

Northern Colorado Pickleball Association

2.5 Skill Level Definition

Against players of their ability, in a game situation. A 2.5 level player will have most of the following knowledge and skills.

Sportsmanship- Displays good sportsmanship and consideration for fellow players 100% of the time.

Rules – Knows the basic rules including scoring, No Volley Zone (NVZ), serve, out of bounds calls and applies them to their play.

Safety – Moves around the court under control and safely for themselves, their partner and other players. Hits the ball with control in a safe manner.

Stance – Is able to assume a good balanced stance and maintain it during the point with their paddle up and ready to defend their court at least 50% of the time.

Tracking the ball – Is able to ‘watch’ the ball with their paddle at least 50% of the time.

Court Position-Serves from the correct position. Moves to the NVL as soon as possible 50% of the time and is attempting to do so 100% of the time. Regains the NVL when forced off it 50% of the time.

Team play – Is beginning to understand team play and work with their partner, call whose ball it is and play in concert with their partner to benefit the team atleast 50% of the time.

Serve – Is able to serve into the back ½ of the service box more than 50% of their serves.

Return – Is able to return more than 50% of serves so that they get to the NVL.

3rd Shot – Is attempting a 3rd shot drop 50% of their opportunities and is successful 50% of the time.

Dinking – Is able to keep their position on the NVL by the use of soft volley and dinks and is able to sustain a 6 dink rally.

Volley – Is able to sustain a volley rally of 4 shots at the NVL.

Blocking – Is in ready position and attempting to block shots hit at them and return the shots back over the net 50% of the time.