



2020 Rule Change Summary

Article I

Change From	Change To
Old Formatting	New cover photos & date change at footer to reflect June 2020
<p>2.6 Statement of Participation</p> <p>2.6.1 Each team is required to play all eligible team members in every game unless a player is injured or has been removed due to disciplinary reasons. Coaches must notify the competition management prior to each game if players on the approved tournament roster will not be playing due to injury or disciplinary reasons.</p>	<p>ADD: Each team is required to play all eligible team members in every game unless a player is injured or has been removed due to disciplinary reasons. Coaches must notify the competition management prior to each game if players on the approved tournament roster will not be playing due to injury or disciplinary reasons. Failure to play all eligible team members in each game will result in penalties, up to and including forfeit and disqualification.</p>
<p>5.0 Classifications of Special Olympics Sports</p> <p>5.1 Three classifications of sports in Special Olympics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1.1 Official Sports 5.1.2 Recognized Sports 5.1.3 Locally Popular Sports <p>5.2 The following criteria will be used to classify Official Sports, Recognized Sports and Locally Popular Sports:</p> <p>(Old Chart)</p> <p>*According to Special Olympics Annual Census</p> <p>5.3 Official Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.3.1 Summer Sports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.3.1.1 Athletics 5.3.1.2 Badminton 5.3.1.3 Basketball 5.3.1.4 Bocce 5.3.1.5 Bowling 5.3.1.6 Cycling 5.3.1.7 Equestrian 5.3.1.8 Football 5.3.1.9 Golf 	<p>CLASSIFICATION OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS</p> <p>5.1 The sports in which Special Olympics athletes are given the opportunity to train and compete are divided into four levels. Sports are recognized by the criteria listed below for each level. Three classifications of Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1.1 Official Sports 5.1.2 Recognized Sports 5.1.3 Locally Popular Sports <p>5.2 Sport Level Criteria The following criteria will be used to classify Official Sports, Recognized Sports and Locally Popular Sports: Sport Level Criteria (New Chart Inserted)</p> <p>*According to Special Olympics Annual Census</p> <p>5.3 Official Sport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.3.1 Summer Sports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.3.1.1 Athletics 5.3.1.2 Badminton 5.3.1.3 Basketball 5.3.1.4 Bocce 5.3.1.5 Bowling 5.3.1.6 Cycling



<p>5.3.1.10 Handball</p> <p>5.3.1.11 Judo</p> <p>5.3.1.12 Gymnastics Artistic</p> <p>5.3.1.13 Gymnastics Rhythmic</p> <p>5.3.1.14 Open Water Swimming</p> <p>5.3.1.15 Powerlifting</p> <p>5.3.1.16 Roller Skating</p> <p>5.3.1.17 Sailing</p> <p>5.3.1.18 Softball</p> <p>5.3.1.19 Swimming</p> <p>5.3.1.20 Table Tennis</p> <p>5.3.1.21 Tennis</p> <p>5.3.1.22 Volleyball</p> <p>5.3.2 Winter Sports</p> <p>5.3.2.1 Alpine Skiing</p> <p>5.3.2.2 Cross Country Skiing</p> <p>5.3.2.3 Figure Skating</p> <p>5.3.2.4 Floorball</p> <p>5.3.2.5 Floor Hockey</p> <p>5.3.2.6 Short Track Speed Skating</p> <p>5.3.2.7 Snowboarding</p> <p>5.3.2.8 Snowshoeing</p> <p>5.4 Recognized Sports</p> <p>5.4.1.1 Cricket</p> <p>5.4.1.2 Kayaking</p> <p>5.5 Locally Popular Sports</p> <p>5.5.1 Accredited Programs may offer sports that are locally popular and are not currently considered Official or Recognized Sports.</p> <p>5.6 Locally Popular Sports that Require Pre-Approval from Special Olympics, Inc. (SOI)</p> <p>5.6.1 These are sports that SOI has determined might expose Special Olympics athletes to unreasonable risks to their health or safety.</p> <p>5.6.2 No Accredited Program may offer any training or competition activities in any sport that SOI has listed here, without approval from SOI Sports Department.</p> <p>5.6.3 Requests for permission to offer one of these sports must be accompanied by proposed rules and safety standards.</p> <p>5.6.4 SOI has presently classified combative sports, martial arts (other than</p>	<p>5.3.1.7 Equestrian</p> <p>5.3.1.8 Football</p> <p>5.3.1.9 Golf</p> <p>5.3.1.10 Handball</p> <p>5.3.1.11 Judo</p> <p>5.3.1.12 Gymnastics Artistic</p> <p>5.3.1.13 Gymnastics Rhythmic</p> <p>5.3.1.14 Open Water Swimming</p> <p>5.3.1.15 Powerlifting</p> <p>5.3.1.16 Roller Skating</p> <p>5.3.1.17 Sailing</p> <p>5.3.1.18 Softball</p> <p>5.3.1.19 Swimming</p> <p>5.3.1.20 Table Tennis</p> <p>5.3.1.21 Tennis</p> <p>5.3.1.22 Volleyball</p> <p>5.3.2 Winter Sports</p> <p>5.3.2.1 Alpine Skiing</p> <p>5.3.2.2 Cross Country Skiing</p> <p>5.3.2.3 Figure Skating</p> <p>5.3.2.4 Floorball</p> <p>5.3.2.5 Floor Hockey</p> <p>5.3.2.6 Short Track Speed Skating</p> <p>5.3.2.7 Snowboarding</p> <p>5.3.2.8 Snowshoeing</p> <p>5.4 Recognized Sports</p> <p>5.4.1.1 Cricket</p> <p>5.4.1.2 Kayaking</p> <p>5.5 Locally Popular Sports</p> <p>5.5.1 Accredited Programs may offer sports that are locally popular and are not currently considered Official or Recognized Sports.</p> <p>5.3 5.6 Locally Popular Sports that Require Pre-Approval from Special Olympics, Inc. (SOI)</p> <p>5.3.1 SOI has presently classified combative sports, martial arts (other than Judo), sledding sports, motor sports, aerial sports, shooting and archery as Locally Popular Sports that require Pre-Approval from SOI.</p> <p>5.3.2 5.6.1 These are sports that SOI has determined might expose Special Olympics athletes to unreasonable risks to their health or safety.</p> <p>5.3.3 5.6.2 No Accredited Program may offer any training or competition activities in any sport that</p>
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<p>Judo), sledding sports, motor sports, aerial sports, shooting and archery as Locally Popular Sports that Require Pre-Approval from SOI.</p> <p>5.7 Maintenance of Sport Recognition Levels</p> <p>5.7.1 Each sport will be re-evaluated every four years and classified based on the criteria above. Summer Sports will be recertified after each World Summer Games. Winter Sports will be recertified after each World Winter Games.</p> <p>5.7.2 The SOI Sports Department shall be responsible for submitting evidence for the level of recognition of all sports.</p> <p>5.7.3 The recertification notification will be made to the Sports Rules Advisory Committee.</p>	<p>SOI has listed here, without approval from SOI Sports Department.</p> <p>5.3.4 5.6.3 Requests for permission to offer one of these sports must be accompanied by proposed rules and safety standards.</p> <p>5.6.4 SOI has presently classified combative sports, martial arts (other than Judo), sledding sports, motor sports, aerial sports, shooting and archery as Locally Popular Sports that Require Pre-Approval from SOI.</p> <p>Maintenance of Sport Recognition Levels</p> <p>5.4.1 5.7.1 Each sport level will be re-evaluated based on Special Olympics' census data on an annual basis. every four years and classified based on the criteria above. Summer Sports will be recertified after each World Summer Games. Winter Sports will be recertified after each World Winter Games.</p> <p>5.7.2 The SOI Sports Department shall be responsible for submitting evidence for the level of recognition of all sports.</p> <p>5.4.2 5.7.3 The recertification notification will be made to the Sports Rules Advisory Committee will be notified of any change in level by sport.</p>
<p>8.4 Jury</p> <p>8.4.7 Jury decisions should be based on the rules and the specific circumstances for each protest.</p>	<p>ADD/DELETE: Jury decisions should must be based on the rules and the specific circumstances for each protest.</p>
<p>10.5 Resolving Divisioning Issues</p> <p>10.5.1.3.2 Final divisions of less than three athletes or teams are only permissible once age groups and ability range have been broadened as far as possible within the above guidelines.</p>	<p>DELETE</p> <p>10.5.1.3.2 Final divisions of less than three athletes or teams are only permissible once age groups and ability range have been broadened as far as possible within the above guidelines.</p>
<p>12.2 Ties</p> <p>12.2.1 In the case of a tie, each athlete or team that has achieved the same result shall receive the same award for the highest place earned. For example, two athletes who tie for third place shall each receive the bronze medal. Athletes or teams that follow shall receive the appropriate award for their order of finish. For example, an athlete who crossed the finish line fourth shall receive the fourth place ribbon, regardless of whether the athletes who</p>	<p>DELETE/ADD: Each sport will follow sport-specific criteria related to ties. If this is not defined and athletes or teams tie for any place, they each receive the highest award for that place. As a result, a tie for one place will result in no award being given for the following place. In the case of a tie, each athlete or team that has achieved the same result shall receive the same award for the highest place earned. For example, two athletes who tie for third place shall each receive the bronze medal. Athletes or teams that follow shall receive the appropriate award for their order of finish. For example, an athlete who crossed</p>



<p>preceded him or her tied. As a result, a tie for one place will result in no award being given for the next place – a tie for first place means there is no second place recipient.</p>	<p>the finish line fourth shall receive the fourth place ribbon, regardless of whether the athletes who preceded him or her tied. As a result, a tie for one place will result in no award being given for the next place – a tie for first place means there is no second place recipient</p>
<p>14.1.2 Unified Sports Competitive</p> <p>14.1.2.1 The Unified Sports Competitive model combines approximately equal numbers of Special Olympics athletes (individuals with intellectual disabilities) and partners (individuals without intellectual disabilities) as teammates on sport teams for training and competition. All athletes and partners on a Unified Sports Competitive team must have attained the necessary sport-specific skills and tactics to compete without modification of the current Special Olympics Official Sports Rules. A Unified Sport team is an inclusive sports program with approximately equal numbers of athletes and partners. Athletes and partners must be of similar age and ability for all team sports. Please see 14.3 Special Olympics Competitive Sport-Specific Parameters at the end of this section. For individual sports, athletes and partners must be of similar age and ability in Badminton, Kayaking, Table Tennis, Tennis, Figure Skating and Short Track Speed Skating. For all other individual sports, the requirements for age and ability matching vary as defined on a sport-by-sport basis in section 14.3.</p>	<p>DELETE/ADD: The Unified Sports Competitive model combines approximately equal numbers of Special Olympics athletes (individuals with intellectual disabilities) and partners (individuals without intellectual disabilities) as teammates on sport teams for training and competition. Meaningful involvement of all teammates in training and competition is a fundamental requirement of this model. All teammates athletes and partners on a Unified Sports Competitive team must have attained the necessary sport-specific skills and knowledge of tactics to compete without modification of the current Special Olympics Official Sports Rules. A Unified Sport team is an inclusive sports program with approximately equal numbers of athletes and partners. Teammates Athletes and partners must be of similar age and ability for all team sports. Similar means a comparable range of ages and ability levels. Please see 14.3 Special Olympics Competitive Sport-Specific Parameters at the end of this section. For individual sports, athletes and partners must be of similar age and ability in Badminton, Kayaking, Table Tennis, Tennis, Figure Skating and Short Track Speed Skating. For all other individual sports, the requirements for age and ability matching vary as defined on a sport-by-sport basis in section 14.3.</p>
<p>14.1.2.2 Unified Sports Competitive model teams are eligible to compete at Regional and World Games.</p>	<p>ADD/CHANGE:</p> <p>14.1.2.2 Similar Age Requirements for Competitive Models</p> <p>14.1.2.2.1 If any member of a team is between the ages of 8 -13, the variance between the youngest and oldest member of the team <u>must</u> be no more than 3 years.</p> <p>14.1.2.2.2. If any member of a team is between the ages of 14 -17 the variance between the youngest and oldest member of the team <u>must</u> be no more than 5 year.</p> <p>14.1.2.2.3 If all the members of a team are 18 and older the variance between the youngest and</p>



	<p>oldest member of the team should be no more than 20 years.</p> <p>14.1.2.3 14.1.2.2 Unified Sports Competitive model teams are eligible to compete at Regional and World Games.</p>
<p>14.1.3.2 Unified Sports Player Development model teams are eligible to compete at Regional and World Games.</p>	<p>ADD/CHANGE:</p> <p>14.1.3. 2 Similar Age Requirements for Player Development Models</p> <p>14.1.3.2.1 If any member of a team is between the ages of 8 -13, the variance between the youngest and oldest member of the team <u>must</u> be no more than 3 years.</p> <p>14.1.3.2.2. If any member of a team is between the ages of 14 -17 the variance between the youngest and oldest member of the team <u>must</u> be no more than 5 year.</p> <p>14.1.3.2.3 If all the members of a team are 18 and older the variance between the youngest and oldest member of the team should be no more than 20 years.</p> <p>14.1.3.3 14.1.2.2 Unified Sports Player Development model teams are eligible to compete at Regional and World Games.</p>
<p>A.5 – Official Form: For Proposing Special Olympics Sports Rules, Amendments and Modifications</p>	<p>CHANGE: Official Form: Special Olympics Proposed Rule Change Form For Proposing Special Olympics Sports Rules, Amendments and Modifications</p>