

# St. Albert Pickleball Club Board Policies

## Operational

### Player Ratings Policy

#### **Policy**

All members of the St. Albert Pickleball Club (SAPC) are expected to be aware of the International Pickleball Teachers Professional Association (IPTPA) ratings system, and their own rating.

Members are expected to play at recreational and tournament play events that are appropriate for their rating.

SAPC may share a member's rating with other clubs.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure fairness when members play in recreational events and tournaments.

#### **Clarification**

The IPTPA ratings system, which SAPC follows, ensures players with similar skills are grouped together in club-organised play and tournaments. Players who are completely new to pickleball and have no previous skill with the sport start with a rating of 1.0; top players in the sport have a 5.0 rating. Each rating level is defined by certain skills and abilities which players at that level are expected to have; descriptions of these are available on the IPTPA website.

There are three types of ratings the SAPC recognizes, a Self-rating, a Club rating, and a Canadian Tournament Player Rating (CTPR) as detailed below.

A player's rating can increase as the player improves his or her skills. It can also decrease due to deterioration of skills, medical conditions, or poor results at tournaments.

#### **Types of Ratings**

##### **Self-Rating**

A Self rating is a rating that players assign to themselves. Self-ratings are used only when a player is relatively new to pickleball, has no Club or CTPR rating, and wants to participate in club-organized play or enter a tournament. New players who join SAPC, after having their first beginner lesson, should give themselves a Self-rating of 2.0, based on the IPTPA skill descriptions on their website.

The highest Self rating SAPC recognizes is 2.5. Members must acquire a Club or CTPR rating to become rated 3.0 or higher.

##### **Club Rating**

A Club rating is a rating assigned by a pickleball club (SAPC in this case) to one of its members. A member can be assigned a Club rating anywhere from 1.0 up to 4.0. **A rating higher than 4.0 can only be achieved via a CTPR rating.**

SAPC will honour Club ratings assigned by other clubs that are using qualified rating evaluators, once the member provides to SAPC a signed and dated letter or completed ratings sheet stating the other club's rating of that member including a statement that the club uses qualified rating evaluators.

### **Canadian Tournament Player Rating (CTPR)**

A CTPR is a rating assigned by Pickleball Canada once a player has competed in one or more **sanctioned** pickleball tournaments. A player's club rating will ordinarily be superseded by their CTPR. Sanctioned tournaments are officially recognized by Pickleball Canada. SAPC has no control over CTPR ratings.

SAPC will recognize USA Pickleball Association ratings (UTPR) as equivalent.

A Canadian player's CTPR can be looked up at [www.pickleballbrackets.com](http://www.pickleballbrackets.com)

Please note that a person can have multiple CTPR ratings: Mixed Gender; Doubles; Same Gender Doubles; Singles and Skinny Singles.

### **Club Rules Regarding Ratings**

- Do not tell another SAPC member that their rating is incorrect, instead please approach the Captain at the venue with your concern.
- Do not tell another SAPC member not to attend club-organized play for a particular rating level because you think he or she isn't good enough to do so, instead please approach the Captain at the venue with your concern.
- A SAPC member may attend club-organized play below their rating, if they are recovering from an injury, or to mentor the lower rated players, but members cannot attend club organized play above their rating.
- Couples who want to play at the same club-organized play session must play at events intended for the **lower** of their two ratings.
- Tournament participants must enter non-sanctioned tournaments at the rating level that is at or above their current rating.
- Players entering a non-sanctioned tournament as a team must enter at or above the rating level of the partner whose rating is higher.
- Entering any tournament at a lower rating level than the player's actual rating is unethical, Club members who are found to have violated SAPC rules regarding tournaments are subject to possible disciplinary action by SAPC and tournament organizers.
- Do not use the ratings system as an excuse to behave poorly toward other players. It is easy to look down on players who have a lower rating than you, or to resent players who have a higher rating than you. Always respect your fellow club members, regardless of their rating.
- A player needs to compete in a minimum of 10 sanctioned games before the resulting CTPR may be used for their SAPC consolidated club rating.

If you have any questions regarding the ratings system or want to confirm your own rating, please check the FAQ section on the website, or send an email to SAPC's Rating Coordinators.

Amended: April, 2022