Special Olympics Minnesota **Bowling Handbook**

Special Olympics Minnesota

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Practice ideas, skill development and bowling rules can be found in the SOI Bowling Quick Start Guide and SOI Bowling Rules at www.specialolympics.org/sports.aspx.

RULES

The Official Special Olympics Sports Rules for Bowling shall govern all Special Olympics competitions. As an international sports program, Special Olympics has created these rules based upon Federation Internationale des Quilleurs (FIQ) Rules as well as World Tenpin Bowling Association (WTBA) Rules for bowling found at http://www.worldbowling.org. Special Olympics Minnesota adheres to Special Olympics Sports Rules for Bowling except in instances highlighted below.

EVENTS

Singles

- Traditional:
  - Bowlers bowl two games.
  - Bowlers alternate lanes each turn.
- Ramp Assisted:
  - Bowlers bowl two games.
  - Ramp bowlers stay in the same lane and bowl three frames, then four frames, and then three frames again.
  - Assistants – one assistant allowed per athlete. No assistance should be given with forward movement of the ball. An assistant can place the ball on the ramp but the athlete must set the ball in motion on their own. Delegations need to note the assistant on the registration form and an assistant credential/badge must be worn during the competition.
  - Ramps – if the ramp crosses the foul line then a foul is called.
- Ramp Unassisted:
  - Bowlers bowl two games.
  - Ramp bowlers stay in the same lane and bowl three frames, then four frames, and then three frames again.
  - A volunteer or assistant can only position the ramp; the athlete must do everything else.

Doubles

- Traditional, Ramp Assisted, Ramp Unassisted and Unified:
  - All ramp or non-ramp teams; no combination-exception for unified teams.
  - Team members alternate lanes; if team member one starts on lane three, then team member two starts on lane four.
  - Scoring – team member one final score + team member two final score = doubles team final score.
  - Scratches – if one team member scratches then the team is scratched.
  - Teams participating at Area must remain the same when participating at State.

Additional Information

- Closed competition – coaches are not allowed in the bowling area. Exceptions are made for assistants with ramp bowlers or for assistants with bowlers for behavioral/medical reasons (must be noted on the registration form in advance).
- No coaching allowed during the competition.
- Hats and Clothing – bowling or team shirts are encouraged. No hats allowed. Helmets are allowed for medical purposes (please note on registration form).
- Bumper Bowling – is not a Special Olympics Minnesota event. Bumpers may be used as a training tool but the scores obtained with bumpers cannot be used as a training average.
  - Special Olympics Minnesota provides opportunities to as many ability levels as possible in all sports. Many adaptations made for other sports are offered to enable athletes to participate in a sport they, otherwise, could not. This is the reason ramp bowling is offered. Bumper bowling, however, does not change the manner in which someone bowls. It only changes the score a person can achieve.

DIVISIONING AND HANDICAP

Divisioning (3-8 athletes per division)

- Ability – training average and handicap used.
- Age (approx. 8-15, 16-21, 22-29, and 30 and older).
- The scores within a division are 15 percent between highest and lowest scores.

Special Olympics Minnesota uses a handicap to create the fairest divisioning possible. Coaches are not responsible for submitting an athlete's handicap. Special Olympics Minnesota will determine the handicap based on the training average the athlete has throughout the training season.

Training Average

The training average should be determined by bowling as many games as possible. Coaches are responsible for recording the training average on the registration form.

Handicap

Special Olympics Minnesota will determine the handicap. Handicap = 200 – training average (200+ training averages have no handicap).

Placement/Scoring

Determined by adding together the scores of the two games the athlete bowls plus their two-game handicap to determine total score. The total score is used to determine placement within a division. For example, if an athlete's two-game handicap is 220 and they bowl scores of 100 and 110 their total score would be 430. So 430, not 210, is the score used to determine the athletes place in the division. For doubles, the two athletes two-game scores and two-game handicaps are added together to determine the total score.

EVENT INFORMATION

Area Competitions:

Area	Date	Location	City	Register By	Contact
Area 1	Oct. 4-5	Family Bowl	Thief River Falls	Sept. 20	diamond.knispel@somn.org
Area 2	Oct. 14	Bemidji Bowl	Bemidji	Sept. 30	diamond.knispel@somn.org
Area 3	Oct. 22	Incline Station	Duluth	Oct. 9	ben.swarts@somn.org
Area 4	Oct. 27	Garden Center Lanes	Alexandria	Oct. 13	leah.wolkow@somn.org
Area 5	Oct. 6	Jack's House	Brainerd	Sept. 26	leah.wolkow@somn.org
Area 6	Oct. 9	Hutch Bowling	Hutchinson	Sept. 26	leah.wolkow@somn.org
Area 7	Oct. 14-15	River City Extreme	Monticello	Oct. 2	emily.dierberger@somn.org
Area 8	Oct. 15	Concordia Lanes	New Ulm	Sept. 29	lukas.johnson@somn.org
Area 9	Oct. 1	Wow Zone	Mankato	Sept. 15	lukas.johnson@somn.org
Area 10	Oct. 16	Treasure Island	Welch	Sept. 30	lukas.johnson@somn.org
Area 11	Oct. 16	Brunswick Zone XL	Brooklyn Park	Oct. 2	sam.leidholt@somn.org
Area 12	Oct. 8	AMF Southtown	Bloomington	Sept. 25	sam.leidholt@somn.org
Area 13	Oct. 16	Brunswick	Blaine	Oct. 2	emily.dierberger@somn.org

2016 State Bowling:

Date	Location	Quota Due	Register By
Nov. 11-13	Brunzwick Zones - Blaine, Brooklyn Park and Lakeville	Oct. 7	Oct. 23

State Competition Details:

- Bowling shifts will be:
  - Friday (Brooklyn Park only): singles, doubles and Unified doubles
  - Saturday: singles (all three locations).
  - Sunday: singles (all three locations), doubles, and Unified doubles
- Athletes can compete in both singles and doubles.
- Athletes bowl two games for each event.
- Special Olympics Minnesota will try to keep delegations at the same venue all day. If bowling two days, delegations may be at a different venue each day.
- Teams need to compete at area competitions in order to compete at State.
- Celebration Ceremonies – Saturday, Nov. 12 at the Mall of America