

Team Alberta 2020 Selection Process



Timeline

February 18 – March 4: Results review and selection calculations.

March 4 – 11: Contact made with Affiliates. Athlete endorsement process.

Late May: Official Team Alberta Announcement.

Selection Criteria

For all our athletes, competing at the Special Olympics Alberta Provincial Games is an achievement that should be celebrated...no matter the results on the field of play. It is the philosophy of SOA to ensure every athlete, whatever their ability, has the opportunity to participate at the Provincial Games level.

Provincial Games are qualifying events for the Special Olympics Canada Games. The athletes on Team Alberta will be selected based on their athletic performances at these games. Every athlete competing, no matter their ability, has the opportunity to be selected to Team Alberta.

However, the National Games experience is different from that of a Provincial Games; it is out-of-Province, requires air travel to attend, and involves being away for 7 nights and rooming with other athletes under the sole supervision of Provincial Team coaches. The very nature of a National Games means that it is not an experience that is necessarily right for everyone.

The following, outlines the process and policies that will be used to select Team Alberta. The Provincial Sport Council of the Board will complete selection as outlined in Section M-3000 of the SOA Policy Manual.

Athlete eligibility for Team Alberta selection is as follows:

- Thirteen (13) years of age as of the first day of the national competition year (January 1, 2020);
- Registered with Special Olympics Alberta and a member in good standing in an accredited SOA affiliate or community program;
- Full attendance at the SOA qualifying event, including staying overnight under affiliate or community program supervision (1:3 coach to athlete ratio) at the event accommodation;
- Appropriate maturation based upon the following:
 - ability to cope with pressures involved in competition
 - ability to cope with the travel requirements
 - ability to cope with being out of usual environment
 - ability to work with individuals who are unfamiliar (new coaches, new athletes)

Additional support workers are not permitted and provided for in the Provincial Team quota set by Special Olympics Canada; therefore to be endorsed for selection, athletes must be able to fully participate within the 1:4 coach to athlete ratio and 1:5 coach to athlete ratio for 5 Pin Bowling and Floor Hockey.

The next page outlines how athlete athletic performance is used to select Team Alberta. Just as important to selection is the athlete endorsement process which involves consulting with affiliates, coaches, support and family members to determine if the athlete meets the criteria listed above.

Team Alberta 2020 Selection Process



Alberta bases its selection criteria on the Special Olympics Canada National Team selection policies and eligibility criteria. The selection process is overseen by the SOA Board of Directors through the Provincial Sport Council.

Team Alberta Size

How big Team Alberta will be, is determined by Special Olympics Canada. They award "Quotas" to each province for each sport based on national registration numbers. For example if Alberta has 10% of the countries speed skaters, we will in turn get 10% of the National Games speed skating sport quota.

Team Alberta Gender Breakdown

The gender breakdown for Team Alberta each is determined by Provincial Games registration. If a sport had 60% females and 40% males then that sports team for provincials would be made up of the same ratio.

Team Alberta 2020 Selection Process



Timed Sports: Speed Skating, Cross Country, Snowshoe

Athletes will be awarded points based on their performance at the Provincial Games as follows:

1 st place 10pts	2 nd place 8pts	3 rd place 6pts
4 th place 4pts	5 th place 2pts	6 th – 8 th place 0pts

Point scores will be accumulated and divided by the number of events the athlete is entered in. If an athlete cannot compete in an event(s) for medical reasons, that event(s) will not be used in the calculation (medical scratches must be approved by a Doctor designated by the Games Committee). Scores will be ranked from highest to lowest. Athletes will be selected based on their ranking.

Alpine Skiing

Athletes will be awarded points based on their performance at the Provincial Games in all events offered at competition (giant slalom, slalom, and super giant slalom). Points will go as follows:

1 st place 10pts	2 nd place 8pts	3 rd place 6pts
4 th place 4pts	5 th place 2pts	6 th – 8 th place 0pts

Point scores will be accumulated and divided by the number of events the athlete is entered in. If an athlete cannot compete in an event(s) for medical reasons, that event(s) will not be used in the calculation (medical scratches must be approved by a Doctor designated by the Games Committee). Scores will be ranked from highest to lowest. Athletes will be selected based on their ranking.

TIE BREAKING:

The following will be used when breaking a tie:

- a) most gold medals;
- b) most silver medals;
- c) most bronze medals;
- d) next highest ranking;
- e) event grouping; and
- f) random draw

Team Alberta 2020 Selection Process and Criteria



Team Sports: Curling and Floor Hockey

First place teams in all divisions will be considered.

- If the quota allotted is one team, first place teams in all divisions will be considered.
- Each team would be allotted the following points (3, 2, 1) respective of win, tie, and loss for each game played in their division during the tournament.
- The total allocated points achieved will be divided by the number of games played, to determine the average points allocated per game.
- The team with the highest average will be selected to advance.
- If the quota is greater than one (1), the above process will be followed until all quotas are filled.

TIE BREAKING:

The first place teams with the lowest "goals against" divided by the "number of games played in the tournament" will be selected. If the tie is not broken in the above step, a draw will be conducted made by the President & CEO of Special Olympics Alberta or designate not on the Selection Committee.

Figure Skating

1. Figure Skating athletes will be selected as follows:

Categories include Pairs, Ice-Dance and Singles

- a. Calculate the % of athletes per category
- b. The minimum % required for a category to be guaranteed a quota shall be 15%
- c. If there are 15% or higher in the Pairs and Ice Dance events, the event with the highest participation will be selected first. If these two events are tied, the Pairs will be selected first. The Gold Medal winners in the highest level within that event will be selected first.
- d. If the Pairs or Ice Dance athletes who have been selected have also competed in Singles, they will automatically be permitted to skate in the singles competition.
- e. All remaining quotas will be filled with the Singles event skaters. The Singles skaters will be selected using the Gold Medal winners from each level. In order to ensure all ability levels have an opportunity to advance, whenever possible there will be at least 2 Gold Medal winners selected from the Singles levels 1-2 group, and the Singles levels 3-6 group. Remaining Singles quota will be selected from individual categories ranked highest to lowest % and not already represented by a Gold Medal winner.
- f. If in subsection "c" there is not sufficient % to guarantee a quota allotment in Pairs, Ice-Dance or both, athletes who have been selected based on their Singles event will be permitted to skate in these events if they have done so at the National Games.

Special Olympics Alberta

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Team Alberta 2020 Selection Process and Criteria



5 Pin Bowling

Gold medal winning teams will be ranked in order of highest pins over average to lowest pins over average. Teams will then be selected based on rankings. The team(s) with the highest pins over average score in each division will be eligible to advance on to National Games.

If you have any questions regarding the Team Alberta selection process, please do not hesitate to contact Jill Moore at 780.644.1296 or jmoore@specialolympics.ab.ca

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