



NEPSAC Classification

Coaches' associations are responsible for classifying all member schools for purposes of tournament selection. Communication should follow the classification timeline outlined below. Exceptions to this must be cleared with the NEPSAC Director of Classification. Winter sports will be classified by October 15, spring sports by February 15 and fall sports by May 15. As the timeline indicates, if a school and a coaches' association disagree regarding classification, the school must forward its appeal to the NEPSAC Executive Board for a binding decision.

While enrollment is the **primary** factor considered in determining a school's classification a number of factors can be considered to include league affiliation, strength of schedule, and the program's history of competitiveness with their schedule.

A school electing to re-classify itself in a sport must make a three year commitment to the new classification.

Special circumstances related to classification:

1. Boys basketball—schools can self-select three choices: AAA, AA, or the Enrollment Division. In the Enrollment Division, schools are placed according to their enrollment. To accommodate enrollment fluctuations, there is a +/-10 between each class. If schools exceed the +/-10 bump for 3 consecutive years they must go up or down.
2. Boys hockey—all schools are considered Division 1. Each fall, the enrollment survey results will be applied to the process of dividing boys hockey into two even groups—large and small. When there is an odd number, the large group will absorb the extra school.

NEPSAC ANNUAL CALENDAR — CLASSIFICATION TIMELINE

September

- » NEPSAC Enrollment Survey conducted by Communications Specialist and Director of Classification. This survey will be shared with all coach associations.
- » Winter Coach Associations communicate classification (including changes) to NEPSAC Executive Board *before* Executive Board Meeting #1.
- » Executive Board Meeting #1.
- » Winter classification communicated to all schools following Executive Board Meeting #1 via NEPSAC website/email.
- » Schools may appeal their classification to Coach Association *and* Executive Board by September 30.

October

- » Executive Board Meeting #2 – Winter Classification appeals considered, decided and communicated (early October).

January

- » Spring Coach Associations communicate classification (including changes) to NEPSAC Executive Board *before* Executive Board Meeting #4.

- » Executive Board Meeting #4.
- » Spring classification communicated to all schools following Executive Board Meeting #4 via NEPSAC website.
- » Schools may appeal their classification to Coach Association *and* Executive Board by January 30.

February

- » Executive Board Meeting #5 – Spring Classification appeals considered, decided and communicated.

April

- » Fall Coach Associations communicate classification (including changes) to NEPSAC Executive Board (Board Classification Committee) by April 7.
- » Fall classification communicated to all schools by April 15.
- » Schools may appeal their classification to Coach Association *and* Executive Board by April 30.

May

- » Executive Board Meeting #6 – Fall Classification appeals considered, decided and communicated.