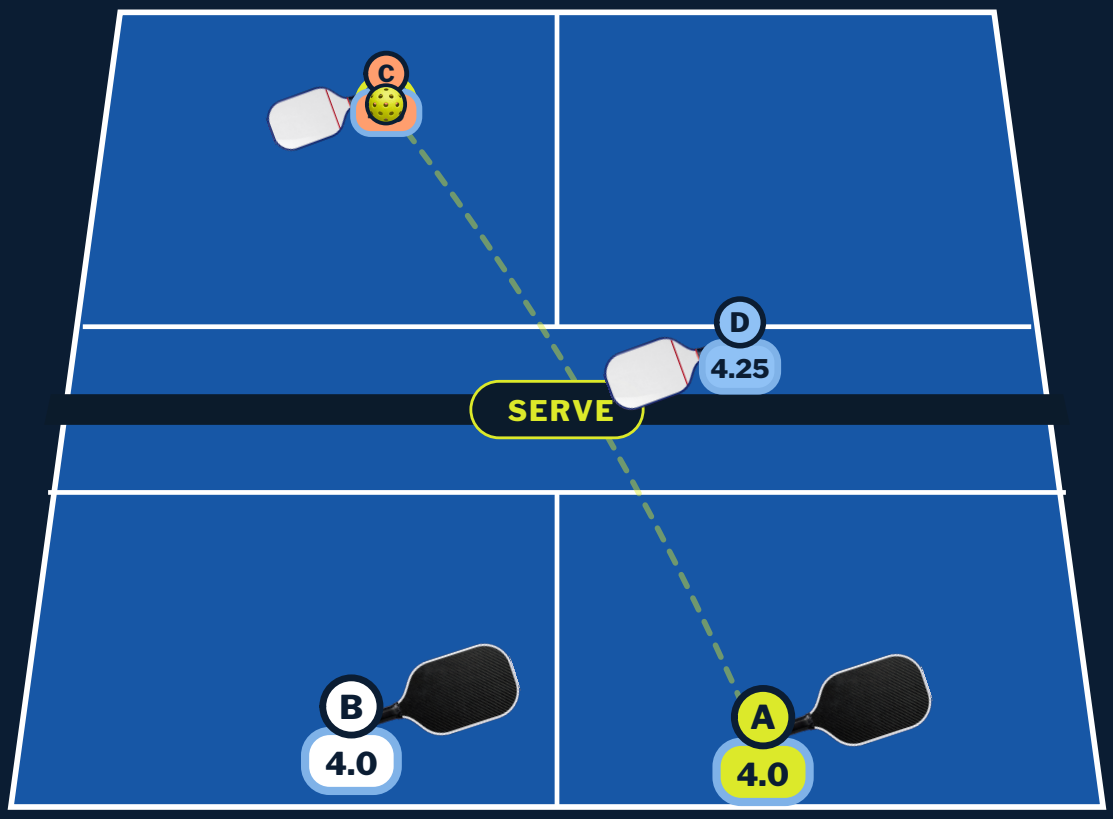
PICKLEBALL TACTICS ACADEMY
PT² AI™ TEXTBOOK SERIES

A

START THE POINT

Serve purpose and placement, Return and third-shot construction, Transition and kitchen entry



RICHIE T. KIM, PH.D.

PICKLEBALL TACTICS ACADEMY - PICKLEBALL-TACTICS.COM

PT² AI™ TEXTBOOK SERIES

Start the Point

Serve purpose, return construction and the road to the kitchen: the three decisions that decide who starts ahead.

Volume A of the PT² AI™ Textbook Series

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FROM THE INTRODUCTION

Why This Pillar Decides Matches

Every rally is decided before it starts more often than players admit. The serve chooses the return's options; the return chooses the third shot's options; the walk to the kitchen chooses whether the net battle happens on your terms. This volume teaches the first three decisions of every point as one construction, measured against the same standard the Academy teaches: not whether the shot looked good, but whether it bought the next ball you wanted.

CHAPTER 1 - DIMENSION 1 - PILLAR A

Serve purpose and placement

1

At the top level the serve is not a point-winner, it is the first move of a construction: depth and placement decide what the return is even allowed to be.

IN THIS CHAPTER

The pro pattern	1
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The pro pattern

Pros serve to a called target with margin - deep middle or at the returner's weaker side - and are already moving before the return is struck.

THE RULE

Serve with a purpose: deep with margin to a target that moves the returner.

Cue: Pick the target before you toss.

Do not chase a line the returner already guards.

Go deeper: Tactics 101, chapter Serve with a purpose.

WORKED SCENE 1.1

1.1

TIER 101

Serve at the stance, not the box

Your serve. The returner is the weaker of their pair by a clear margin - right-handed, paddle on his right, waiting at the baseline. His stronger partner waits at the kitchen, too far to help.

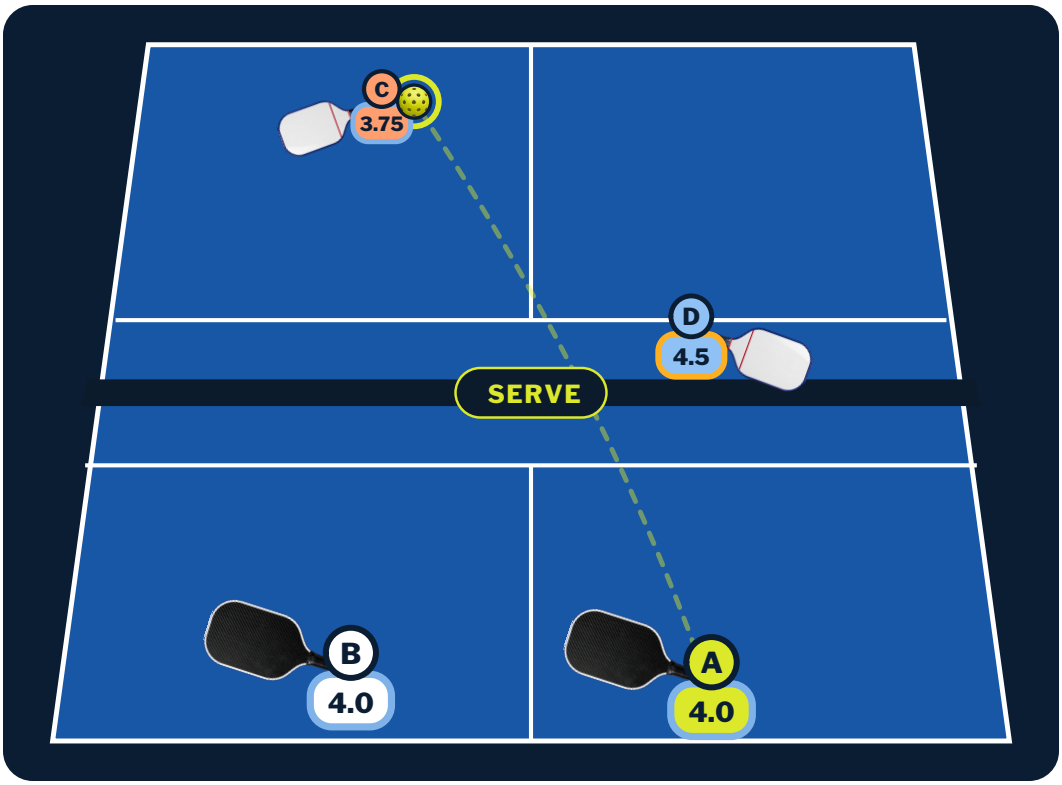


FIGURE 1.1 *Serve at the stance, not the box (SERVE)*

Where does this serve go?

A Short serve, drop it just over the net

B Deep serve to the middle of the box

C Wide serve to the sideline corner

D Deep serve at the weaker returner's left foot

ANSWER D - Deep serve at the weaker returner's left foot

The rule: A weaker returner is the first target of the match: serve deep at the foot away from his paddle and make him produce the return alone.

WORKED SCENE 1.2

1.2

TIER 201

Serve at the stance, not the box

Your serve. The returner is creeping a step inside the baseline, daring you to go short. The returner's partner waits at the kitchen.

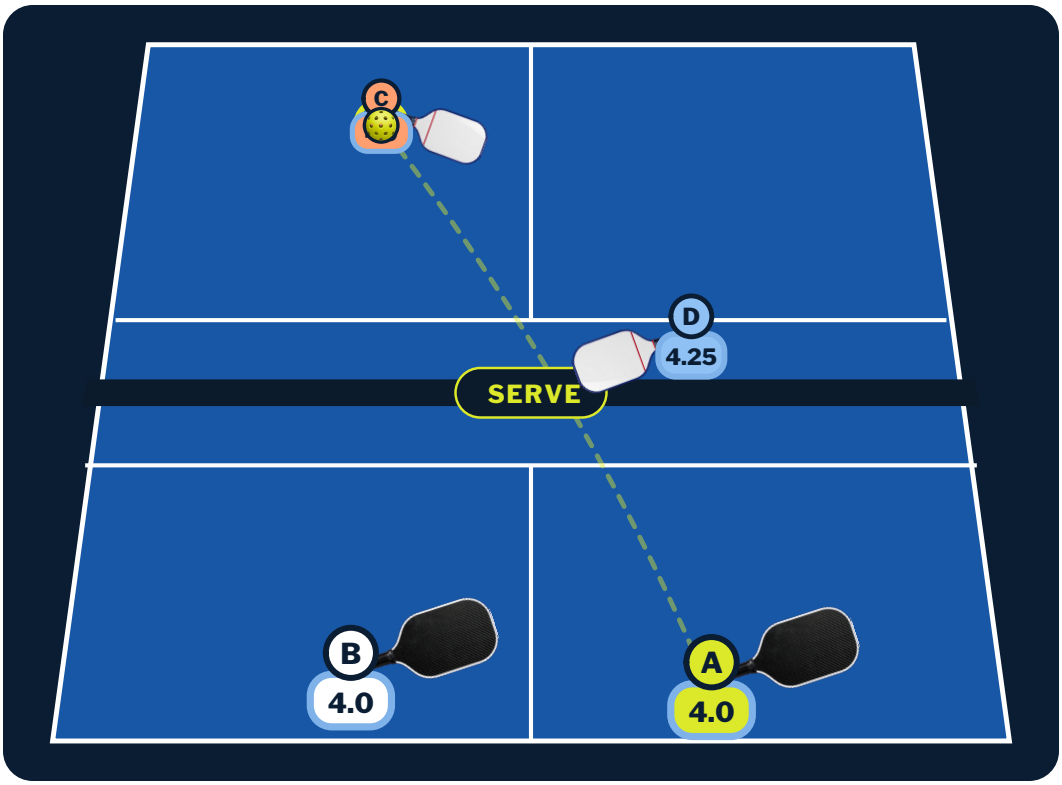


FIGURE 1.2 *Serve at the stance, not the box (SERVE)*

Where does this serve go?

A Wide serve to pull them off court

B Soft spin serve to the middle

C Short serve under the creeping returner

D Deep serve at the returner's feet

ANSWER D - Deep serve at the returner's feet

The rule: Serve at what the stance concedes: depth against deep or creeping returners, the body against a returner shading wide.

THE DRILL - CALLED-TARGET SERVING

Setup: Mark three deep zones: middle, body, wide.

Work: Serve 10 balls. Call the zone out loud before each toss. Only balls landing in the back third count as deep.

Score: Count called-zone balls that also land deep, out of 10.

Level up: Add a score state: play the set at 9-9 in your head - every miss costs double.

CONTINUE IN THE FULL VOLUME

The Full Volume A

Chapter 1 is free. The full Volume A adds Chapters 2 and 3 (Return and third-shot construction; Transition and kitchen entry), a twelve-scene practice set with the engine's answer key, the Failure Clinic, and the mastery checklist: generated by PT² AI™. Volumes B, C and D complete the twelve dimensions, and My Playbook writes the book around your own measurements.

Get Volume A ($19), the Complete Series ($49) or My Playbook ($39) at pickleball-tactics.com - delivered to your account shelf the moment you check out.

COLOPHON

Start the Point
Volume A - Pillar A
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Diagrams, scenes and scoring generated by PT² AI™.
Pickleball Tactics Academy - pickleball-tactics.com
support@pickleball-tactics.com