

Disc Golf Players Playing Above Their Division

by Steve West Disc Golf, LLC

February 28, 2024

PDGA players can play in various divisions, some of which are limited by ratings. For example, MA2 is for amateurs with a rating below 935, but amateurs with ratings below 900 can play in MA3. So, if all players were rational and always choose the division where they were most competitive, all the MA2 players should have ratings between 900 and 934.

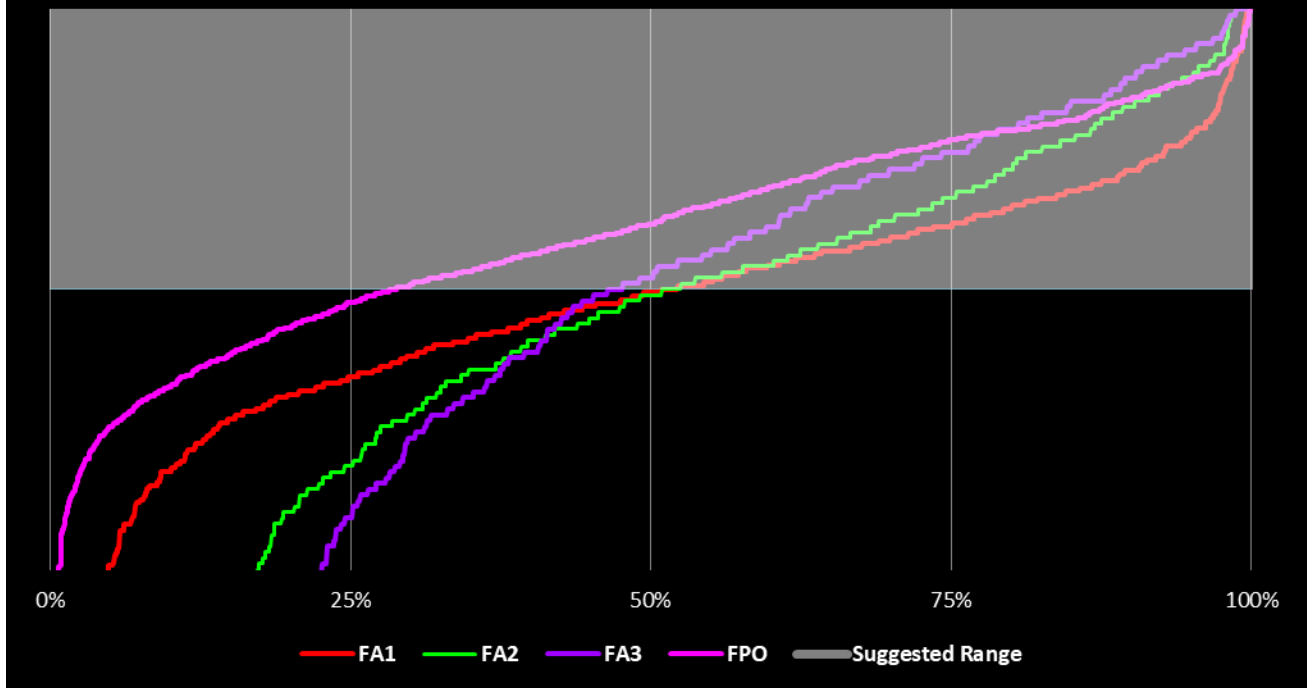
For the Open divisions, there is no lower division to slide to, but these divisions have a suggested minimum rating.

Some players may choose to "play up" because they believe the myth that playing with better players makes them better. (A myth likely propagated by those who want more bad players to beat in their division.) Or, the lower division may not be offered.

The following charts shows the ratings of the players in each division scaled to the range of ratings the divisions should be serving. The percent of players who are playing a division which is too hard for them is shown by where the lines cross the lower edge of the range. For example, 50% of FA1 players have a low enough rating that they could have play FA2 (or lower).

The data covers most B-tiers and above from 2023 and a few weeks of 2024.

Ratings of Players Compared to Suggested Ratings by Division - FPO



Ratings of Players Compared to Suggested Ratings by Division - MPO

