

FPC Designated Play FAQ

What is this Designated Play?

Designated Play is a new scheduling format introduced by FPC. Its purpose is to maximize the court usage and minimize the wait time for all players. During **Designated Play**, we exclusively use the 'Next Up' Whiteboard to eliminate the confusion and frustration surrounding the 'paddle holder' method when there are multiple skill groups.

Who can play at Designated Play sessions?

All FPC members that have paid court fees, regardless of their rating, can attend **Designated Play** sessions.

I'm not rated, nor do I want to be, can I go to Designated Play?

Yes, non-rated players are welcome to attend any **Designated Play** court times but you must play in a **social** group.

What can I expect when attending a Designated Play session?

Court assignment at **Designated Play** uses the 'Next Up' Whiteboard. You can either join or create a group based on your skill level. When the group is full, it will play after all other preceding full groups have gone out to play.

Who do I play with during Designated Play?

Well, that depends:

1. If you are not rated, then you can play with any player in a **social** group.
2. If you are a performance-based rated player, then you can play with other players at your skill level in a **rated** group, any lesser skill group or in **social** group.

What are all the FPC skill groups?

Currently FPC utilizes different skill groups:

2.0 --- includes 2.00 to 2.49

2.5 --- includes 2.50 to 2.99

3.0 --- includes 3.00 to 3.49

3.5 --- includes 3.50 to 3.99

4.0 --- includes 4.00 to 4.49

4.5 --- includes 4.50 to 4.99

Social --- includes all skill levels

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Other than **social** play, members must have a performance-based rating equal or greater to play at that skill group. For example, a player with a rating of 3.35 can play in a 3.0 or lower skill group but should not play in a 3.5 or higher skill group. However, if a 3.5 skill group needs another player, they can invite a 3.0 skill player to join their group. **FPC highly encourages members to be considerate to other players.**

What is this social group?

The **social** group allows any player to play in that group. This includes players without a rating to the highest rated player. Every player can join in the fun by joining the **social** group.

What happens if I go to a designated play and I'm the only one there at my skill level?

Ask players in other groups if you can join, they will most likely say yes. **FPC highly encourages members to be considerate of others.**

I don't want to wait; can I join a lower skill group?

Yes, any rated members can join any skill group at any time if they have the required minimum performance-based rating. For example, a 4.20 player can join a 3.5 or lower group. **Designated Play** is about giving members choices on who they play with each time.

Do we always have to play with the same members during Designated Play?

No, **Designated Play** is about letting members choose. A group coming off a court certainly can choose to play together again, but they don't have to, and we suggest that they do split. They can split up based on **their choice** (winner/loser, playing partners, etc). **All members should be considerate and not impose their own personal choices onto others.**

How is Designated Play different from Designated Court?

FPC has used Designated Courts in the past to maximize the court usage time, especially at sessions with lower attendance. With Designated Courts, courts are reserved for a particular skill group. Based on the attendance, this could lead to unfair wait times, where a smaller group would effectively hog the courts. With **Designated Play**, all courts are shared equally regardless of who shows up.

Approved by the FPC Executive on November 21, 2022.