



## **USAPA Ratings Procedures**

CTPA will accept a current USAPA rating as a club rating based on you playing at least two **rated** tournaments per year. In other words, your USAPA rating can be used to override a lower CTPA Club Rating that is based on C&C rating only so long as you've participated in at least 2 tournaments in the prior 12 months.

How do I get a USAPA rating? Any tournament that is on [www.pickleballtournaments.com](http://www.pickleballtournaments.com) would qualify you for a USAPA rating. We suggest you go to <https://www.usapa.org/> where you can get further details on ratings and membership. As a courtesy we copied the most frequent questions from the USAPA web site below for you to view.

### **What is a rating?**

A rating provides a means to compare skill levels of two or more competitors. Ratings have been used in pickleball and other sports for years, primarily for placement in league, club, and tournament play.

### **Updated 9-28-18: What is the new USAPA Tournament Player Rating?**

The USAPA Tournament Player Rating (UTPR) will be the official tournament player rating of the USAPA on January 1, 2019.

### **Updated 9-28-18: Why implement the new USAPA Tournament Player Rating System?**

The new USAPA Tournament Player Rating System is being implemented as a major improvement to the previous USAPA legacy rating system. The USAPA is continuing its efforts to provide the finest in competitive pickleball play by working with [PickleballTournaments.com](http://PickleballTournaments.com) and [PickleballRatings.com](http://PickleballRatings.com) to create a rating system that will greatly enhance the structure of tournaments, enabling tournament directors and organizers to create fair and balanced player brackets, while players know their precise standings.

### **Updated 9-28-18: Will USAPA member players automatically get a USAPA Tournament Player Rating?**

Yes, all USAPA member players that have participated in either a sanctioned or non-sanctioned tournament using [PickleballTournaments.com](http://PickleballTournaments.com) will automatically get an initial USAPA Tournament Player Rating in each of the event categories played.

### **Updated 9-28-18: How will the new USAPA Tournament Player Ratings be calculated?**

The USAPA Tournament Player Ratings will be a calculated using strategically created algorithms based on a player's match results since June 2015. The algorithms will weigh factors including strength of opponent, strength of partner and sanctioning type.

### **What are some of the advantages of the new USAPA Tournament Player Rating System?**

The USAPA Tournament Player Rating System will offer many advantages and will:

- Be responsive and transparent
- Be objective, equitable, and accurate
- Be self-correcting
- Be updated frequently
- Provide accurate seeding at tournaments
- Allow various bracketing options
- Allow for player rankings, comparable to ATP rankings used in tennis

### **Updated 9-28-18: When will the USAPA Tournament Player Ratings become effective?**

The USAPA Tournament Player Rating System is currently being tested and the USAPA Tournament Player Ratings will be effective January 1, 2019.

### **Will players have separate USAPA Tournament Player Ratings for singles, doubles and mixed doubles?**

Yes, players will have separate USAPA Tournament Player Ratings for each event category played since June 2015 where PickleballTournaments.com was the event software. USAPA Tournament Player Ratings will be calculated for 5 competitive divisions- men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles.

### **Updated 9-28-18: Will the USAPA Tournament Player Rating System produce 4-digit player ratings or 2-digit player ratings?**

The USAPA Tournament Player Rating System will produce both a 4-digit player rating and a 2-digit skill rating for each event category played. The more precise, 4-digit rating will be used primarily for seeding. The 2-digit skill rating will be a derivation of the 4-digit rating and used primarily for tournament registration and structured club/league play.

The first two digits of the 4-digit rating will dictate the 2-digit skill level rating. The first 2-digits must meet or exceed a standard skill level. Example: A 3.994 4-digit rating has not met the 4.0 standard and will convert to a 3.5 skill level rating.

#### **USAPA Conversion Chart:**

4-DIGIT	2-DIGIT
1.000 – 1.499	1.0
1.500 – 1.999	1.5
2.000 – 2.499	2.0
2.500 – 2.999	2.5
3.000 – 3.499	3.0
3.500 – 3.999	3.5
4.000 – 4.499	4.0
4.500 – 4.999	4.5

5.000 – 5.499	5.0
5.500 – 5.999	5.5
6.000 – 6.499	6.0
6.500 – 6.999	6.5

### **How often will player’s USAPA Tournament Player Rating be updated?**

A player’s 4-digit rating will be updated weekly, as it is the dynamic rating. A player’s two-digit skill level rating will be updated quarterly for registration and tournament planning purposes.

#### **Quarterly updates will occur on:**

- March 31
- June 30
- September 30
- December 31

### **Why not take advantage of the dynamic 4-digit ratings and get rid of the 2-digit skill ratings?**

Several factors played a part in the decision to primarily use the dynamic 4- digit rating for seeding vs event categorization:

- Tournament Directors and players are familiar and comfortable with the 2-digit skill levels that have been offered over the years.
- Players that were “on the bubble” would be challenged with knowing which event they would fall in once the tournament started, making it difficult to find partners and solidify travel plans around a tournament.
- Using a phased implementation method will allow us to see the future path that will work best for pickleball.

### **Is there an advisory group that oversees the USAPA Tournament Player Rating System improvements?**

Yes, the USAPA has established an advisory group to oversee the rating system improvements. The advisory board includes representatives from PickleballTournaments.com, major event tournament directors, 5.0+ tournament players, statisticians and computer programmers.

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### **As a USAPA member player, where can I check my USAPA Tournament Player Rating?**

USAPA member players may access their 2-digit and 4-digit USAPA Tournament Player Ratings in their USAPA.org member profile. [Click here to login](#). Your rating will be listed in your Member Profile page. You can also view your rating using the USAPA mobile app on your mobile device.

USAPA Members may also view a list of 2-digit player ratings on the USAPA website under Tournaments & Ratings – USAPA Player Ratings – USAPA Player Ratings. [Click here](#). Later this year USAPA member players will be able to view their ratings on their PickleballTournaments.com member profile.

In the future, we are planning the “Top 100” ranked players in each of the five divisions! These will utilize the rating but will have other contributing factors that play a part in the ranking of a player.

**Will non-members be able to check their tournament ratings?**

No, non-members will not be able to view their USAPA Tournament Rating.

**How do I get a USAPA Tournament Player Rating if I have never participated in a tournament?**

A USAPA member player can get a USAPA Tournament Player Rating after participating in one tournament that uses PickleballTournaments.com software. PickleballTournaments.com is the exclusive official provider of USAPA Pickleball Tournament Ratings. For clubs that utilize USAPA ratings for organized play, we recommend in-house tournaments or round robins that are run using pickleballtournaments.com or that can be uploaded to aid in player ratings and updates.

**Will the USAPA continue to send official notification letters regarding rating changes?**

No, official USAPA skill level notification letters will no longer be sent to members. Members may track their own USAPA Tournament Player Ratings by visiting USAPA.org or PickleballTournaments.com.

**I was scheduled to get a rating increase on July 1, will that still happen?**

No, rating changes that were scheduled for both July 1 and September 1 under the previous rating system will no longer take place.

**Will the USAPA Tournament Player Rating System be perfect?**

Perfection may be difficult to accomplish but certainly worth striving towards. As with all new systems, new opportunities for improvements will arise. The USAPA thanks all its members for their continued support, understanding and contributions while taking the challenge to advance the sport we all know and love.