

# Divisioning 101

March 4, 2017

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# What is Divisioning?

- Divisioning is Special Olympics Ontario's format for creating fair and equitable playing fields for all our athletes.
- It is something used by all other sport organizations

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# How do we Division?

- Individual Sport
- Team Sport
- Judged Sport

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# Individual Timed Sports

- Athletics, Nordic, Snowshoe, Speed Skating & Swimming
- Gender: Female, Male
- Age: 8-11, 12-15, 16-21, 22-29, 30-39, 40+
- Ability: 15 – 25%
- Max 8 per division
  - Or to facility limits (i.e 6 lane track)

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# Individual Time Sports

- If using preliminary rounds, athletes are divisioned using preliminary round results
  - Athletes should compete in the final against other athletes in their division
- If no preliminary rounds, athletes are divisioned based on final results
  - Athletes are grouped for races based on coach submitted Qualifying scores

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# Activity Break

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# Group Activity

- In groups of 5, division the results
  - Who would be the 1<sup>st</sup> place finishers?

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# Single Athlete Divisions

- Applies at Provincial Qualifiers , Provincials, Nationals
- Only applies to events with preliminary and final heats
  - Final time is faster/longer than prelim time -1<sup>st</sup>
  - Final time meets or is slower by 10% of prelim time – 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Final time is slower by 10-25% of prelim time – 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Final time is slower by >25% - 4<sup>th</sup>

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# Single Athlete Divisions

- How would applying this policy impact your divisioning?
  - Who now receives 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes?

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# Other Individual Sports

Alpine, Bocce, Bowling (5-Pin, Tenpin), Golf & Powerlifting

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# Maximum Performance Rule

- Anti “sandbagging” measure
- Applies to all sports, but most prominent in individual timed sports
- Only applied at Provincial Games and higher

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# Maximum Performance Rule

Maximum performance would indicate that there should be no more than 15% difference in performance between preliminary and final events. If an athlete exceeds their divisioning event performance by 15% in the final round of competition the following shall occur:

- Athlete is flagged under the Maximum Performance Rule (MPR)
- The athlete will be re-divisioned and placed in the correct division as indicated by their time/distance.
- The athlete will be eligible for a medal if their time/distance warrants.
- Re-divisioning will not affect the standing of athletes in the division where the flagged athlete is placed. (i.e. re-divisioned athlete places third in new division, current athlete in division will also be awarded third place).
- Flagged athlete will not receive any selection points (for advancement to higher levels of competition) for the event.
- The Maximum Performance Rule would not apply if an athlete when re-divisioned would still be placed in the same division.

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# Other Individual Sports

- Alpine
  - No age divisioning
  - 3 levels: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced
    - Determines level of hill used
    - Pre-Registered by Coaches
    - Evaluated by Referee
      - Referee can re-seed if applicable
  - 25% metric applies within each skill level

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# Other Individual Sports

- Bocce
  - Framework only, new divisioning policy currently being crafted
  - No age divisioning
  - Ability is determined by skills assessment results
  - 25% skill divisioning metric
  - Minimum 3, maximum 8

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# Other Individual Sports

- Bowling (5-Pin and Tenpin)
  - No age divisioning
  - Divisioned by Gender
  - Skill divisioning based on season average
  - Minimum 3, Maximum 8 per division

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# Other Individual Sports

- Golf
  - No age divisions
  - Skill divisions established by 9 hole round score at event

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# Other Individual Sports

- Powerlifting
  - No age divisioning
  - Divisioned by gender and weight
  - Ranked by total Wilkes score within division and overall

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# Team Sport

- Basketball, Curling, Floor Hockey, Soccer & Softball

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# Team Sport

- Divisioning Tools
  - Previous Results
  - Skills Assessments
  - Preliminary Games
    - Divisioning Committee
- Coach Assessments

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# Previous Results

- All results need to be submitted to Competition Developer
- Competition Database
- Helps focus preliminary rounds

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# Skills Assessments

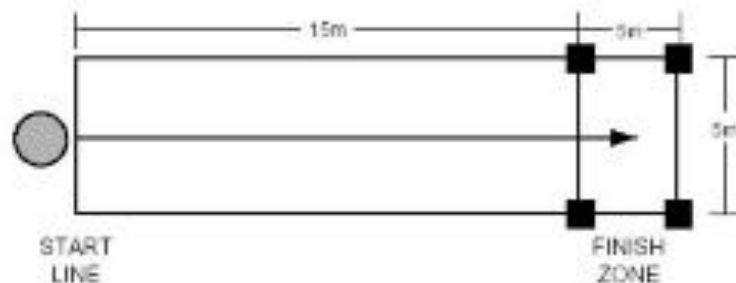
- Gives quantifiable and comparable information on team's abilities
- Helps determine initial pairings for divisioning rounds

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## Special Olympics Ontario Soccer Individual Skills Assessment

### I. Dribbling



Equipment – #5/#4 ball, tape or chalk, 4 large cones to mark the finish zone.

- a. Description – The player dribbles from the starting line to the finish zone, staying inside the marked lane. The finish zone should be marked off with cones as well as chalk. The clock is stopped when both the player and the ball are stopped inside the finish zone. If the player overshoots the finish zone, he/she must dribble it back in to finish.
- b. Scoring – The time (in seconds) elapsed while the player is dribbling is converted into points using the scale below. A deduction of 5 points is made for each time the ball runs over the side-lines of the lane or if a player touches the ball with his/her hands (note: If the ball runs over the side-line, the referee will immediately place another ball in the center of the lane opposite the point at which the ball went out.)

Scoring Conversion Chart	
Dribble Time (Seconds)	Point Score
0-4	65 points
5-7	60 points
8-10	55 points
11-13	50 points
14-15	45 points
16-20	40 points
21-25	35 points
26-30	30 points
31-35	25 points
36-40	20 points
41-45	15 points
46-50	10 points
51 or more	5 points



# Preliminary Games

- Series of mini-games
- Evaluated by a divisioning committee who assess each team
- Allows a visual assessment to compare teams at respective event and confirm or alter other tools

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# Coach Assessments

- Coaches provide detailed feedback on the divisioning round Games

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# Judged Sports

## Figure Skating & Rhythmic Gymnastics

- Division by Gender
- Division by pre-determined ability levels
- Division by skill if ability level is greater than 8

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