

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools[®]

2025 School Championships

Selection Guiding Principles

- 1) We provide a fair and equitable method to select teams that will have the opportunity to attend School Championships.
- 2) We will strive to ensure that we have representation from the maximum number of regions of the province at the Championships.
- 3) We provide the opportunity for the host community to be represented in each sport.

Conferences

For Provincial School Championships qualification, all teams are placed in a **conference** (based on which region qualifier you participate in) with schools from the surrounding regions, **meaning that schools are competing against all other schools within their conference, not only teams at their local qualifier.** In some cases, a team from your qualifying event may not advance.

To be considered a qualifying event you **MUST have a minimum of 3 schools participating**. In addition, to qualify at a qualifier your division must have at least three teams. All tie-breaking processes remain in place (detailed below). This model allows for equitable chances of qualification, despite the size of the local qualifier. Please see your conference below

Conference	Region		
Central Conference	Barrie/Muskoka & Grey Bruce		
Durham Region Conference	Durham East & Durham West		
Eastern Ontario Conference	Arnprior/(Renfrew) & Cornwall		
Greater Eastern Conference	Belleville/Napanee & Peterborough		
GTA Conference	Toronto East & Toronto West		
Kingston Region Conference	Kingston & Brockville		
London Conference	London East & London West		
North East Conference	North Bay, Timmins, Sudbury		
North West Conference	Thunder Bay & Sault Ste. Marie		
Ottawa Region Conference	Ottawa East & Ottawa West		
Peel Conference	Mississauga & Brampton		
South Central Conference A	Hamilton & Halton		
South Central Conference B	Kitchener/Waterloo & Guelph, Niagara		
South West Conference A	Brantford & Chatham		
South West Conference B	Windsor & Sarnia		
York Conference	York East & York West		

Special Olympics Ontario

65 Overlea Boulevard, Suite 200, Toronto, ON, M4H 1P1 Tel 416-447-8326 / 1-888-333-5515 Fax 416-447-6336 Web www1.specialolympicsontario.com/schools Facebook/Instagram/X @SOOSchoolChamps



2025 Ottawa School Championships Quotas

Quotas are **based on the capacity of the hosting city** and college/university. Sport quotas are generated based on projected participation and the number of events planned in each sport. The more events hosted per sport (aka Basketball and Bocce) the more athlete opportunities will be allocated to those sports.

The Breakdown

Sport	Teams	athlete/partner	coach/support	1 on 1	Total
Traditional Soccer	12	108	36	4	240
Unified Soccer	8	72	18	2	
Traditional Basketball	16	96	32	6	232
Unified Basketball	12	72	24	2	
Traditional Bocce	16	80	32	6	205
Unified Bocce	12	60	24	3	
Traditional Floorball	12	96	24	3	205
Unified Floorball	8	64	16	2	
Track and Field	30	120	30	8	158
TOTAL PEOPLE	126	768	236	36	1040

Selection Process

For each conference teams are separated into:

- a. Competitive traditional stream
- b. Competitive Unified stream (if applicable)
 - All division winners from each event stream are ranked based on the following criteria:
 - Highest game points (2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie)
 - Head Head
 - Lowest points against average
 - Random computerized draw

Note: competitive low, medium, and high divisions all have an equal chance of qualifying; your pre-qualifier division placement has no effect on qualification. Also note to be considered a qualifier event for our four team sports a minimum of 3 schools must participate.

Once winners for each qualifier are established (using the above criteria), **qualifier winners will be compared to the remaining winning teams in their conference** also using the above selection criteria. **The top team from each conference will**

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automatically advance. Note: Unified and Traditional teams are created ^lequal in this process (the top team record and points average advance regardless of team classification).

(if the quota allows) the **remaining unselected teams that qualified will be entered into our wild card selection round. Teams are awarded points based on the below achievement model**. The teams with the top achievement model score regardless of conference or being traditional or a Unified team will be selected to advance. The number of additional advancing teams will be based on the available quotes left per sport. If there is a tie in points the tie breaker will be the larger conference (number of athletes and teams participating).

Achievement Model (Highest Number of Points)

This model provides a point system to recognize the team's level of engagement and participation.

Points are awarded as follows:

- o 5 points for being a Unified Champion School
- 4 points for hosting a qualifier or any other SOO Event (fundraising Included)
- 3 points for participating in any qualifier, showcase, pilot, health, or leadership event
- o 3 points for running/supporting a transition program or pathway program
- o 2 points for participating in a virtual event
- 1 point for having an Educator, Unified Partner, or Athlete of the month

Note: points will be totaled based on the accomplishments completed at the end of the qualifier sport in question (points accumulated after will only be applicable at the next qualifying period). Points tallies begin September 3rd.

This process is implemented consistently through all team sports

Track & Field Process

- Track and Field qualification is different as it is an individual sport and qualification will be based on divisioned results (which are initially submitted by educators).
- 2. These results are inputted into our GMS system and athletes are divisioned based on gender, age, and ability.
- 3. Athletes will receive points based on their placement in their division for each of their events: ten points for 1st place, eight for 2nd, 6 for 3rd, four for 4th, two for fifth, and zero for sixth or beyond.
- 4. Schools with the best ratio average of points will be allocated track and field spots (a minimum of 4).

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Note: schools will choose which athletes to send from those earned spots however, each school will be required to uphold gender requirements of 2 male and 2 female athlete ratio if 2 or more female/male athletes participate.

- (if quota allows additional spots will be allocated based on the number of submissions per school and the school's overall ratio ranking)
- 5. Unified Partner's scores will be combined with their traditional partner. Athletes will be selected separately from traditional athletes however, the process will remain the same. 10 Unified Partners and 10 associated SOO athletes will be selected in 2025 (outside of the 100 traditional athletes).

To be considered for selection Schools must:

- 1. Submit their athlete entry form on time (by April 4th), with full names, birthdates, accurate times,
- 2. athlete must participate in a minimum of three events
- 3. Schools must have a minimum of 4 athletes' participation (4 traditional or 2 traditional and 2 Unified)

A 50/50 ratio will be in effect for gender. 60 athletes will be male and 60 will be female. Unified Partners will also have a 50/50 ratio (5 and 5).

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