

Rating Committee Update

The fall pickleball season at SLPCC is just around the corner and the snowbirds are packing up and returning to Sun Lakes. Everyone is looking forward to the coming season. As we move forward with some of the late season changes from last year we hope to clarify some of the confusion that has been developing during the summer. The adoption of DUPR as our rating system is still in its infancy within our club and overall that is a good thing as DUPR has made some great changes to their algorithm which will benefit everyone within the club and will minimize some of the confusion moving forward.

Over the years there has been a dichotomy of thought regarding the pickleball club and whether or not this club is a “social club” or a “competitive club” and the necessity of ratings. This issue will never be resolved because of the diverseness of our club, but should be understood. Ratings have been a part of this club from the beginning and are necessary for clubs to provide appropriate skill training, equitable club play and club tournament ratings for tournament participants.

We understand there have been some misgivings about DUPR despite the rating committee being very clear that there would be no significant changes to players ratings during the summer months because of the lack of play with all members of the club. However, there is a small sample of people that have developed a reasonable and valid match history by playing tournaments and DUPR matches and increased their rating during the past few months and deserve to have the rating committee take a hard look at their current status.

Players who do not wish to level up: You do not have to participate in DUPR events and need not worry about a DUPR rating. You will maintain your current level of play until you decide otherwise.

Rating Committee Plan: Any player that has increased their rating from their spring rating to the end of the summer rating through tournaments or DUPR matches may apply for a provisional rating increase into the next higher rating group. The committee will resume their work on Oct. 15, 2023. Players wishing to level up will provide the following criteria for rating increases and apply through the que beginning October 1, 2023..

1. Acceptable match history which includes at **minimum 16 games** to have a valid rating..

2. These games must be with a variety of other players. **8 or more different players.**
3. They must not have a provisional rating in the DUPR system.
 - a. Any asterisk attached to their rating will be considered provisional.
4. Their half life must be above 3.0 to release the provisional status or to qualify for a rating increase.
 - a. Half life is based on the principle of exponential decay and measures how many matches you've played and how recent they are. Continuing to post scores is an important part of a reliable and verifiable rating program. Do Not let your half life, found on your personal DUPR dashboard, to drop below 3.0 or you will once again establish a provisional rating.
 - b. Level up Players who have been moved back to their previous rating are allowed to apply for level up 2 months later.
 - c. **Players leveling up must post no fewer than 12 games within 2 months in organized club round robins or tournament setting in which DUPR accepts those games.**
 - d. When those 12 games have been completed, the rating committee will be notified by the player and they will convene and make a final decision

Important: Level Up Provisional Players Only:

When a leveling up player, with a provisional rating, has been moved up to their requested rating they then will begin their 12 game qualifying play which will consist of organized round robins. If players do not meet the criteria they will be moved back to their previous club rating after completion of their 12 game qualifying play. Players will be responsible for notifying the rating committee of the completion of their play.

The rating committee will review all of the provisional level up applicants to determine if they have been able to improve their DUPR rating to the level being requested. Once a player has met the criteria and has been moved up by the rating committee they will not be moved down unless they do so on their own.

Please look forward to more organized round robins starting in the fall for players who want to level up or establish a rating in this club.

If you have any questions please contact a member of the rating committee. Committee Members: Patty True, Keith Ori, John Rolfs, Richard Wagner and Larry Scales.

Disclaimer: Ratings have and always will be a difficult process. In order to meet the majority needs of this club the development of a rating process is ongoing.