



2026 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

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2026 London 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	246
Unified Soccer	8	72	24	2	202
Traditional Basketball	12	72	24	6	202
Unified Basketball	12	72	24	4	164
Traditional Bocce	16	96	32	6	234
Unified Bocce	12	72	24	4	
Traditional Floorball	8	64	16	2	164
Unified Floorball	8	64	16	2	
Track and Field	30	100	25	10	135
Youth Summit	NA	45	20	0	65
TOTAL PEOPLE	126	768	236	36	1046

Selection Process

For each conference teams are separated into:

- Competitive traditional stream**
- 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**

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using the above selection criteria. **The top team from each conference will automatically advance.** *Note: Unified and Traditional teams are created equal 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).

Note new this year if a team qualifies from an event where they only play themselves – they can only qualify once if they continue to only play themselves in subsequent events.

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:

- 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
- 3 points for running/supporting a transition program or pathway program
- 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

1. Schools qualify based on their **average points ratio** across submitted athletes.
2. Athletes are divisioned based on **age, gender, and race times**
3. A **minimum of 4 spots** will be allocated per qualifying school.
4. *Schools will choose which athletes to send from those earned spots*

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5. Schools must uphold a **gender ratio** of 2 male and 2 female athletes if sending 2 or more of each gender.
6. Additional spots may be allocated based on:
 - i. Number of submissions
 - ii. Overall ratio ranking
7. **Regional Cap:** No single region may represent more than **14%** of total athletes selected.
8. **Unified :** Partners and their traditional athlete scores will be **combined:**
 - a. **Running events:** Combined time
 - b. **Field events:** Combined score
 - c. **16 Unified Partners** and **16 associated SOO athletes** will be selected (outside of the 100 traditional athletes).
 - d. A **50/50 gender ratio** will be maintained (e.g., 8 male and 8 female Unified Partners).

To be considered for selection Schools must:

1. Submit athlete results via the Google registration form by **April 1st.**
 - Submit full athlete details (name, birthdate, accurate times)
2. **Submit no more than 24 athletes** for consideration
3. **Unified Teams:** Educators must clearly indicate Unified pairings by **highlighting partner and athlete names in the same colour.**
4. **Minimum Participation:** Schools must have **at least 4 athletes** participating (e.g., 4 traditional or 2 traditional + 2 Unified).
5. **Event Minimum:** Each athlete must compete in **at least three events** to be eligible.

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