



Fall 2016

TO: Softball Directors and Team Managers

FR: Sports Federation Board of Directors

RE: Reclassification of Softball Teams

By action of the Sports Federation Board of Directors and in accordance with the reclassification rules, the top finishers in 2016 state tournament competition have been moved up in an effort to achieve and maintain parity within classes and balance the number of teams in classes statewide.

This reclassification process occurs on an annual basis to maintain **integrity** in the state's classes of competition. Teams need to be constantly challenged to compete against opponents of equal or greater strength and league directors need to promote and reinforce the philosophy, "**winning isn't everything, but striving to win is**".

Slowpitch teams that have been moved up may not petition to move down for a **minimum of two years** and must have played in post-season play at least one year in their new class. **Exception:** Class A, B and C slowpitch teams and Class C fastpitch state runner-up may petition to move down after one year of post-season play in their new class.

Fastpitch teams that have been moved up must play in post-season tournament competition in their new class at least one year prior to being allowed to petition to move down.

Teams that win two or more games in a district or state tournament, may **NOT** petition to move down the following year.

The teams and communities which are affected for the 2017 season are listed below. If questions arise, please contact the Federation office.

Adult Slowpitch Reclassification

Thank you for your cooperation!

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a men's team wins the Class C Slowpitch State Tournament or NSF North American Championships two out of three years, it shall automatically move up to Class B the following year.

C MEN'S SLOW TO B
NONE

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a men's team finishes in the top one-two of the Class DD Slowpitch State Tournament, it shall automatically be considered for move up to Class C the following year.

DD MEN'S SLOW TO C
NBH, North Branch

-See Reverse-

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a men's team finishes in the top two-four of the Class D State tournament it shall

automatically be considered for move up to Class DD the follow year.

D MEN'S SLOW TO DD

Weller, Perham
Arvig, Detroit Lakes

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a men's team finishes in the top two-four of the E East and West State Tournament, it shall automatically be considered for move up to Class D the following year.

E MEN'S SLOW EAST TO D

C&L Excavating, Rice
Augusta Motorworks/MT's, Sauk Rapids
Warzecha Autoworks, Cambridge
Wegenman, Cottage Grove

E MEN'S SLOW WEST TO D

Lefty's, Staples
Wolfpack, Fosston
Mugoo's, Crookston
St. Hilaire Bears/Kruse Builders, Thief River Falls

MEN'S MASTERS SLOWPITCH RECLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a team finishes in the top one-two in C Men's Masters Slowpitch State Tournament, it shall automatically be considered for move up to Class B the following year.

C MEN'S MASTERS (35) TO B

O'Brien's Pub, Rice

WOMEN'S SLOWPITCH RECLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION RULE: No mandatory state reclassification rule in Class C women's slowpitch (subject to the discretion of the board of directors).

C WOMEN'S SLOW TO OPEN

None

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a women's team finishes in the top one-four of the Class DD Slowpitch State Tournament, it shall automatically be considered to move up to Class C the following year.

DD WOMEN'S SLOW TO C

None (C/DD combined in 2016 State)

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a women's team finishes in the top one-four of the Class D Slowpitch State Tournament, it shall automatically be considered for move up to Class DD the following year.

D WOMEN'S SLOW TO DD

Lisa's Place, Chaska

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a women's team finishes in the top two-six of the Class EE Slowpitch State Tournament, it shall automatically move up to Class D the following year.

E WOMEN'S SLOW TO D

None (D/EE combined in 2016 State)

CO-REC SLOWPITCH RECLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION RULE: No mandatory state reclassification rule in Class B/C co-rec slowpitch (subject to the discretion of the board of directors).

B & C

None

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a co-rec team finishes in the top one-four of the Class D Co-Rec Slowpitch State Tournament, it shall automatically be considered for move up one class the following year.

D CO-REC TO C

None

ADULT FASTPITCH RECLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a team finishes in the top six of the fastpitch national championships, it shall comply with applicable National reclassification rules.

B MEN'S FAST TO A

None

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a C team finishes in first or second place of the state tournament it shall automatically be considered for move up to Class B the following year.

C MEN'S FAST TO B

RFG, St. Paul
Pawns, St. Paul

CLASSIFICATION RULE: If a team finishes in the top one-four of the Class D fastpitch state tournament, it shall automatically be considered for move up to Class C the following year.

D MEN'S FAST TO C

Freeport State Bank

NATIONAL RECLASSIFICATION RULES

MANDATORY RECLASSIFICATION RULE: All teams reclassified by NSF National Reclassification Rules will also be reclassified in the MSF program.

MEN'S SLOW E to D

GFR, South St. Paul

All teams reclassified by NSF national reclassification rules must play in state/national championship competition in their new class at least one year prior to being allowed to petition to move down.

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