"Serve, Stroke & Volley \textsuperscript{SM}\n
Neil Johnson's

Tennis Rating Test

"The Second Bounce Counts"
**Court Layout**

- **Powerlines**: 13 ft, 15 ft, 13 ft
- **Control Lines**: (outside of line)
- **Ball Toss Bounce Area**: (middle of backcourt)
- **Ball Toss Position**: (4 feet behind net)
- **Player Volley Position**: (behind service line)
- **Player Serve & Stroke Position**: (behind baseline)
The SSV Tennis Rating Concept

The relative ability of tennis players can be determined by objectively measuring the Control and Power aspects of a player hitting the five basic tennis strokes: serve, forehand, backhand, forehand volley and backhand volley.

SSV Standard Unit of Measure

Assigning a value to the location of the first bounce for Control and the location of the second bounce for Power is the SSV Standard Unit of Measure.
SSV Scoring

Control
(First Bounce)

- X - Error
- 1 - Playable Area
- 2 - Target Area

Power
(Second Bounce)

- 0 - Before Baseline
- 1 - Past Baseline
- 2 - Past Powerline$_{SM}$

Playable Area
Ball must be playable to score power
SSV Target Areas
(REVERSE FOR LEFT HANDED PLAYERS, EXCEPT SERVE)

Target Area
Playable Area

FOREHAND
Cross Court
Down The Line

BACKHAND
Cross Court
Down The Line

FOREHAND VOLLEY
Cross Court
Down The Line

BACKHAND VOLLEY
Cross Court
Down The Line

SERVE
Wide Deuce
Center Deuce
Wide Ad
Center Ad
SSV Rating Score Sheet

The SSV Score is determined by adding the SSV Points and SSV Mobility Bonus Points.

SSV Points:
- A total of 8 balls are scored for each of 5 strokes.
- Each ball has 2 scores, except for an error which is a (X)
  - (C) Top row for Control is the 1st bounce
  - (P) Bottom row for Power is the 2nd bounce
- Error, Control and Power Points are totaled across.
  - Errors in 1st column
  - Control in 2nd column
  - Power in 3rd column
- SSV Stroke Points in 4th Column is the total of the Control and Power Points.
  - Note: Errors are not adding into the scores, only for profile information
- SSV Points is the total of the SSV Stroke Points

SSV Mobility Bonus Points
- A stopwatch is used to time the SSV Mobility Test.
- The time is recorded to one hundredth of a second and entered
- Estimated SSV Bonus Points (rounded off) are obtained from the Mobility Table
- The actual Mobility Bonus Points and SSV Rating are determined when entering scores into the SSV Website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STROKE &amp; VOLLEY TARGET AREAS</th>
<th>CROSS COURT</th>
<th>DOWN THE LINE</th>
<th>ERROR</th>
<th>CONTROL</th>
<th>POWER</th>
<th>SSV SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOREHAND</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BACKHAND</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREHAND VOLLEY</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BACKHAND VOLLEY</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERVE</td>
<td>WIDE DEUCE</td>
<td>CENTER DEUCE</td>
<td>WIDE AD</td>
<td>CENTER AD</td>
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</table>

The SSV Mobility is measured with a stop watch and recorded in one hundredth of a second. Example: 31.45 sec. Round off to nearest second for Bonus Points.

SSV Mobility Time 22.25  SSV Mobility Bonus Points 35  

Mobility Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>23</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>26</th>
<th>27</th>
<th>28</th>
<th>29</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>31</th>
<th>32</th>
<th>33</th>
<th>34</th>
<th>35</th>
<th>36</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Points</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Serve, Stroke & Volley**

**SSV Score Sheet**

**Date**: ____________

( ) New Player   ( ) Retest    M / F ___   Birth Date ____________

Name: _____________________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________________________________

Phone: (Parents, if junior) ___________________________________________

Email: (Parents, if junior) ___________________________________________

SSV Tester: ________________________________________________________

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<th>POWER</th>
<th>SSV Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOREHAND</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>P</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BACKHAND VOLLEY</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERVE TARGET AREAS</th>
<th>WIDE DEUCE</th>
<th>CENTER DEUCE</th>
<th>WIDE AD</th>
<th>CENTER AD</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SERVE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SSV Totals**

The SSV Mobility is measured with a stopwatch and recorded in one hundredth of a second.

Example: 31.45 sec. For estimated Bonus Points, round off to nearest second.

Exact Bonus Points and SSV Scores are determined when scores are entered into SSV Website.

**SSV Mobility Time**: ________

**Est. SSV Mobility Bonus Points**: ________

**SSV Levels of Play**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SSV Level</th>
<th>Beginner</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Tournament</th>
<th>Championship</th>
<th>Open</th>
<th>Expert</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSV Score</td>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>60-79</td>
<td>80-99</td>
<td>100-119</td>
<td>120-139</td>
<td>140-159</td>
<td>160-179</td>
<td>180-200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For exact SSV Tennis Score, go to website: www.ssvtennis.com © Neil Johnson 2014
SSV Mobility Test

The SSV Mobility test is a timed run where the players start at the doubles sideline and run to seven points on the court, each time returning to the starting point. The player touches each point with his/her racquet before returning. The run is finished when the player crosses the doubles line after touching the seventh point. A stopwatch is used to time the run to one hundredth of a second and the time is recorded on the SSV Score Sheet. Example: 28.35 sec.
SSV Levels of Play

- **Expert** 180-200
- **Open** 160-179
- **Championship** 140-159
- **Tournament** 120-139
- **Competition** 100-119
- **Advanced** 80-99
- **Intermediate** 60-79
- **Beginner** 0-59
SSV Comparison with other Systems

There are many tennis rating systems being used. Most all, including the NTRP, are subjective and tend to vary from place to place.

The best way to establish a SSV Comparison for your existing rating system is to test a few representative players in the different levels of play that you use. Then come up with a SSV Rating that cover the range of players in your local level of play system.

Once you do that, you can use the SSV Tennis Rating as a method to be consistent in rating players for your own traditional levels of play.