

PICKLEBALL

Levels of Play

Level 1 Skills

Athletes compete in the skills of Volley, Groundstroke, Serve, Return of Serve, Dink Rally and Mobility.

Level 2 Unified Player Development *(Unified Doubles Only)*

A developmental competition designed to help athletes transition from individual skills to game play. Athletes compete with a Unified Partner whose primary role is to teach, encourage, and facilitate the athlete's development while promoting successful participation in match play.

Level 3 Full Court Development *(Traditional Doubles Only)*

Athletes are learning to play a full-court game and understand basic rules and scoring but still require occasional support.

- Can serve and return with some consistency.
- Can sustain short rallies (2–5 shots).
- Demonstrates basic understanding of scoring and positioning.
- May use an optional modified serve line.
- Still developing shot control, movement, and strategy.
- Minimal coaching reminders may be needed between rallies.

Level 4 Full Court Independent Competition *(Unified & Traditional Doubles)*

Athletes can independently play a regulation match with consistent knowledge of the rules and demonstrate developing strategy.

- Serves and returns consistently.
- Sustains medium-length rallies (5–10+ shots).
- Understands scoring, positioning, and faults without assistance.
- Demonstrates shot placement and basic strategy (third-shot concepts, dinking, court positioning, stacking).
- Plays independently with minimal officiating intervention.