

# Proposal to Add Article 6.2.4. (c) – Classification of Schools, Placement in a Lower Classification – Football Only

(Action Item via Email Vote; Adopted 3/9/18 by 37-0 vote)

**QUESTION:** *Should the Delegate Assembly add Article 6.2.4. (c) – Classification of Schools, Placement in a Lower Classification – Football Only based on recommendations from the Football Ad Hoc Committee and Executive Board?*

**RATIONALE:** The Executive Board formed a Football Ad Hoc Committee in September 2017 based upon a recommendation from the Classification and Districting Committee and OSAA staff. The Football Ad Hoc Committee met six times and is working to address concerns regarding the sport of football throughout our state. One of their recommendations involves criteria that would allow schools to be eligible for placement in a lower classification, in football only, based on the number of in-classification contests and a team’s winning percentage in those contests. The details of the criteria are outlined in the recently adopted Board Policy – Placement in a Lower Classification but the recommendation necessitates adding language to the OSAA’s Constitution regarding classification of schools.

**RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY:** Executive Board, Football Ad Hoc Committee

**NEXT STEP IF PASSED:** Effective August 1, 2018.

**POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:**

KEY: <i>Add</i> <i>Delete</i>
----------------------------------

### Article 6.2.4 (c) – Assignment to a Lower Classification – Football Only

**6.2.4. Classification of Schools – Classification Thresholds.** During the four-year time block, the following Average Daily Membership (ADM) thresholds will be used by the Executive Board when considering school placement or classification changes:

- |                         |                       |                      |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>6A:</b> 1258 or more | <b>4A:</b> 331 to 675 | <b>2A:</b> 90 to 190 |
| <b>5A:</b> 676 to 1257  | <b>3A:</b> 191 to 330 | <b>1A:</b> 10 to 89  |

**EXCEPTION:** OSAA member schools shall participate based upon ADM in the classifications defined in this Article unless an exception has been granted by the Executive Board in response to the submission of a Petition to Play Down, **or to a Petition to Play Up, or Placement in a Lower Classification.**

**(a) Petition to Play Down. (Petition to Play Down)**

- (1) Submission Deadline.** Except as specified in **Article 6.2.2 (c)**, a member school seeking to play in a lower classification than assigned under **Article 6.2.4** shall be required to complete and submit a “Petition to Play Down” to the OSAA prior to June 1 preceding the quadrennial October Classification and Districting Meeting.
- (2) Sports and Activities Affected.** Any “Petition to Play Down” granted by the Executive Board shall apply to all OSAA sports and activities in which the member school participates.

- (3) **Duration.** Any “Petition to Play Down” granted by the Executive Board shall apply to the classification placement of the petitioning member school during the entire subsequent four-year time block.
- (4) **Required Information.** A member school submitting a “Petition to Play Down” shall provide the following information for consideration by the Executive Board. Petitioning schools that meet all four criteria listed below shall be automatically approved. Schools meeting some but not all criteria will have their petition reviewed by the Executive Board:
- a) Documentation showing the school’s percentage of students on free lunch at 50% or higher.
  - b) Documentation showing that the school’s teams finished in the bottom 50% of the final frozen rankings at their current classification at least 75% of the time for the previous three years.
  - c) Documentation showing that the school’s teams finished in the bottom 20% of the final frozen rankings at their current classification at least 50% of the time for the previous three years.
  - d) Documentation showing that the winning percentage for the school’s teams in team sports was 25% or less at least 40% of the time for the previous three years.
- (5) **Additional Information.** A member school submitting a “Petition to Play Down” may provide any other information to the Executive Board in support of the petition including, but not limited to, evidence of intervention undertaken by the district in an effort to encourage address lack of competitive success and a letter of current league support for the “Petition to Play Down.”
- (b) **Petition to Play Up.** [\(Petition to Play Up\)](#)
- (1) **Submission Deadline.** A member school seeking to play in a higher classification than assigned under [Article 6.2.4](#) shall be required to complete and submit a “Petition to Play Up” to the OSAA prior to June 1 preceding the quadrennial October Classification and Districting Meeting.
  - (2) **Sports and Activities Affected.** Any “Petition to Play Up” granted by the Executive Board shall apply to all OSAA sports and activities in which the member school participates.
  - (3) **Duration.** Any “Petition to Play Up” granted by the Executive Board shall apply to the classification placement of the petitioning member school during the entire subsequent four-year time block. See [Executive Board Policies, “Classification – Playing Up”](#) for additional information.
- (c) **Placement in a Lower Classification – Football Only.** See [Executive Board Policies, “Football – Placement in a Lower Classification”](#) for additional information.
- (1) **Deadline.** A member school that meets a criterion to be eligible for placement in a lower classification than its adjusted base number enrollment dictates shall notify the OSAA if it intends to accept that placement per the deadline established by the Executive Board.
  - (2) **Sports and Activities Affected.** Any “Placement in a Lower Classification” approved by the Executive Board shall apply to football only.
  - (3) **Duration.** Any “Placement in a Lower Classification” approved by the Executive Board shall apply for two years.
  - (4) **Placement Range.** A member school shall not be placed more than one classification lower than the classification where it accumulated the data used to meet a criterion.
  - (5) **Eligibility.** A member school approved by the Executive Board for “Placement in a Lower Classification” shall be eligible for district or state honors at the lower classification.

## Proposal to Amend Article 6.4. – Competing Outside the Assigned Classification

*(Action Item via Email Vote; Adopted 3/9/18 by 37-0 vote)*

**QUESTION:** *Should the Delegate Assembly amend Article 6.4. – Competing Outside the Assigned Classification based on recommendations from the Football Ad Hoc Committee and Executive Board?*

**RATIONALE:** The Executive Board formed a Football Ad Hoc Committee in September 2017 based upon a recommendation from the Classification and Districting Committee and OSAA staff. The Football Ad Hoc Committee met six times and is working to address concerns regarding the sport of football throughout our state. One of their recommendations involves criteria that would allow schools to be eligible for placement in a lower classification, in football only, based on the number of in-classification contests and a team's winning percentage in those contests. The details of the criteria are outlined in Board Policy – Placement in a Lower Classification but the recommendation necessitates amending language to the OSAA's Constitution regarding competing outside the assigned classification.

**RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY:** Executive Board, Football Ad Hoc Committee

**NEXT STEP IF PASSED:** Effective August 1, 2018.

### POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

KEY: <b>Add</b> <b>Delete</b>
----------------------------------

### Article 6.4 – Competing Outside the Assigned Classification

A school may choose to compete outside its assigned classification in any sport but will not be eligible for district or state honors outside its assigned classification in that sport, **except as otherwise provided in 6.2.4. (c).**