

SKILL LEVEL

2.0 Skill Level

- Has taken Skokie Park District beginners lesson (or demonstrate equivalent knowledge)
- Moves around court in balanced, safe manner
- Gets some serves “in”, perhaps not regularly
- Realizes aspects of score-keeping, rules and where to stand on court serve, receipt of serve and general play
- Has some basic stroke skills

2.5 Skill Level

- Able to Serve “in” more regularly
- Knows two-bounce rule and demonstrates it most times
- Knows where to stand on the court during serve, receipt of serve and general play
- Is mastering keeping scores
- Attempts to dink but not always effective at it
- Working on their form for groundstrokes, accuracy is variable
- Can keep the ball in play longer
- Sometimes lobs with forehand with varying degrees of success

3.0 Skill Level

- Knows the fundamental rules and can keep score
- Regularly gets serve “in” to mid court or deeper
- Dinks mostly in opponents kitchen and is dinking lower over the net
- Able to sustain dinking in the game
- Using both forehand and backhand on returns and forehand on overhand returns
- Working at keeping the serve deep and return of serve deep
- Moves quickly towards the non-volley zone when opportunity is there
- Trying to make flatter returns (where appropriate)
- Aware of partner’s position on the court and moving as a team
- Developing more power and/or softness in their shots
- Somewhat un-dimensional player working at broadening their playing repertoire

3.5 Skill Level

- Demonstrate a broad knowledge of the rules of the game
- Gets a high majority of serves in deep and return serves deep
- Often hits to the weak side of the opponent
- Demonstrate strategies of playing during games
- Actively works with partners in communicating, covering court, moving to net
- With varying consistency executes: lobs, forehand/backhand ground strokes, overheads, net volleys, and sustained dinking
- Some use of drop shots to get to the net
- Specifically places shots rather than just hitting shots anywhere
- Selective mixing up soft shots with power shots to create an advantage
- Hits fewer balls out of bounds or in the net
- Make few unenforced errors per game
- Demonstrates ability to intentionally play in offensive mode
- Self-correcting after play is over
- Demonstrates extended periods of multi-dimensional play

4.0 Skill Level

- Consistently hits with depth and control. Is still perfecting shot selection and timing.
- Has improved stroke mechanics and has moderate success at hitting a backhand consistently.
- Places a high majority of serves/returns with varying depth and speed.
- Increased consistency with moderate ability to control height/depth. May end dink rally too soon due to lack of patience. Is beginning to understand difference between attackable balls and those that are not.
- Selectively mixing up soft shots with power shots to create an advantage with inconsistent results.
- Able to volley a variety of shots at different speeds. Is developing consistency and control. Starting to understand the block/re-set volley.
- Aware of partner’s position on the court and is able to move as a team. Demonstrates ability to change direction in an offensive manner. Demonstrates a broad knowledge of the rules of the game. Has a moderate number of unforced errors per game. Solid understanding of stacking and when and how it could be used in match play. Beginning to identify opponents weaknesses and attempts to formulate game plan to attack weaknesses. Beginning to seek out more competitive play.