

Westbrook Village Pickleball Club 4.0+/3.5 Pickleball Group

May 12 2022

To play in the Advanced 4.0/3.5+ Group, the following guidelines were presented to the WBV Pickleball Board on May 12, 2022. The board voted to approve these guidelines as long as the Group monitor and keep track of the items listed in these guidelines.

1. ALL 3.5+ USA Pickleball UTPR doubles tournament rated players playing in a minimum of four tournaments within the last three years and players who have been rated 3.5+ by a certified member of the IPTPA (International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association) utilizing the IPTPA rating skills assessment within the last two years will be included in the Westbrook Village Pickleball Club 4.0+/3.5 Pickleball Group. It is expected that all players provide the supporting paperwork to verify their current rating.
2. Anyone who actively participated in the “Advance Practice” group as of January 1, 2022, will be included in the Westbrook Village Pickleball Club 4.0+/3.5 Pickleball Group and must meet all qualifications listed in #1 by October 14, 2023.
3. The Westbrook Village Pickleball Club 4.0+/3.5 Pickleball Group will have two levels of players. The top level will consist of twelve members with ratings of 4.0+ determined by USA Pickleball UTPR doubles tournament rating and participated in four tournaments within the past two years and players who have been rated 4.0+ by a certified member of the IPTPA utilizing the IPTPA rating skills assessment within the last (one) year. If there are not twelve players that meet these criteria, the remaining openings will be determined by “Force Rank” by the 4.0+ members of the top level group. The top level players must be committed to playing on a regular basis. The top level players will be re-evaluated on October 23 of each year. The lower level will be all remaining players.
4. On November 1, 2023, a “committee” will be formed of the Westbrook Village Pickleball Club 4.0+/3.5 Pickleball Group consisting of three 4.0+ (higher level) and two 3.5 (lower level) rated players to be voted on by the members of each level. Until November 1, 2023, the nine players that created this proposal will serve as the “committee”.
5. All members have to "buy in" that on play days the high advanced players will play on designated courts depending on how many show up. There will be some days where a round robin format will be used with all players playing for the first hour and then divide into high advance courts and low advance courts for the second hour. If the high advanced group is in need of players on a given day, they will decide whether to play short or invite player(s) from the low advanced group to play in games.

6. All members need to “buy in” that this will be tournament (serious not social/casual) style play with advanced concepts employed such as targeting, dinking, body shots, kill shots, etc. Since our advanced players are not pros, powerful, errant

Page 1

shots may occur. It should not be expected that a player will “play down” (change their shot selections or play) if another advanced player on the court is a weaker opponent. Remember, most advanced players are prepping for tournaments and want very competitive play. Social occurs after games, not during games. Since we don’t segregate by age, you have to consider that a 4.0+ or 3.5 70-year-old may have a tough time against a 4.0+ or 3.5 50-year-old. This is true for all levels.

7. The ultimate goal is to have four “equal” players playing against each other with the opportunity to “play up” occasionally. It will be the committee’s responsibility to determine annually, October 15th, if each member meets the requirements of #1 above. If a player is not consistently playing to the group’s ability, the committee will meet with the member to discuss their play and use additional methods (e.g., ladder system tryout, recertification, etc.) to re-establish their eligibility.

8. It is requested that additional court-mapping conversations commence to discuss the additional courts to be designated for “4.0+/3.5 Pickleball Group Practice”.

Respectfully submitted,

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