

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC POLICY MANUAL

Section:

Policy: **Participation Outside of Community of Residence**

Effective Date: April 2002

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Athletes are required to register and participate with the Local based in the community in which they reside. Should an athlete wish to apply for an exemption, a Request for Registration Exemption form is to be completed and submitted to the Provincial Office by the Regional Coordinator (c/o Vice President, Sport) for consideration by the Leadership Council. Applications for exemptions will be considered based on applicable policies.

### **Sport not offered in the Local in which the athlete resides:**

When an athlete's home Local does not offer a sport or a level of competition suitable for the athlete in that sport, or a Local has an insufficient number of athletes to field a team of an appropriate skill level, the athlete may apply to register with the Local closest to their community that offers that sport or suitable level of competition in that sport. When a Local has insufficient numbers of athletes to field a team, the Local may apply for permission to find players from other Locals but may only approach players after approval is granted and all Locals involved have agreed.

Note: Both Locals and the athlete(s) involved must agree that this move is in the best interest of the athlete. When a request is made based on skill level the athlete may be assessed for appropriate placement. Athletes that are registered in the community in which they reside may not be excluded from a sport/team due to the application of an athlete that does not reside in the community.

### **Change of Residence:**

In the event that an athlete changes their community of residence, that athlete may opt to remain registered with their original Local as long as the athlete had been previously registered with their original Local for a period equal to or greater than 12 months. Once the athlete determines which Local they will register with, that athlete may only participate in programs offered in that Local.