

## SEEDING – LMS Tournaments

ENYTB relies heavily on the league standing to group these teams into BIC, AAA and AA levels. But standings can be misleading for various reasons. For example, a team may have played only a small number of games and/or it may have had lots of close losses to the best teams in their age level. Thus, ENYTB reserves the right to deviate from the standings when such factors are evident.

The grouping of teams by power level is more difficult in the case of the LMS tournament for two principal reasons:

1. ENYTB teams have open rosters in this tournament, meaning they can add players for this tournament that did not play for them in the regular season.
2. This tournament is open to non-ENYTB teams – it is very difficult to get a read on the skill level of non-ENYTB teams. We largely rely on the word of the manager unless the team's reputation precedes it i.e., ENYTB teams are telling me the team is ranked significantly lower than it should be.

The bottom-line is we feel we are fairly good at recognizing team strength for ENYTB teams which comprise 90 to 95% of our LMS entries. This is evidenced by the many close games and exciting tournaments from year-to year. In the final analysis, each team's placement is at the discretion of the tournament director.

Once the BIC, AAA and AA groupings are determined, the next step is to place teams into pools. The two most important factors for this is whether the teams have played each other during the regular season and whether a team is a primary or secondary host. Lesser factors that we consider is the team age, the presence of older-aged players and the relative ranking within the overall skill level.