

USTA/NTRP RATING DESCRIPTIONS

2.5

FOREHAND	Form developing; prepared for moderately paced shots.
BACKHAND	Grip and preparation problems, often chooses to hit forehand instead.
SERVE/RETURN OF SERVE	Attempting a full swing; can get the ball in play at slow pace; inconsistent toss; can return slow paced serve.
VOLLEY	Uncomfortable at net especially on the backhand side; frequently uses forehand racket face on backhand volleys.
SPECIAL SHOTS	Can lob intentionally but with little control; can make contact on overheads.
PLAYING STYLE	Can sustain a short rally of slow pace; weak court coverage; usually remains in the initial doubles position.

3.0

FOREHAND	Fairly consistent with some directional intent; lacks depth control.
BACKHAND	Frequently prepared; starting to hit with fair consistency on moderate shots.
SERVE/RETURN OF SERVE	Developing rhythm; little consistency when trying for power; second serve is often considerable slower than first; can return serve with fair consistency.
VOLLEY	Consistent forehand volley; inconsistent backhand volley; has trouble with low and wide shots.
SPECIAL SHOTS	Can lob consistently on moderate shots.
PLAYING STYLE	Consistent on medium paced shots; most common doubles formation is still one up, one back; approaches net when play dictates but weak in execution.

3.5

FOREHAND	Good consistency and variety on moderate shots; good directional control; developing spin.
BACKHAND	Hitting with directional control on moderate shots; has difficulty on high or hard shots; returns difficult shots defensively.
SERVE/RETURN OF SERVE	Starting to serve with control and some power; developing spin, can return serve consistently with directional control on moderate shots.
VOLLEY	More aggressive net play; some ability to cover side shots; uses proper footwork; can direct forehand volleys; controls backhand volley but with little offense; difficulty in putting volleys away.
SPECIAL SHOTS	Consistent overhead on shots within reach; developing approach shots, drop shots and half volleys; can place the return of serve of most second serves.
PLAYING STYLE	Consistency on moderate shots with directional control; improved court coverage; starting to look for the opportunity to come to net; developing teamwork in doubles.

4.0

FOREHAND	Dependable; hits with depth and control on moderate shots; may try to hit too good a placement on a difficult shot.
BACKHAND	Player can direct the ball with consistency and depth on moderate shots; developing spin.
SERVE/RETURN OF SERVE	Places both first and second serves; frequent power on first serve; uses spin; dependable return of serve; can return with depth in singles and mix returns in doubles.
VOLLEY	Depth and control forehand volley; can direct backhand volleys but usually lacks depth; developing wide and low volleys on both sides of the body.

(TF-23) **What rating do you give yourself?** _____