



Special Olympics Massachusetts

Bowling Season Overview 2019 season

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Bowling Season Deadlines

- All Medical/Class A forms **due no later than 1 week before your qualifier**, or they will be scratched. No exceptions, as we need to finalize lane assignments well ahead of time.
- All Bowling Registrations from the previous year's season to be sent to bowling programs on **November 28th**
 - Will contain last season's roster, medical expiration dates and class A expiration dates
 - You can either modify this document and submit as your 2019 registration, or use it as a reference and complete a blank SOMA Bowling registration form (found on our Forms and Downloads portion of our website)
- **Submit minimum of Twelve (12) scores by Final registration deadline** to determine participants average
 - Practice scores prior to Qualifier – SIX (6) scores
 - Previous year's winter games scores average will count as ONE (1) score
 - Previous year's average will count as ONE (1) score
 - Scores from 2019 Qualifier - THREE (3) Scores
 - Additional scores from post qualifier practices – Minimum ONE (1) score
- Bowling Registrations **due January 10th**
 - All coaches to be fully certified in bowling
 - Six (6) **REQUIRED** practice strings to be submitted for divisioning
- Final Registrations sent to all bowling programs by **February 11th**
- Official changes to final registration **due by February 13th**
 - Housing due for those moving on to Season Ending Tournament
 - Due date will be available by Winter Season Coaches' Meeting
 - Check Dashboard announcements from Business Operations Department
 - Expired Class A & Medical due

Levels of Competition

- Invitational
 - Local events within a county
 - Each event will have a quota
 - Registration is due for invitational is due 10 days prior to event
 - Invitational will be on a first come first serve basis. If interest is greater than quota SOMA may ask you to trim your roster for the event
 - Not mandatory to attend.
 - Events are set up by Special Olympics MA to give athletes another opportunity to bowl and record scores
 - Low key, fun events, that provide an opportunity to get scores and for integrating SOMA programs with community groups (*such as Law Enforcement, Corporate Sponsors, Civic Groups, etc.*) who will bowl with athletes.

- Qualifying Tournament
 - Mid-season tournament for all those athletes interested in advancing onto the Season Ending tournament
 - Four (4) Qualifying Tournaments offered with in the state. Two (2) in each discipline (*Traditional or Unified*)
 - Individuals or teams must attend one of the two qualifiers in their discipline in order to advance on
 - Medals and Ribbons will be awarded.
 - Criteria to attend is spelled out on page 5

- Season Ending Tournament
 - Season ending tournament known as the annual Winter Games in Greater Worcester area for all bowlers that meet the qualifications that are spelled out on page 5.

Criteria to Attend

- Invitational
 - Be a part of a certified SOMA Local Program
 - Have a valid Class A or Athlete Application on file with SOMA
 - Let SOMA know number of attendees from program that will be attending Ten Days (10) prior to event

- Qualifying Tournament
 - Must meet all deadlines with **complete and accurate** information
 - All forms (*Class A or Athlete Application*) are to be up to date and valid
 - Required attendance for all those individuals or Unified teams wishing to advance to the Season Ending Tournament (*Winter Games*)
 - Must submit six (6) scores with registration in order to attend, so the individual or team establishes an average for proper divisioning
 - Four (4) Qualifying Tournaments will be offered two within each discipline (*Traditional or Unified*)
 - Dates see page 6
 - Individuals/Teams **must attend** one of the two qualifiers in their discipline.
 - May choose which one of the two they would like to attend

- Season Ending Tournament (*Winter Games*)
 - Individuals or Unified Teams must finish in a pre-determined place at their respective state qualifying tournament.
 - Must meet all respective deadlines
 - Must meet all prior criteria
 - Must have minimum of 12 scores prior to deadline.
 - *How to obtain scores spelled out on page 3*
 - Dates see page 6

2019 Event Dates

- Invitational Dates
 - See pages 8-11

- Qualifying Tournaments
 - Unified
 - January 19th, AMF Lanes, Auburn
 - February 3rd, Boston Bowl, Dorchester
 - Traditional
 - January 27th Westgate Lanes, Brockton
 - February 3rd, Spare Time, Northampton

- Season Ending Tournament
 - Winter Games, March 9th & 10th

Frequently Asked Bowling Questions

- Does my program need to submit a registration form for an invitational?
 - *No a program can bring any of their bowling athletes to an invitational. The program just needs to stay within the quota that it is given for that event, and submit a list of bowlers one (1) week prior to the event. If a program will not fill the quota given let SOMA know so they can offer those slots to other programs in your county.*

- How do I obtain and submit scores to meet the minimum of twelve (12) scores?
 - *There are multiple ways to get your scores to meet the minimum of eight (8) scores*
 - *A score must be a complete string of ten (10) frames*
 - *Bowlers can get their scores by attending their teams practice sessions*
 - *Bowlers may bowl on their own with family, friends or in a league outside of their SOMA team's practice. Submit your scoresheet to your SOMA coach so they may submit your scores as part of your registration*
 - *Scores from SOMA invitational events can be submitted toward each bowler's scores.*
 - *The average of previous year's scores collected will count as one score*
 - *The average of previous year's winter games scores will count as one score*

- Can a bowler attend a qualifier if they do not intend to advance onto the Season Ending Tournament?
 - *The qualifier is a tournament to advance onto the season ending tournament.*
 - *If a bowler does not wish to advance on to the Season Ending Tournament, they should just attend the local invitational events, as priority to attend a qualifier will be giving to those bowlers looking to advance on.*
 - *Bowlers need to medal at this event to move onto the Season Ending tournament in March.*

- Which Qualifier should I attend?
 - *There are two qualifiers for each discipline, you can attend either qualifier in your discipline.*

- Can I get a waiver to advance on to the state qualifying tournament if I miss the qualifying tournament?
 - ***NO***, *you must attend one of the two qualifiers in your discipline and finish in a predetermined place with in your division.*

- What if I miss the registration deadline and do not submit the required number of scores am I eligible for the tournament?
 - ***NO***, *all deadlines and registrations forms must be submitted by the established registration deadline and all forms must be complete.*

Invitational Overview by County

If you cannot fulfill your quota for an invitational please let SOMA know so they may give your slots to other programs with in your county

If your program wants to host an invitational, in addition to the ones listed below, please let SOMA know so we can track the event and work with you to invite other bowling programs.

- **Barnstable County**

- County Invitational Event Information
 - Ryan's Family Amusement, South Yarmouth
 - Date: February 9, 2019
 - Time: 8am & 11am
 - # of available lanes: 10
 - Event Quota: 40
- Programs invited to attend
 - Barnstable Recreation / Latham School / Sunshine Capers

- **Berkshire County**

- County Invitational Event Information
 - Ken's Bowl, Pittsfield
 - Date: February TBD
 - Time: 9am -1pm
 - # of available lanes: 22
 - Event Quota: 88
- Programs invited to attend
 - BARC / Berkshire Bobcats / Berkshire Youth Sports / Red Raiders / Riverbrook

Invitational Overview by County

- **Bristol & Plymouth Counties**
 - County Invitational Event Information
 - North Bowl, North Attleboro
 - Date: December 16, 2018
 - Time: 10am -1pm
 - # of available lanes: 20
 - Event Quota: 80
 - North Bowl, North Attleboro
 - Date: February 10, 2019
 - Time: 10am -1pm
 - # of available lanes: 20
 - Event Quota: 80
 - Wonder Bowl, New Bedford
 - Date:
 - Time:
 - # of available lanes: 30
 - Event Quota: 120
 - AMF Lanes, Somerset
 - Date:
 - Time:
 - # of available lanes: 15
 - Event Quota: 60
 - Programs invited to attend:
 - AMEGO / Cardinal Cushing / Chamberlain Elementary / Easton / Gtr Attleboro Bombers / Gtr New Bedford / Heller's Angels / Mansfield / N. Attleboro Schools / Road to Responsibility / Scituate / Swansea / Westport

- **Hamden, Hampshire & Franklin Counties**
 - County Invitational Event Information
 - AMF Lanes, Chicopee
 - Date:
 - Time:
 - # of available lanes: 15
 - Event Quota: 60
 - Shaker Bowl, East Longmeadow
 - Date: January 20, 2019
 - Time: 1-4pm
 - # of available lanes: 20
 - Event Quota: 80
 - Programs invited to attend
 - Berkshire Hills Music Acad / Gtr Springfield / Hampshire Eagles / Hampshire Heat / Hampshire Liberty / Westfield /

- **Middlesex & Suffolk County**
 - County Invitational Event Information
 - TBD
 - Date:
 - Time:
 - # of available lanes: 15
 - Event Quota: 60

 - Programs invited to attended
 - Belmont SPORT / Bowling Stones / Charlestown High School / Dorchester / English High School / The Learning Ctr for the Deaf

Invitational Overview by County

- **Worcester County**
 - County Invitational Event Information
 - AMF Lanes, Auburn
 - Date: January TBD
 - Time: 10am
 - # of available lanes: 20
 - Event Quota: 80
 - AMF Lanes, Auburn
 - Date: February TBD
 - Time: 10am
 - # of available lanes: 20
 - Event Quota: 80
 - Programs invited to attend
 - Auburn Rocketeers / Milford / Shrewsbury / South High