



Fall Classic Tournament Levels and Ratings Guidelines

Ratings are best defined and measured by using the Special Olympics Tennis Rating System. A form is on our website www.specialpopstennis.org for your use and review. When establishing divisions we strive to place athletes in a competitive division that will allow him/her to be challenged and successful. The range of ratings below is how we try to place the athletes in a comparable category with similar rated athletes. While the rating system is a subjective process, please understand that we also depend greatly upon the persons that work directly with the athlete. When athletes are placed in Levels or with Ratings that may not be equitable, it places a burden upon all of us to help get the athlete in the proper Level and Rated accurately.

Here are the levels of play and the grouping of ratings that we strive to enforce in our hosted events.

Level II Athletes (Rating Range 2.0 to 2.9)

Court Size = 42' Service Box

Ball Type = Red dot low compression ball

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Description</u>
2.0-2.3	Athlete just beginning match play; may have limited mobility and consistency of play.
2.4-2.6	More athletic and active athlete with more mobility and greater consistency of play.
2.7- 2.9	Highest rated at this level that is approaching being rated for progression to the Level III.

Level III Athletes (Rating Range 3.0 to 3.6)

Court Size = 60' Blue lines or drop down lines

Ball Type = Orange dot low compression ball

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Description</u>
3.0-3.3	Athlete with some experience in match play or demonstrated the mobility to cover a larger court and sustain short rallies. Demonstrated a consistent serve.
3.4-3.6	Highest rated at this level and capable to play singles or doubles. May improve with experience to allow for progression to Level IV.

Level IV Athletes (Rating Range 3.7 to 4.4)

Court Size = 78' Full Court

Ball Type = Green dot low compression ball

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Description</u>
3.7-3.9	Athletes just beginning match play at this level; perhaps with limited mobility and consistency of play
4.0-4.4	Athletes with more mobility and consistency Athletes more consistent with rallies and tennis skills i.e. serve, ground strokes, movement and court positioning

Level V Athletes (Rating Range 4.0 to 8.0)

Court Size = 78' Full Court

Ball Type = Standard full compression tennis ball

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.5- 4.9	Intermediate
5.0-6.0	Athletes more consistent with rallies and tennis skills i.e. serve, groundstrokes, movement and court positioning.
6.1-8.0	Highly skilled and capable tennis athlete. Athlete has the ability to execute a variety of shots (including lobs and cross court shots). Can handle pace and serves with a variety of shots (top spin and flat). Court awareness is instinctive and well executed.