

## Mesa Regal Pickleball Club - new skill ratings system

Pickleball skill ratings are a delicate subject with most players. There are lots of folks that just want to play with their friends, have fun, and exercise. There are also very competitive tournament players that are trying their very best to move their ratings up, win medals etc. Plenty of players fall between these two extremes. In general players get the most challenge and enjoyment through playing with similarly skilled individuals. In the past MRPC has tried several methods of tackling this subject; self rating, MRPC club rating, home club rating, rating committee, rating administrator - these all had serious drawbacks. MRPC board members have gathered club member input regarding this topic, and have been doing lots of research, speaking with other large clubs - most all have had similar growing pains and have been implementing new systems. With this in mind we will also be implementing our own new system for the 2023-24 season and forward. It appears that we will have at least 10 dedicated courts this season so this should lessen the problems we have giving everyone as much court time as they prefer.

1. Your rating for MRPC club purposes will be your current national rating at registration time (when you arrive in the fall). This can be from the following sources; UTPR (USA Pickleball sanctioned tournament system), PCO (Pickleball Canada), DUPR (Used by APP and other 3rd party sanctioning bodies such as [pickleballbrackets.com](http://pickleballbrackets.com)). You can also be professionally rated by an outside ratings professional or organization - for instance there is a Certified Ratings Professional at the Gene Autry Tennis Center near Mesa Regal. In addition MRPC has partnered with DUPR to offer DUPR ratings play to our members, then upload match results which will create or update your official DUPR rating. Please provide your preferred rating method to the MRPC ratings coordinator ([ratingschair@mrpickleballclub.com](mailto:ratingschair@mrpickleballclub.com)) who will verify your information and enter into the member database. Certified Professional ratings will be good for a 2 year period.
2. No self rating, MRPC club rating, or home club rating going forward. You will not be able to enter or modify your rating in the member database when registering for the season. You will be given a two year grandfather period to obtain a new rating as described above. Grandfather period starts 11/1/2023.
3. DUPR "provisional rating" (asterisk next to the rating number) is not acceptable. Normally you need to record at least 8 to 10 matches into the system for the asterisk to be removed.
4. Your rating as described in #1 above will persist for two entire seasons. If you "move up" (for example 3.0 to 3.5) midway through the season make this known to the ratings coordinator who will make the change in the member database.
5. Depending on the number of players that prefer not to be rated at all the weekly schedule will be modified accordingly. Currently there is plenty of non-scheduled time, scheduled Open Play, Beginner Social, Ladies Social, Shootout and court reservation system time for non rated players.

MRPC will be making every effort to offer methods to obtain a rating for players that have no recognized skill rating currently. Weekly club DUPR ratings play will be offered as needed - signup to play, play round robin style with match results recorded and entered into the system. Players will be grouped in close as possible skill levels for these events, such as current 2.5 rated looking to progress to 3.0. The weekly "Ladders" event match results will be recorded and entered into the DUPR system. An outside Certified Ratings Professional will be brought in on occasion for those who prefer not to play in club DUPR play or play in tournaments - these sessions may require a one time fee.

In conclusion, we hope this new system will provide all of our members the structure they need to compete in similar skill level groups - and provide all players plenty of court time regardless of their preference for recreational or competitive game play.