HOW TO MOVE BETWEEN BVPA PLAY LEVELS

Member Guide to Assessments, Challenges and Rated Session Play

WHY PLAYING AT THE RIGHT LEVEL MATTERS

When players participate at the level that best matches their current skills, games are more balanced, rallies last longer, and everyone has more opportunity to contribute, develop skills and enjoy the session. BVPA assessments, challenges and recognized ratings help members find appropriate play opportunities and provide a clear path to progress.

Your current play options are not changing. Novice 2.0 & 2.5, Intermediate 3.0 and Advanced sessions will continue.

Formal ratings are required only for sessions specifically identified as Rated Sessions.

Two Different Pathways

1. Internal Club Assessment	Move from Novice 2.5 to Intermediate 3.0, or from Intermediate 3.0 to the Advanced division, through BVPA internal club assessments and challenges.
2. Independent Ratings	Ratings conducted by Certified Rating Specialists (BVPA approved).

Player Progression

Pathway	How to Register	What to Expect
Novice (2.5) to Intermediate (3.0)	Register for an Intermediate assessment in Trackie. Assessment opportunities will be offered approx. 4 times each year.	A skills demonstration covering forehand, backhand, serve, return of serve, dinks, third-shot drop and volley, followed by observed game play.
Intermediate (3.0) to Advanced	Register for an Advanced Challenge in Trackie. Challenges will be offered approx. 4 times each year.	After a warm-up, you will play three games in a round-robin format, partnering once with each of three established Advanced players. To move to Advanced, you must score at least 21 total points across the three games.
Play in Rated Sessions Typically (3.5 or 4.0)	Attend a certified rating session or submit documentation of an accepted verified rating to BVPA.	Only sessions labelled Rated require this formal rating. Advanced sessions remain available without it.

Rating Recognition and Assessment Details

BVPA may accept verified ratings from:

- Specific Calgary Clubs (Mega Courts, Club 315, Calgary Pickleball Center) and Cochrane Pickleball Club
- DUPR ratings with a reliability score above 60%
- IPTPA Certified Rating Specialists
- Ratings from other clubs completed by certified instructors, at the discretion of the Play Committee

Assessment fees and timing:

- The first Internal BVPA Assessment is free.
- Subsequent internal assessments are subject to the current indoor play fee.
- The applicable indoor play fee also applies when assessments are held indoors.
- Fees for independent professional rating assessments are set by the instructor and are generally between $50 and $60.
- Members should allow time to develop their skills before requesting reassessment.