most medium-paced balls
- I am beginning to anticipate my opponents' shots
- I hit the ball lower over the net consistently
- I actively work with my partner with correct court positioning

Intermediate

3.5

- I can often anticipate my opponents' shots
- I often finish the point when my partner gives me an opening
- I am usually consistent with my drop shots and dink shots
- I almost always play at the non-volley or kitchen line
- I use consistent, dependable strokes including directional control and depth
- I try to be patient and wait for the opening

Advanced

4.0

- I can consistently convert a hard shot to a soft shot (reset)
- I am almost always patient and wait for the opening
- I consistently use power and finesse to my advantage
- I rarely make unforced errors
- I can easily sustain a rally of 40 or more shots
- I consistently execute successful 3rd shot drop shots

The 4.5 player is distinguished from the 4.0 player by increased skills, a higher level of strategy, quickness of hands, judicious use of power, superior placement of shots and consistently fewer unforced errors. The 5.0 player is even more consistent in all skills than the 4.5 player with very few, if any,