

2020 - 2021

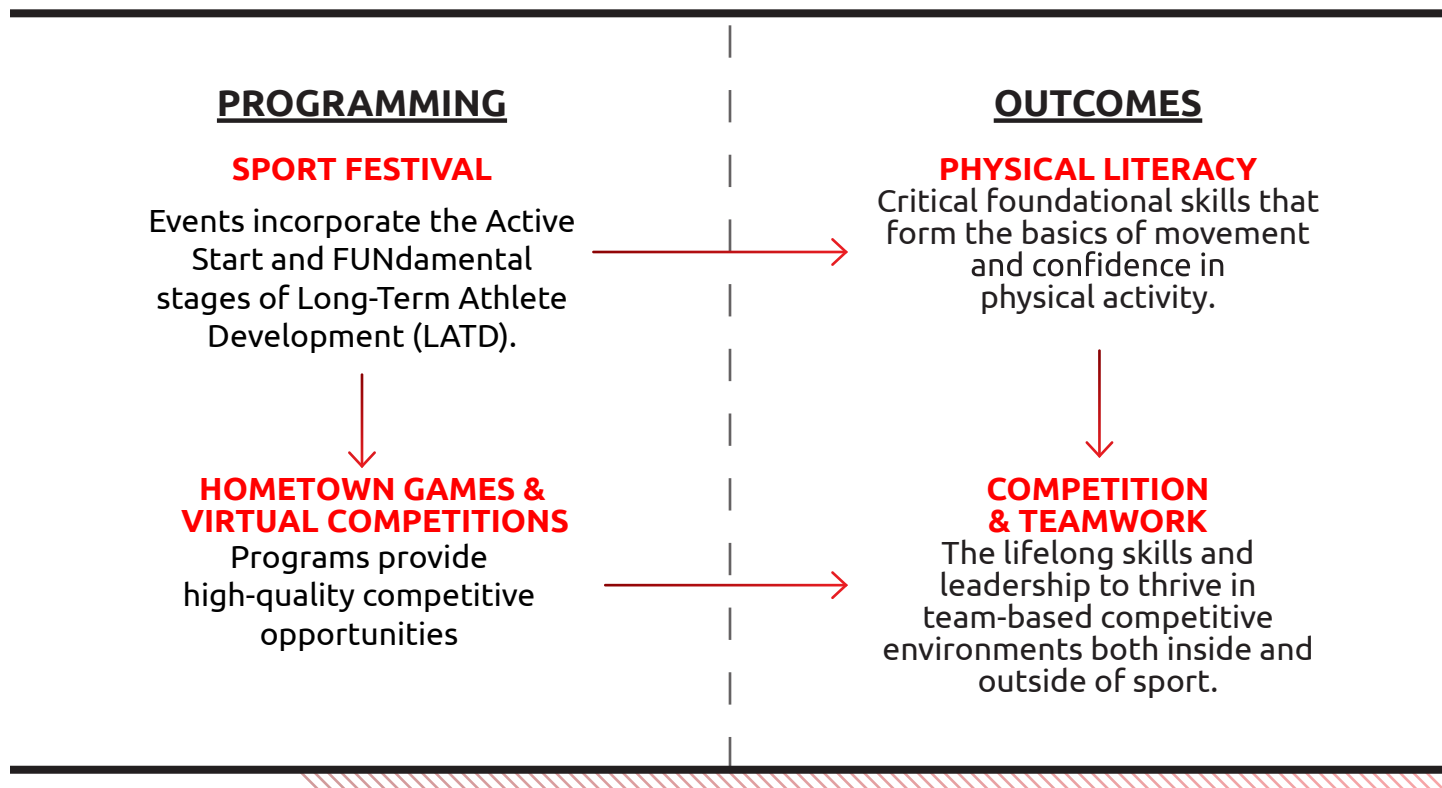
SCHOOL PROGRAMS BOOKLET

Special Olympics Ontario School Programs Overview

Typically, Special Olympics Ontario's (SOO) School Programs Team hosts a variety of programs and events throughout the school year. Each program and event is specifically designed to be adaptable and meaningful to student-athletes with an intellectual disability (ID) aged 2-21. These programs use sport as a means to empower students to thrive in areas such as:

- **Development of Physical Literacy** - Acquiring the critical fundamental skills that form the foundation of movement and confidence in physical activity.
- **Teamwork and Inclusion** - Embodying the unity and collaboration that sport teaches, and applying those skills to everyday life.
- **Personal Growth** - Attaining the work ethic, resilience, and passion that goes hand-in-hand with being an athlete.
- **Being Part of a Team** - Accessing the same opportunities as their mainstream peers to experience the comradery and lifelong bonds formed by a team.

SOO strives to implement a model of athletic growth that aligns programmatic progress with desired outcomes:



During this unprecedented school year, all programs and events offered by SOO will be virtual to ensure the health and safety of all participants. While this year will provide a different experience for athletes and coaches than in the past, the core values and purpose of our programming remains the same. Together we will strive to create an inclusive and supportive school experience for Ontario students of all ages through participation in sport, activity, and leadership opportunities.

Core Programming

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, all programs will be offered virtually by Special Olympics Ontario. Should restrictions fluctuate throughout the school year, SOO may adjust programming structure and will communicate with all schools should any of the plans below alter.

*New this year! Students of all ages will have access to all virtual programming! Where applicable, results will be divisioned by age and ability level so student-athletes will only virtually compete against those of similar ages.

Note – all virtual programming for the 2020/2021 school year will be FREE of charge.

Virtual Sports Festival

Short videos for a variety of sport, activity, and health virtual stations that can be used either individually or combined into a Sports Festival event at your school or from home! Videos can be used on a timeline that works best for your class or individual students. All videos require minimal equipment found in your school, and include demonstration of adaptations for a variety of skill and development levels.

Stay tuned for dates announced throughout the year where SOO will be hosting a live virtual Sports Festival where classes can tune in and participate in real time alongside other classes from across Ontario!



Virtual Hometown Games Sport Specific Competitions

Five sports will be highlighted for one month each throughout the school year with virtual challenges available for each in both Traditional and Unified formats. Students will have the first three weeks of each month to train and submit their best scores for the challenges of their choice. The final week of the month will celebrate those that competed, with a virtual awards ceremony and ribbons mailed to participating schools.

Additionally, we encourage schools to utilize the sport challenges provided to host their own virtual or in-person (when possible) competition for their school students or can invite other schools to join in. Hosting resources and result submission will be available for anyone interested.

Sport specific highlight months (schedule may be adjusted as needed):

November	December	February	March	April	May
Track & Field	Bocce	Floor Hockey	Basketball	Soccer	Celebration Month!

Virtual Live Events & Competitions

SOO will be hosting a number of live virtual sporting competition and social events throughout the school year. Participating schools and/or students will require access to the internet and a camera to participate. Keep an eye out for these events to be announced throughout the year, including a back to school social, dances, fitness classes, sport competitions, and more!



Ancillary Programming

In addition to the programs mentioned above, SOO is extremely excited to offer the following opportunities for schools and their partners this school year:

Virtual Live Events

VIRTUAL ATHLETE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

1.5 hr sessions led by SOO athlete and staff member Ryan Colpitts with a focus on Healthy Lifestyles, Leadership and Social Media training. Students with an ID are asked to be paired with a student without an ID to provide Unified and inclusive mentoring and leadership opportunities for all participants.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS *(Open to school boards and individual schools)*

Virtual sessions hosted by SOO staff, education leaders and athletes to discuss inclusive and Unified school environments, programming options, awareness, leadership, and transition opportunities for students with and without an ID.

VIRTUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

SOO will be hosting multiple virtual conferences throughout the school year, with specific focus sessions for educators, students (with and without an ID), and school administration. More information will be distributed throughout the school year.

Electronic Resources

ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING MANUALS

Active Start, FUNdamentals, and Multi-Sport manuals can be used in the classroom or individually. Each manual is broken down into multiple lesson plans to be implemented at the users own pace. Manuals range from the basics of skill development and learning (run, jump, throw), to sport specific skills (throw to a target, kick, dribble), and finally to implementing skills in a sport specific environment to train for competition in five sports. Note – registration is required to gain access to materials.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS WALK THE WORLD WITH ME VIRTUAL CHALLENGE

Schools can register a class team or individual and virtually track their time walking each day. Join Special Olympics athletes and partners from around the world as the challenge sets to virtually walk around the globe! More information at <https://walktheworldwithme.com/>.

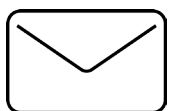
SPECIAL OLYMPICS HEALTHY @ HOME RESOURCES

Resources, practice plans, and support materials for students and their support systems to remain active, connected, positive and informed. Resources and virtual events are added weekly at <https://sohealthyathome.ca/>.

UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS

Stay tuned for information throughout the year as we work towards launching a brand new schools program which will aim to recognize schools that are champions of inclusion!

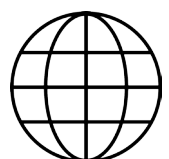
Please Contact Us for More Information



schools@specialolympicsontario.com



1-888-333-5515 ext. 247



<http://specialolympicsontario.com/schools>

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors!

Canada 

 Ontario

 **KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

Tim Hortons

Hasbro

 **Scotiabank®**


LAW ENFORCEMENT
TORCH RUN®
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS