How to Calculate SMG Portfolio Rankings

The Stock Market Game™ ranks portfolios either by *Total Equity* or *S&P Growth*. Check your *Account Summary* tab to see which ranking method your SMG session uses. Here is how to calculate rankings for each method.

Total Equity Method

Teams are ranked based on the dollar value of their portfolio's *Total Equity* on the last day of the SMG session. The team with the highest *Total Equity* ranks first, the next highest ranks second, and so on (assuming teams have also followed all general and local SMG rules).

EXAMPLE: On the last day of an SMG session, Team A ends with $110,000 *Total Equity*, Team B with $95,000, and Team C with $90,000. Team A has the highest dollar value of *Total Equity* and ranks first, followed by Team B in second place, and Team C in third.

S&P Growth Method

Teams are ranked based on the percent growth of their portfolio's *Total Equity* compared to the percent growth of the S&P 500 Index. The team with the highest *% Return Above/Below S&P 500 Growth* during their SMG session ranks first, the team with the next highest ranks second, and so on (assuming teams have also followed all general and local SMG rules).

How to Calculate Portfolio Rankings using *S&P Growth* Method:

The first step is to calculate a team's total equity percent growth. Subtract $100,000 from the portfolio's *Total Equity* and then divide by $100,000. Next, calculate the S&P 500 percent growth by subtracting the S&P 500 closing value on the day prior to the official start of the SMG session (*My S&P500 Start Value*) from the most recent S&P 500 closing value (*S&P500 Last Close*) and dividing by *My S&P500 Start Value*. Finally, subtract the S&P 500 percent growth from your total equity percent growth and multiply by 100. This gives you the team's *% Return Above/Below S&P 500 Growth*.

Here is a formula to help with calculations:

$$\left(\frac{\textit{Total Equity} - \$100{,}000}{\$100{,}000} - \frac{\textit{S\&P500 Last Close} - \textit{My S\&P500 Start Value}}{\textit{My S\&P500 Start Value}}\right) \times 100 = \%\ \textit{Return Above/Below S\&P 500 Growth}$$

PLEASE NOTE: If your portfolio username/password was issued after the official start date of the SMG session, your S&P 500 start value will be the S&P 500 closing value on the day prior to when your portfolio username/password was issued. Each team's S&P start value appears as *My S&P500 Start Value* on their *Account Summary* tab, the *Rankings* tab, and all *Rankings* screens, and does not change during the SMG session.

EXAMPLE: Teams A and B are created before an SMG session start date and have *My S&P500 Start Value* of 2000. Team C is created after the SMG session start date and has *My S&P500 Start Value* of 2100. On the last day of the SMG session, the *S&P500 Last Close* is recorded at 2150. Team A ends with $110,000 in *Total Equity*, and Teams B and C end with $105,000. Using the formula, teams can calculate rankings as per the table below. Team C has the highest *% Return Above/Below S&P 500 Growth* and ranks first, followed by Team A in second place, and Team B in third.

	Total Equity	***Total Equity Growth***	***My S&P500 Start Value***	***S&P500 Last Close***	***S&P Growth (points)***	***S&P Growth (percent)***	***% Return Above/Below S&P 500 Growth***
Team C	$105,000	5.0%	2100	2150	50	2.4%	2.6%
Team A	$110,000	10.0%	2000	2150	150	7.5%	2.5%
Team B	$105,000	5.0%	2000	2150	150	7.5%	-2.5%