Understanding Your Class Year and Lottery Number

Two factors determine your standing in the Room Selection process:
1. Your class year
2. Your lottery number

What is my Class Year?
During Room Selection preference is first and foremost granted according to class. For the room selection process all students are assigned a class year rank based on their projected class status for the fall. This is based on information provided by the Office of the Registrar.

Below is a breakdown of the rankings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Year</th>
<th>Projected Class Status</th>
<th>Class Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2017</td>
<td>Rising Senior</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2018</td>
<td>Rising Junior</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2019</td>
<td>Rising Sophomore</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where Does My Lottery Number Come From?
Within each class students are assigned a lottery number that is generated through our housing software program. Your lottery number is a number assigned to you to decide when in your class year you pick. This number is sent to you via your Skidmore email address.

Lottery numbers are assigned within a specified range for your class at random. Each class has lottery numbers that have been separated into three thirds.

1. Top Third – closest to zero
2. Middle Third – number in the middle
3. Bottom Third – furthest from zero

Our process looks at your number from the previous year and assigns you a new number from a different third. As a result most students should never be in the same third twice as most students will only take part in 3 room selection processes (First year for Sophomore year, Sophomore year for Junior year, and Junior year for Senior year). By your senior year, you will have been assigned a number in each third. Only students that spend more than three years at Skidmore should ever have numbers twice in the same third.

Please know that lottery numbers are non-transferable. If you will not be using your lottery number, you may not give it to another student. Students who alter their lottery number will be brought to the Integrity Board.

So What Does This All Mean?

Missing class to participate in Room Selection is not an excusable absence. Instead, assign a proxy!
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All this information factors into when you will pick housing. In the simplest form the student with the higher class year rank and lottery number closest to zero will pick their housing first.

**Example**
Student A – Class Rank 3.0 - Lottery Number 891
Student B – Class Rank 2.0 – Lottery Number 1520

*Student A picks first*

If class rank is the same then the student with the lottery number closest to zero picks first.

**Example**
Student A – Class Rank 2.0 - Lottery Number 1658
Student B – Class Rank 2.0 – Lottery Number 1520

*Student B picks first*

What about groups?
Groups change this all up a little. Preference is still given to class year and lottery number but all members need to be factored in. This is the same whether you are selecting an apartment, a row of rooms, or a double room. In order to make it as fair and simple as possible they following rules are used to decide group selection order.

**Class Year Average**

In order to ensure that preference is given to the class rank of all students involved in a group your class rank is averaged. This is why we use the class rank numbers rather than class year. Below are a couple of examples of how group class rank is decided.

**Example 1**
4 Person Group
- Student A – Class of 2016 – 4.0
- Student B – Class of 2016 – 4.0
- Student C – Class of 2016 – 4.0
- Student D – Class of 2016 – 4.0

*Class Average = 4.0 ((4+4+4+4)/4 = 4)*

**Example 2**
4 Person Group
- Student A – Class of 2016 – 4.0
- Student B – Class of 2017 – 3.0
- Student C – Class of 2017 – 3.0
- Student D – Class of 2016 – 4.0

*Class Average = 3.5 ((4+3+3+4)/4 = 3.5)*

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**Group Lottery Numbers**
In order to keep the process simple and clean only the lottery number closest to zero is considered for groups. Other lottery numbers are not used in the groups setting.

**Example**
4 Person Group
- Student A – Lottery Number - 23
- Student B – Lottery Number - 356
- Student C – Lottery Number - 1
- Student D – Lottery Number – 286
  **Group Lottery Number = 1**

**Highest Class Average ALWAYS Selects First**
Sticking with our rule of preference to class year above all, the group with the highest class average will always select first regardless of what group has the best lottery number.

**Example**
Group 1 - 4 Person Group
- Student A – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 23
- Student B – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 356
- Student C – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 1
- Student D – Class Rank - 3.0, Lottery Number – 891
  **Class Average = 3.75 ((4+4+4+4)/4 = 3.75)**
  **Group Lottery Number = 1**

Group 2 - 4 Person Group
- Student A – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 286
- Student B – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 356
- Student C – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 392
- Student D – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number – 691
  **Class Average = 4.0 ((4+4+4+4)/4 = 4.0)**
  **Group Lottery Number = 286**

  **Group 2 Picks First (4.0>3.75)**

Lottery numbers only come into the equation when class average is the same for all groups involved.

**Example**
Group 1 - 4 Person Group
- Student A – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 23
- Student B – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 356
- Student C – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 1
- Student D – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number – 25

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Class Average = 4.0 \((4+4+4+4)/4 = 4.0)\)
Group Lottery Number = 1

Group 2 - 4 Person Group
Student A – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 286
Student B – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 396
Student C – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 392
Student D – Class Rank - 4.0, Lottery Number - 691
Class Average = 4.0 \((4+4+4+4)/4 = 4.0)\)
Group Lottery Number = 286

**Group 1 Picks First** (Same Class Average = 4.0, Lottery Number 1 < Lottery Number 286)

So I Understand the Process But When Do I Pick?
All students participating in Room Selection will receive their selection time in their Skidmore email prior to the start of their room selection process.

Groups applying for Apartment Selection, who have successfully completed and submitted the Room Selection Apartment Worksheet, will receive their selection time between March 9th and March 13th. Selection times will be decided based on the above mentioned criteria.

Students and groups choosing to live in the Residence Halls will receive their selection time in early to mid-April.

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