

Waiver Policy

In order for athletes and teams to attend a Special Olympics Massachusetts Season Ending Tournament, it is mandatory that they participate in a qualifier or assessment round that precedes said Tournament. In sports where only an invitational is offered (*Tennis, Golf, Cycling, Alpine*) attendance is not mandatory. However, there could be other standards that must be met for the athlete to attend the season ending tournament.

If an athlete cannot attend a mandatory qualifier or assessment round, they may apply for a waiver to advance onto the Season Ending Tournament. All waivers must be submitted in writing with supporting documentation, prior to the event for review by SOMA Staff. If waiver is approved then the athlete may miss the qualifier or assessment round and be eligible to advance onto the Season Ending Tournament.

Capacity sports, such as Track & Field, Aquatics & Bowling where a quota is in place at the Season Ending Tournament, waivers will not be granted as athletes must compete and receive an award to advance on. For these sports multiple qualifiers are offered and athlete may attend any of the offered. For team sports, such as basketball, where a quota is in place, athletes and partners still must apply for a waiver. Teams are expected to attend and compete together at a qualifying tournament in order to qualify and advance.

Waiver requests must be sent to ops@specialolympicsma.org