

### STC Membership Guideline for 'A'

STC Level of Play	NTRP (USTA) Rating	General Characteristics	Forehand	Backhand	Serve	Return of Serve	Volley/ Net Play	Other Shots
<b>A</b>	<b>4.0 and above</b>	<p><b>1- Player typically has a current USTA NTRP rating of 4.0 or higher, but may be a non-NTRP rated player who has the capability to compete against NTRP 4.0 players.</b></p> <p><b>2-</b> Player has very dependable strokes with directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand sides on moderate to well paced shots; has the ability to use lobs, overheads, approach shots, and volleys with success; very consistent service and return game; can vary game plan according to opponents, and has very sound footwork.</p> <p><b>3-</b> Player exhibits active, aggressive net play, has very good court coverage, a sound sense of court positioning, and demonstrates consistent teamwork in doubles with a strong 'two-up' net play formation.</p> <p><b>4-</b> a current or former NTRP 4.5 whose mobility and court coverage may be declining and who cannot get to shots once easily done.</p>	High level of consistency; hits with depth and control on moderate to well paced shots; may try for too much on a difficult shot; capable of using slice, spin and speed with effect; may have developed a dominant, reliable winning shot.	Directs the ball with consistency and depth on moderate shots, but may breakdown during pressure points or on fast balls; demonstrates ability to hit with slice and spin;	STC_A_Membership_Guideline	Very consistent return of serve with directional control on varied paced shots; can vary returns and return with depth on moderate paced serves; demonstrates ability to hit return winners; developing ability to construct a point off return of serve.	Aggressive, very mobile net play with proper footwork; depth and control on forehand volley; can direct backhand volleys but may lack depth; demonstrates ability to handle wide and low volleys and cover side shots and passing shots; can handle a mixed sequence of volleys; comfortable poaching.	Can put away easy overheads; hits approach shots with good depth and control; can be effective with drop shots, half volleys, angle volleys; can hit to opponent's weaknesses; can hit offensive lob for set-ups and use top spin for defensive lobs.

## STC Membership Guideline for 'B+'

STC Level of Play	NTRP (USTA) Rating	General Characteristics	Forehand	Backhand	Serve	Return of Serve	Volley/ Net Play	Other Shots
<b>B+</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<p><b>1-</b> Player typically has a <b>current USTA NTRP rating of 3.5 or higher, but may be a non-NTRP rated player who has the capability to compete against NTRP 3.5 players.</b></p> <p><b>2-</b> Player has achieved improved stroke dependability with directional control on moderate shots, but still lacks depth and variety.</p> <p><b>3-</b> Player exhibits more aggressive net play, has improved court coverage and sense of court positioning, and is developing teamwork in doubles with more emphasis on 'two-up' rather than 1 up-1 back.</p> <p><b>4-</b> a current or former NTRP 4.0 whose mobility and court coverage may be declining and who cannot get to shots once easily done.</p>	Improved consistency and variety on moderate shots with directional control; developing spin and slice.	Hits with directional control on moderate shots; has difficulty on high or hard shots; returns difficult shots defensively. Developing spin and slice.	Starting to serve with control and some power; developing spin. Has fairly consistent 1st serve with good pace and able to serve with developing control and direction; has developed a reliably accurate 2nd serve with a little slower pace and/or some spin	Can return serve consistently with directional control on moderate shots. Developing greater ability to hit return winners.	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. Comfortable and mobile at net; shows ability to cover passing shots.	Consistent overhead on shots within reach; developing approach shots, drop shots and half volleys. Able to hit offensive and defensive lobs with some top spin; developing basic passing shots.

### STC Membership Guideline for 'B'

STC Level of Play	NTRP (USTA) Rating	General Characteristics	Forehand	Backhand	Serve	Return of Serve	Volley/ Net Play	Other Shots
<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<p>1- Player typically has a <b>current USTA NTRP rating of 3.0 or higher, but may be an non-NTRP rated player who has the capability to compete against NTRP 3.0 players.</b></p> <p>2- Player is fairly consistent when hitting medium paced shots, but is not comfortable with all strokes and lacks execution when trying for directional control, depth and/or power.</p> <p>3- Player demonstrates willingness to come to net but not yet really comfortable with net play and execution is weak; is mobile enough to cover court but still developing awareness of court positioning;</p> <p>4- Most common doubles play is one up, one back.</p> <p>5- a current or former NTRP 3.5 whose mobility and court coverage may be declining and who cannot get to shots once easily done.</p>	Fairly consistent with some directional intent; lacks depth control. Hits mostly flat shots.	Frequently prepared; starting to hit with fair consistency on moderate shots. Hits mostly flat.	Developing rhythm; little consistency when trying for power; second serve is often considerably slower than 1st serve. Player can hit a medium paced 1st serve with some accuracy and a slow paced 2nd serve to avoid double faulting. Serves are predominantly flat, maybe even 'loopy.'	Can return serve with fair consistency; may exhibit some directional control on moderate serves; has difficulty returning fast paced or spinning serves.	Consistent forehand volley; inconsistent backhand volley; has difficulty with low and wide shots. A player willing to come to net but probably would rather not; can volley medium paced balls but lacks racquet stability to volley fast paced or sliced balls; footwork and positioning not yet rhythmic.	Can lob fairly consistently on moderate shots; player with decent mobility to get to balls but not be in good position to complete a shot; can play an effective defensive game of 'get the ball back'.

### STC Membership Guideline for 'C+'

STC Level of Play	NTRP (USTA) Rating	General Characteristics	Forehand	Backhand	Serve	Return of Serve	Volley/ Net Play	Other Shots
<b>C+</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<p>1- Player may have an NTRP 2.5 rating but this player typically does not play USTA and does not have an NTRP rating.</p> <p>2- Player is able to judge where the ball is going; can sustain short rallies of slow to moderate pace; may have developed some consistency but direction, depth and control are often lacking.</p> <p>3- Player might come to net but doesn't demonstrate comfort there; may show some mobility at net but may often be out of position; volley skills and execution are weak.</p> <p>4- Court positioning and coverage is weak.</p> <p>5- Doubles play/teamwork is often inconsistent; usually remains in the original doubles position; probably most comfortable playing two back.</p> <p>6- a current or former NTRP 3.0 player whose mobility and court coverage may be declining and who cannot get to shots once easily done.</p>	Form developing; prepared for moderately paced shots. Flat strokes the norm.	Grip and preparation problems; often chooses to try and hit forehand instead of backhand. Basically plays backhand shots defensively.	Attempting a full swing; can get ball in play at a slow pace; inconsistent toss. Probably uses an incomplete motion on 2nd serve, a slower, get-it-in type serve.	can return slow paced serve; returns often lack depth and/or control but becoming more consistent.	Uncomfortable at net and often reluctant to approach, especially the backhand volley side; tends to use forehand racquet face for backhand volley; can 'protect' body at net.	Can lob intentionally but with little control; can make contact on overheads and get balls back in play but with little pace or direction.

### STC Membership Guideline for 'C'

STC Level of Play	NTRP (USTA) Rating	General Characteristics	Forehand	Backhand	Serve	Return of Serve	Volley/ Net Play	Other Shots
<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<p>1- Player typically has played some structured tennis but is still at the beginning level; not likely to be involved with USTA.</p> <p>2- Player is learning to judge where the ball is going but needs much more on-court experience; ball pace is generally slow and rallies short; has some obvious weaknesses in all strokes and demonstrates little consistency.</p> <p>3- Mobility may be lacking; court positioning and court coverage are extremely weak; player often apprehensive around the net.</p> <p>4- Familiar with basic positions for doubles; doubles play/teamwork is not often evident; often remains in the original doubles position, most likely at the baseline; frequently out of position.</p>	Incomplete swing; lacks directional intent, control, and depth; just trying to keep the ball in play.	Avoids backhands; erratic contact; grip problems; incomplete swing.	Incomplete service motion; double faults common; toss inconsistent. Needs more coordination.	return of serve is erratic even on slow paced serve. Tries to return all serves with forehand.	Very uneasy at net and often apprehensive to approach on either volley side; tends to use forehand racquet face for backhand volley; lacks footwork and may not be able to 'protect' body at net; volleys are very weak, maybe more a matter of luck than skill.	Lacking skill and experience with any other than basic shots; often fails to make direct contact, especially on overheads.

### STC Membership Guideline for 'D'

STC Level of Play	NTRP (USTA) Rating	General Characteristics	Forehand	Backhand	Serve	Return of Serve	Volley/ Net Play	Other Shots
<b>D</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<p><b>1-</b> Player typically is at the beginner level and has had minimal structured play.</p> <p><b>2-</b> Player is developing skill to get and keep the ball in play; lacks any consistency.</p> <p><b>3-</b> Player is becoming familiar with basic position for doubles, where to play and serve from.</p>	Player essentially learning the fundamentals of playing the game and developing strokes, serves, etc.					