



Classification Criteria

Class A:

This level of competition is highly competitive with most players having consistent ability and pitchers being capable of controlling the game. Example of teams that WILL be classified as 'A' are:

- A travel team that meets the requirements of Class C or Class B, but wishes to play up in classification.
- A travel team that was classified as 'B' the previous season and won that year's State Championship or other Championship Event (Regionals or Nationals) and was denied an appeal by the USA Softball RI JO Staff
- A travel team that was classified as 'B' the previous season and dominated play in that classification
- A team that has players who are actively or have been on a college roster. Once a player participates in an intercollegiate softball program for a university, college, or junior/community college, the player is ineligible to play below the Class A level.
- Teams classified as Class A may play unlimited Class A & OPEN USA SOFTBALL sanctioned events and other softball organization's events
- Teams classified as Class A CANNOT play in any Class B or Class C USA SOFTBALL sanctioned event

Class B:

- Teams can classify themselves as B with no restrictions. However, should they dominate 2 or more Class B tournaments, they will automatically be reclassified as A with no regard for future Class B tournaments the team is registered for.
- Teams classified as Class B CANNOT play in any Class C USA SOFTBALL sanctioned event



Class C:

-A minimum of 51% of the players MUST reside from the same town and the remainder of the players can come from surrounding towns as defined by USA Softball of Rhode Island, so long as 100% of the players play within the same Recreation Softball League defined by USA Softball of RI. If the surrounding town or towns also have a Recreational Softball League, USA Softball of RI will reach out to see if these players will affect the surrounding towns ability to form their own Class C travel team. If it will affect the town from forming their own travel team, the requested team will be denied Class C status.

-If a team dominates two or more consecutive tournaments within a classification, the team will be subject to a potential classification change based on review.

-First year teams shall be eligible for class C, Second year teams will be promoted to class B. Hybrid teams consisting of both First and Second year players will be classified per the majority of players on the roster (First or Second year) *** A league can request that their first year team will be registered as a Class B team and their second year team as a Class C team.**

-No out of state player shall be eligible to play for a Class C Team. An exception shall be made if the player's town does not offer an opportunity to play USA Softball. An out of state player, under these conditions, will be eligible to play for the closest USA Softball of RI Class C recreation program.

-No private organization, whether for profit or not-for-profit, will be allowed to register for Class C. All Class C players/teams must be affiliated with a recreation league.

Should a team wish to appeal or petition their classification, they must do so by 10/01/24. The classification committee will then schedule a review based on, but not limited to:

-Previous Tournaments with Record

-Roster Additions

-Roster Losses

-Tournament Plans for the Upcoming Season

-Reasoning for their appeal/petition to be re-classified