



Dear Member,

The USAPA Ratings Committee, the Board of Directors and the staff of the USAPA wish to thank everyone that has provided feedback. The USAPA, Pickleballtournaments.com, and our contractors have been working daily to evaluate the system and adjust where necessary in order to ensure the ratings are as accurate as possible.

**We are now at the end of the Phase 2 and are moving to Phase 3** – Refine, Appeal and Educate. Phase 3 UTPRs consists of player inputs, data scrubs and algorithm refinements from the Phase 1 and 2 UTPR releases. The initial goal was to be in Phase 3 by today, September 12. However, due to some extenuating circumstances, we are making the following adjustments to the roll-out plan:

Date	Event	Comments
<p><b>Note: Throughout the updated implementation schedule, the USAPA legacy rating remains in effect.</b></p>		
<p><b>September 30, 2018</b></p>	<p>The third release of player ratings. <b>Phase 3 UTPR Release</b> - Refine, Appeal and Educate.</p>	<p>This is the players foundation rating that will be used for calculating their dynamic UTPR going forward.</p>
<p><b>October 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018</b></p>	<p><b>Appeal Process Begins.</b> Players will be able to appeal the Phase 3 UTRPs according to the <i>Post Production Rating Release Appeal Process</i> that will be outlined with the release of the ratings on Sept 30.</p>	<p>Players will continue to use their legacy rating during this time.</p> <p>4-digit ratings will be updated weekly to reflect recent tournaments played (tournament must have used pickleballtournaments.com).</p>
<p><b>December 31, 2018</b></p>	<p><b>Final Production UTPR's released.</b> This will also include the first quarterly release of the updated 2-digit skill rating.</p>	<p>Weekly updates of the 4-digit UTPR will continue and quarterly updates of the 2-digit skill begin. No additional player appeals will be accepted.</p>
<p><b>January 1, 2019</b></p>	<p><b>UTPRs become the official USAPA rating.</b></p>	<p>Sanctioned tournaments that open player registration after January 1 will use UTPRs.</p> <p>Sanctioned tournaments that opened player registration prior to January 1 will use legacy ratings.</p>

While we feel we are very close with the delivery of the UTPRs, this amended implementation plan was adjusted primarily for the following reasons:

- Additional time is required to update the PickleballTournaments.com software.
- Additional time is required to refine the ratings program which allows players ample time to appeal their rating according to the new appeal process (being announced Sept 30)
- Additional time needed to educate tournament players and directors on the various ratings including what each rating means, how it is calculated, and how to use them.

The road to an automated rating is not easy and we understand that accuracy in a player's rating is critical for quality tournament play. Your patience and understanding during this growth phase is vital to the future of our sport. While change is always difficult, we are fortunate to have this opportunity to implement this system now rather than in the future when participation levels have doubled or tripled in size.