



## Special Olympics Washington Winter Sports and Competition Offerings

October 21, 2021

Special Olympics Washington is excited to announce the continuation of in-person training and competition this winter season! Beginning November 22, we will be offering the following in-person competitive sports:

- Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Figure Skating
- Speed Skating
- Alpine Skiing
- Snowboarding
- Cross Country Skiing
- Snowshoeing
- Esports (Gaming)

These sports will conclude with a modified in-person competition across the state pending local and state health regulations.

Modified may mean that competition will not be how you have experienced it in previous years. The structure and modifications for these competitions will be published on November 30 and will be communicated via email and social media.

### Regional and State Games Competitions

- Basketball—Region and State Games
- Alpine Skiing — Region and State Games
- Snowboarding — Region and State Games
- Cheerleading — State Games
- Figure Skating — State Games
- Speed Skating — State Games
- Cross Country Skiing — *Region-Northwest/Southwest only* and State Games
- Snowshoeing — *Region-Northwest/Southwest only* and State Games
- Esports (Gaming) — State Games

Programs are encouraged to start securing practice facilities, communicating with their teams on what they intend to offer and begin verifying individual paperwork. Athlete and Unified partner registration packets can be found [here](#).

### Additional Sports Offerings

To ensure every athlete has an opportunity to participate, teams may select an alternative sport in

place of a winter sport listed above if, for example, they are not able to secure a facility or feel participation would increase by selecting a different sport. Special Olympics Washington will not host a region or state competition for alternative sports but will provide the resources and COVID protocols to ensure a safe and positive experience for all. Registration for these sports can be done through the Winter Season registration portal that will also be used to register for competitive winter sports.

### Alternative Sports for Winter Season

- Bowling
- Volleyball
- Athletics
- Bocce
- Gymnastics

### Timeline for Winter Season

- November 22 – Start of Winter Season
- November 30 – Competition Structure and Modifications Published
- December 6 – Unified Schools Basketball Pre-Season Registration Due
- December 14 – Pre-Season Registration Due – all community-based teams
- January 11 – Basketball Final Registration Due
- January 18 – East Region Alpine and Snowboarding Registration Due
- January 24 – Unified Schools Basketball Final Registration Due
- January 25 – Northwest/Southwest Regions Alpine and Snowboarding Registration Due
- January 25 – Cheerleading, Skating, Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing Registration Due
- January 29 – February 13 – Region Basketball Competitions
- February 5 – Unified Schools Basketball District Competitions
- March 4 – 6 – State Winter Games (Wenatchee, some components may be virtual)

Special Olympics Washington will continue to monitor the status of COVID-19 and will be acting under guidance and advice from the CDC, the Washington State Department of Health, and local health authorities. Please be advised that participation and/or events are subject to change or cancellation at any time. Safety is our highest priority.

Special Olympics Washington is working hard to develop our COVID protocols and modifications for this Winter Season to ensure a safe and meaningful experience for all participants. We look forward to another successful season and are grateful for our athletes, coaches and volunteers for ensuring our athletes are getting back on the fields with their teammates!

For questions or more information about Winter Season, please contact:

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