



LEVELS OF COMPETITION

Athletes advance to higher levels of competition as described below in accordance with Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC) policies and procedures.

- All levels of competition must be conducted using Special Olympics Sport Rules or National Governing Body (NGB) rules except the Scrimmage level.
- Events in every level of competition, except the Scrimmage-level, serve as qualifiers for other levels.
- Scrimmage-level events are not recorded in the Games Management System (GMS).
- All other events are recorded in the Games Management System (GMS) as Competitions (single sport) or Games (multiple sports).

Scrimmages are events that may be conducted to include two or more teams from a Local Program or Area. These events do not qualify athletes for advancement in their sport, but simply serve as another competition opportunity. Examples: scrimmages, dual meets, pick-up games, invitationals. Organizer: Coach or Local Program Coordinator (LPC).

Local events are conducted within specific Local Program or Area geography. These events serve as qualifiers to advance to Chapter-level competition. Examples: Area and Local Program games and competitions. Organizer: Area or Local Program staff.

Regional events include athletes from the entire Region and are qualifiers for athletes to advance to Chapter-level competition. Organizer: Regional staff.

Divisional events are hosted by a Division and include athletes from multiple Regions within specific SOSC Divisions (North, Central, South). These events serve as qualifiers to advance to Chapter-level competition. Organizer: Regional Staff (*Proposed addition to levels of competition*)

Chapter events showcase the skills and accomplishments of Special Olympics athletes, and therefore, athletes must be well-trained. SOSC offers competition in 12 sports. SOSC conducts two major chapter events annually including Fall Games and Summer Games. Organizer: HQ staff.

USA Games are offered every four years. Each chapter of the US sends a delegation based on an allotment from Special Olympics North America (SONA). The next USA Games will be held in 2018.

World Games are offered every two years on an alternating between Winter Games and Summer Games. The next World Summer Games will be in 2019, 2023, etc., and World Winter Games in, 2017, 2021, etc. Athletes from Chapters in the United States represent the Special Olympics USA team. SOSC sends a delegation based on an allotment from SONA.



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