How Does the APPL Index Work?

May 2024

APPL Index

- The APPL Index is based on the PBSR algorithm developed by Pickleballscores.

- Women and men are rated on the same scale and there is no differentiation for gender or mixed play.

- Your Index is adjusted after each APPL game played, but you will only see the final result each April, after the APPL winter season and State Championships.

- Age brackets do not affect the APPL Index.

- Forfeited games do not affect the APPL Index.

Your starting APPL Index

- If you have played in an APPL league over the last 3 years, you will have an APPL Index based on your APPL match play.

- If you are new to APPL, your starting index will be 0.2 higher then the league you play in. Examples:

  - 3.0 league would have a starting index of 3.2

  - 3.5 league would have a starting index of 3.7

- You can view your current APPL Index on your profile page in Pickleballscores.

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Questions about your APPL Index

- Your APPL Index is only visible to you. You will need to share it with your captain so they can manage the team's 3 allowable exceptions

- Your roster will not show your APPL Index – it will round down to the nearest 0.5 level.

- For example, An index of 3.73 → 3.5 and an index of 3.42→3.0

- An appealed roster rating is noted with an "A" as in 3.5A

- Playing in a flight at your APPL Index will provide the fairest competition.

- If you believe your APPL Index is incorrect please discuss your concerns with your Captain and they can potentially file for an appeal.

TEAM APPL

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The basics of how the APPL Index algorithm works

There can be many variables in rating algorithms. This is the basic concept of the most important one:

- The algorithm sums the Index values for you and your partner to get a Team Index

- It compares your Team Index to your opponent's Team Index.

- It uses that comparison to determine an expected result – which team should win, and by how much.

- If the expected result is not achieved, the team that overachieved on the expectations will get an increase to their index, and the team that underachieved will get a decrease.

- Each player on the team will get the same index adjustment, even if their individual indexes were very different.

- Note: It is possible that even if a team wins, their ratings may go down because they did not win by as many points as the algorithm predicted.