



# SASKATCHEWAN HIGH SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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## Classification System Discussion Paper

In 2005, the Annual General Meeting of the SHSAA passed a resolution asking the Executive Council to develop guiding principles for provincial championships. That process raised inequities in the current classification system as a major concern. It has been a number of years since the last major review of the classification system. A number of sport specific adjustments have been made over the years not all using the same criteria. Since that time there has been a considerable decrease in student population in all schools, rural and urban. Plus the reality of school closures has just begun. Therefore a system that shares common criteria and can adjust to these factors may be beneficial. In addition, as the SHSAA has now adopted the conference model for the classified activities (soccer, volleyball and basketball), concerns raised over the past year prompted the SHSAA Executive to conduct a review of the classification system. The major concern affecting the conference model was the uncertainty of many schools regarding which class their September population will place them which created a number of adjustments to the conference playoffs. The following document is a proposal for change to the classification system, keeping in mind the guiding principles for provincial championships that the membership accepted in 2005 and the factors listed above.

**Classification of team sports is based on the number of students eligible to participate on behalf of the school. .... Classification is not intended to provide equal number of teams in each classification. It is the intent of classification to identify competitive levels of play using population of schools to define the levels.**

This discussion paper contains the proposed changes to the classification procedure in four possible classification systems (a two classification model for soccer; a three classification model for soccer; a four classification model for volleyball and basketball; a five classification model for volleyball and basketball).

The discussion paper will be discussed at the 2007 AGM in Lloydminster as well as being circulated to the membership via the web site. The SHSAA Executive will take the comments and suggestions from both the membership and the AGM and formulate a resolution for the 2008 AGM in Regina, which could take effect in September 2008.

### Classification System and Conference Make-up Procedure

- Each year, the classification of teams in soccer, volleyball and basketball will be based on the previous year's enrolment declaration of the school.  
**Example:** The 2008 classification of teams will be based on the September 30, 2007 enrolment declaration of each school.
- This classification system could be used each year or for a two-year period as well as having an adjustment clause included. This adjustment factor could be that if there is an increase or decrease of 20% the following year, the team would be moved to the proper classification immediately.
- The classification system will be based on a percentage of teams as opposed to the present system of classifying based on static numbers. This will allow the classification system to self-adjust with respect to the number of teams in each category, as the Association anticipates continued school closures and declining enrolments.



## Classification Proposal

### ***Soccer at Present:***

#### Three Classifications

##### Girls Soccer

A:	1 – 85 female students	21 teams
AA:	86 – 250 female students	20 teams
AAA:	251 or more female students	26 teams

##### Boys Soccer

A:	1 – 85 male students	21 teams
AA:	86 – 250 male students	13 teams
AAA:	251 or more male students	25 teams

### ***Soccer Proposals:***

#### Two Classifications

##### Girls Soccer

Total of 68 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate)

A:	lower 60% of the teams entered	41 teams
AA:	upper 40% of the teams entered	27 teams

##### Boys Soccer

Total of 60 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate)

A:	lower 60% of the teams entered	36 teams
AA:	upper 40% of the teams entered	24 teams

#### Three Classifications

##### Girls Soccer

Total of 68 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate)

A:	lower 40% of the teams entered	27 teams
AA:	next 40% of the teams entered	27 teams
AAA:	upper 20% of the teams entered	14 teams

##### Boys Soccer

Total of 60 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate)

A:	lower 40% of the teams entered	24 teams
AA:	next 40% of the teams entered	24 teams
AAA:	upper 20% of the teams entered	12 teams

## ***Volleyball at Present:***

### Five Classifications

#### Girls Volleyball

A:	1 – 20 female students	104 teams
AA:	21 – 30 female students	51 teams
AAA:	31 – 50 female students	55 teams
AAAA:	51 – 150 female students	57 teams
AAAAA:	151 or more female students	27 teams

#### Boys Volleyball

A:	1 – 20 male students	80 teams
AA:	21 – 30 male students	44 teams
AAA:	31 – 50 male students	41 teams
AAAA:	51 – 150 male students	42 teams
AAAAA:	151 or more male students	26 teams

## ***Volleyball Proposals:***

### Four Classifications

#### Girls Volleyball

Total of 295 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 35% of the teams entered	103 teams
AA:	next 30% of the teams entered	88 teams
AAA:	next 25% of the teams entered	74 teams
AAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	30 teams

#### Boys Volleyball

Total of 233 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 35% of the teams entered	82 teams
AA:	next 30% of the teams entered	70 teams
AAA:	next 25% of the teams entered	58 teams
AAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	23 teams

### Five Classifications

#### Girls Volleyball

Total of 295 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 30% of the teams entered	88 teams
AA:	next 25% of the teams entered	74 teams
AAA:	next 20% of the teams entered	59 teams
AAAA:	next 15% of the teams entered	44 teams
AAAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	30 teams

#### Boys Volleyball

Total of 233 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 30% of the teams entered	70 teams
AA:	next 25% of the teams entered	58 teams
AAA:	next 20% of the teams entered	47 teams
AAAA:	next 15% of the teams entered	35 teams
AAAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	23 teams

## ***Basketball at Present:***

### Five Classifications

#### Girls Basketball

A:	1 – 30 female students	39 teams
AA:	31 – 50 female students	37 teams
AAA:	51 – 100 female students **	32 teams
AAAA:	101 or more female students **	32 teams
AAAAA:	251 or more female students in Saskatoon or Regina	18 teams

#### Boys Basketball

A:	1 – 30 male students	45 teams
AA:	31 – 50 male students	36 teams
AAA:	51 – 100 male students **	31 teams
AAAA:	101 or more male students **	34 teams
AAAAA:	251 or more male students in Saskatoon or Regina	19 teams

## ***Basketball Proposals:***

### Four Classifications

#### Girls Basketball

Total of 159 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 35% of the teams entered	56 teams
AA:	next 30% of the teams entered	47 teams
AAA:	next 25% of the teams entered	40 teams
AAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	16 teams

#### Boys Basketball

Total of 166 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 35% of the teams entered	58 teams
AA:	next 30% of the teams entered	50 teams
AAA:	next 25% of the teams entered	42 teams
AAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	16 teams

### Five Classifications

#### Girls Basketball

Total of 159 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 30% of the teams entered	47 teams
AA:	next 25% of the teams entered	40 teams
AAA:	next 20% of the teams entered	32 teams
AAAA:	next 15% of the teams entered	24 teams
AAAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	16 teams

#### Boys Basketball

Total of 166 teams entered in 2006-2007 (Saskatoon Centennial did not participate in '06-'07)

A:	lower 30% of the teams entered	50 teams
AA:	next 25% of the teams entered	42 teams
AAA:	next 20% of the teams entered	33 teams
AAAA:	next 15% of the teams entered	25 teams
AAAAA:	upper 10% of the teams entered	16 teams