

New Season Classification Guidelines

1. Teams Remaining in the Same Age Bracket

When a team stays within the same age bracket, the following starting classifications apply:

- **Previous Classification: C** → Begin the new season in **B or higher**
- **Previous Classification: B** → Begin the new season in **A**
- **Previous Classification: A** → Remains **A**

2. Teams Moving Up to the Next Age Bracket

When a team ages up into the next bracket, the following starting classifications apply:

- **Previous Classification: C** → May begin in **C**
- **Previous Classification: B** → Must begin in **B**
- **Previous Classification: A** → Must begin in **A**

3. Roster Turnover and Team Continuity

Roster retention impacts starting classification:

- If a team returns **6 or more players** from the previous season, the team must begin in the classification dictated by the rules above.
- If a team returns **5 or fewer players**, the team's starting classification will be based on the **previous classifications of the returning players**, not the prior team designation.