

SHSAA AGM 2016

Classification Committee Report



Foundation of the Discussion

SHSAA Guiding Principle

Classification of team sports is based on the number of students eligible to participate on behalf of the school. This is generally considered the fairest way to classify. It is acknowledged a larger student population provides more athletes to the school program, therefore a more competitive team. 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.



British Columbia

- Classification is based on sport and gender
- Each sport does not have the same number of classifications for each gender



Alberta

- Classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 10-12 (males and females together)
- 1A 1-99
- 2A 100-299
- 3A 300-799
- 4A 800+



Manitoba

- Classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 9-12 (males and females together)
- 1A 1-125 Rural
- 2A Winnipeg 1-99 Rural 125-300
- 3A Winnipeg 100-500 Rural 301+
- 4A Winnipeg 500+



Ontario

- Classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 9-12 (males and females together)
- 1A 1-600
- 2A 601-949
- 3A 949+



New Brunswick

- Classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 9-12 (average of previous 3 years)
- 1A 1-299
- 2A 300-699
- 3A 700+



Nova Scotia

- Classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 9-12
- 1A 1-150 (87 schools)
- 2A 151-299 (40 schools)
- 3A 300-699 (13 schools)
- 4A 700+ (20 schools)



American States

With similar
demographics to Sask



Idaho

(1.6 million population)

- Six classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 9-12
- 1AA 1-99 (39 schools)
- 1A 100-159 (23 schools)
- 2A 160-319 (21 schools)
- 3A 320-639 (21 schools)
- 4A 640-1279 (24 schools)
- 5A 1280+ (21 schools)



Montana

(1.0 million population)

- Four classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 9-12
- 1A 1-119 (103 schools)
- 2A 120-339 (40 schools)
- 3A 340-825 (22 schools)
- 4A 826+ (14 schools)



North Dakota

(1.0 million population)

- Four classification is based on eligible athletes Grade 9-12
- 1A 1-324
- 2A 324+



New Mexico

(2.0 million population)

- The largest 72 schools are split into three groups of 24 to create 4A-6A
- The remaining schools are split into thirds to get 1A-3A
- A multiplying factor of 1.3 is used for private or boarding schools.



Sport Categories

(Basketball)

	A	2A	3A	4A	5A
British Columbia	1-75	76-187	188-283	284+	
# of schools	66	65	66	68	
Alberta	1-99	100-299	300-799	800+	
Saskatchewan	1-30	31-50	51-120	121-250	251+
Manitoba	1-125	100-300	100-500	500+	
Nova Scotia	1-150	151-299	300-799	800+	
New Brunswick	1-299	300-699	700+		

- Volleyball
- Football
- Soccer



Sport Categories

(Football)

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
1A 6-man	21	28	20	22	19	17	16	14	15
2A 6-man	24	24	22	21	21	16	16	15	15
2A 9-man	11	10	21	23	22	24	29	24	24
3A 9-man	10	11							
3A 12-man	20	19	17	19	20	19	21	18	13
4A 12-man	15	14	17	17	16	16	10	16	21
Total	101	106	97	102	98	92	92	87	88

- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Soccer



1. Four Classifications Applied to Each Sport

- 1A 1-45 total students in grade 10-12
120 schools = 40% of total schools who submitted enrollment numbers
- 2A 45-89 total students
 - 86 schools = 28%
- 3A 90-399 total students
 - 63 schools = 21%
- 4A is 400+ total students
 - 31 schools = 10%

Conclusion – The committee was divided on the potential of the model and recommended it goes to AGM for small group discussion



2. Classify based on 9-12 or 10-12 numbers

- Refer to Appendices 1 & 2
- Gr 9 are eligible for all high school events, so why aren't they included?
- Many schools have junior teams for Gr 9s and they are not practically included in sr teams.
- Would affect the transfer policy.

Conclusion – The committee did a driving force for change, so status quo was accepted.



3. Reducing Male Volleyball Classifications

- Currently 198 boys teams – 264 girls teams

Potential #s	Potential New Boys	Remains Same Girls
1-30	87	90
31-50	44	45
51-150	36	54
151+	31	40
		35
	198	264

Conclusion – The results line up very close to girls numbers – pass on to SAG for approval



4. Reduce Bball and Vball Classifications to 4

- Refer to Appendices 3 through 6

Conclusion –

1. The committee was divided on four classifications for vball and referred it to the SAG for additional input.
2. The committee unanimously supported changing basketball for four classifications. Referred it to basketball SAG for approval.



5. Reduce Volleyball Regionals to 3 from 4

- If vball remains at 5 classifications in boys, it effectively eliminates conference play
- If a category has less than 40 teams, then there should be 3 regions. 3 regions of 13 or less.
- If a category has 40 teams, then there still is 4 regions of 10 and conference play can be maintained.

Conclusion – The committee recommends implementing the 3 region model for categories that have less than 40 teams.



6. 9-man Football

- The purpose of creating two classifications of 9-man was to increase the # of teams.

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
2A 9-man	11	11	10	21	23	22	24	29
3A 9-man	10	10	11					

Conclusion – The committee recommends one classification of 9-man



7. 12-man Football Classification

- The current “floor” number has only 9 properly classified 12-man teams
- Seven additional teams have reclassified.

Conclusion – The committee recommends the floor number be reduced suggesting 275. Refer to SAG for additional reference.



Discussion Questions

1. Is a consistent classification system viable for SHSAA? i.e. All sports are classified the same.
2. Are volleyball and basketball overclassified? If so, what is the solution?
3. Are there any states or provinces classification systems that are worth applying to SHSAA classification?
4. Would classifying schools based on grade 9-12 populations be worthwhile?

