



2020 BOWLING SEASON OVERVIEW

Special Olympics Massachusetts will be putting into place a new advancement plan for the 2020 bowling season and beyond, which will allow for supported growth of the sport at the local grassroots level. This past summer, we spoke with several bowling coaches for their input and feedback and have come up with the following plan (*outlined below*). This outline is similar to how many large chapters operate and is derived from how Special Olympics Massachusetts operated in the past. Programs will still be required to submit practice scores throughout the season so Special Olympics MA can accurately calculate an athlete's average for divisioning purposes.

Local Qualifiers

- Current local invitationals that are offered each season will now become a local qualifier.
 - Attendance is mandatory to advance to the regional qualifier and Winter Games.
- Programs will be assigned to a local qualifier in their area.
 - *See following pages for dates, locations and assignments*
- Bowlers must attend their assigned local qualifier in order to qualify for the next level of competition >> Regional Qualifier
- Medals and ribbons will be awarded based on bowler's placement.
- Local qualifiers will be offered in January. Dates/venue assignments are currently being finalized.

Regional Qualifier

- Criteria to attend: Bowlers must have competed at the assigned Local Qualifier and received a pre-determined award.
 - All gold medals will automatically advance, then silver (*if there is room*), then bronze, etc.
 - This advancement will be similar to how bowling advancement from the qualifiers to Winter Games has been done the past few years.
- Programs will be assigned to a regional qualifier.
- Any extra slots will be given back to programs based on their percentage of bowlers in the program to fill out the event quota.
 - Bowlers must have attended a local qualifier.
- Medals and ribbons will be awarded based on bowler's placement.
- Regional qualifiers will be offered in February.

If a bowler cannot attend his or her assigned Local or Regional qualifier, please notify Special Olympics Massachusetts so we can work to find a suitable replacement venue if space allows.



Winter Games

- Criteria to attend: Bowlers must have competed at a Regional Qualifier and received a pre-determined award.
 - All gold medals will automatically advance, then silver (*if there is room*), then bronze, etc.
- All extra slots will be given back to programs based on their percentage of bowlers in the program to fill out the event quota.
 - Bowlers must have attended a Regional Qualifier.
- Saturday of Winter Games will be for Traditional Bowlers. Sunday of Winter Games will be for Unified Bowlers.
- Medals and ribbons will be awarded based on bowler's placement.
- Winter Games is Saturday, March 7th and Sunday, March 8th of 2020.

Practice Scores

- Special Olympics Massachusetts uses a participants scores in order to establish and average for divisioning. The more scores a bowler has allows for a more accurate average
- By final registration deadline bowlers must have accumulated and submitted a minimum of 12 practices scores
 - Local Qualifiers – SOMA will use previous year's average plus any scores submitted prior to local qualifier registration
 - Regional Qualifier – SOMA will use previous year's average, local qualifier scores and all submitted scores prior to regional qualifier deadline
 - Winter Games – Total of 12 scores (*minimum*) must be submitted by final registration: Local Qualifier (3), Regional Qualifier (3), Previous year's average (1) and five (5) additional scores

Registration

- Programs must abide by registration deadlines. Programs that do not meet registration deadlines will not be eligible to compete
- See deadlines in Season Calendar section page 3
- Unified Bowling Rosters MUST be a 50:50 athlete to partner ratio (*2 athletes / 2 partners*)

Uniform Guidelines for Bowling (*Participants & Coaches*)

- Collared shirt (*bowling shirt or polo*) or T-shirt, that properly includes Special Olympics MA logo
- Khaki Pants or shorts or black sweat pants
 - No ripped jeans or jean shorts

Website / Event Info

- All Events are posted to the calendar page of Special Olympics MA website.
- Event pages will include:
 - Programs assigned to event
 - Event timelines
 - Event contact Information and On site leaders
 - Lane assignments and divisions (*once finalized*)
 - Weather policy



2020 BOWLING SEASON CALENDAR

- **Registration Deadlines**

- Local Qualifiers – Monday January 6, 2020
- Regional Qualifiers
 - Wednesday January 22, 2020 (*those that participate in local qualifiers on 1/18*)
 - Wednesday January 29, 2020 (*those that participate in local qualifiers on 1/26*)
- Winter Games – Wednesday February 12, 2020

- **Unified Bowling Events**

- LOCAL QUALIFIERS
 - **Bristol & Barnstable Counties – North Bowl, North Attleboro January 26, 2020**
 - Quota: 72
 - Programs: Greater New Bedford, N. Attleboro, Swansea, Sunshine Capers
 - **Hampshire County – Shaker Bowl, East Longmeadow January 19, 2020**
 - Quota: 32
 - Programs: Hampshire Heat, Hampshire Liberty
 - **Worcester County – AMF Lanes, Auburn January 19, 2020**
 - Quota: 152
 - Programs: South High, Auburn, Milford
- REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
 - **AMF Lanes, Auburn February 9, 2020**
 - Quota: 112 per shift (*224 total*)
 - Programs: Barnstable, Bristol, Hampshire, Worcester Counties
 - **Boston Bowl, Dorchester, TBD**
 - Quota: 56
 - Programs: Barnstable, Suffolk Counties
- WINTER GAMES
 - **AMF Lanes, Auburn, March 8, 2020**
 - Quota: 40 teams per shift (*80 teams total*)



- **Traditional Bowling Events**

- LOCAL QUALIFIERS

- **Barnstable County January 18, 2020**
 - Quota: 60
 - Programs: Sunshine Capers, LIFE, Barnstable Rec. Latham
- **Berkshire County – Ken’s Lanes January 18, 2020**
 - Quota: Open
 - Programs assigned: BCARC, Berkshire Youth Sports, Red Raiders,
NOTE Space at ally to take on anyone willing to travel who’d like additional bowling opportunities
- **Bristol County – Wonder Bowl, New Bedford 1/26, 2020**
 - Quota: 136
 - Programs Assigned: New Bedford, Swansea, Whitney, Easton, Hellers Angels, Mansfield
- **Hampden / Hampshire Counties – AMF Lanes Chicopee January 18, 2020**
 - Quota: 108
 - Programs: Greater Springfield, Berkshire Hills Music Academy
- **Hampden / Hampshire Counties AMF Lanes Chicopee January 19, 2020**
 - Quota: 108
 - Programs: Greater Springfield, Hampshire Eagles
- **Middlesex County – TBD**
 - Quota:
 - Programs: Bowling Stones, Marie Phillip School, NSBSS
- **Plymouth County – Pinz Kingston, January 18, 2020**
 - Quota: 56
 - Programs: Cardinal Cushing, Road to Responsibility, Scituate
- **Worcester County – AMF Lanes, Auburn January 26, 2020**
 - Quota: 72
 - Programs: South High, Shrewsbury, Auburn

- REGIONAL QUALIFIERS

- **Westgate Lanes, Brockton February 9, 2020**
 - Quota: 120 per shift (*total 240*)
 - Programs: Barnstable, Bristol, Middlesex, Plymouth Counties
- **Spare Time, Northampton February 2, 2020**
 - Quota: 112 per session (*224 total*)
 - Programs: Berkshire, Hampden, Hampshire, Worcester Counties

- WINTER GAMES

- **AMF Lanes, Auburn March 7th**



- Quota: 150 per shirt (*300 total*)