

Special Olympics *Missouri*



BOCCE

Special Olympics Missouri will only use the rules set forth by the SOI.

A. Events offered by Special Olympics Missouri

1. Bocce Singles
2. Bocce Doubles
3. Bocce Team
4. Unified Sports® Bocce Doubles
5. Unified Sports® Bocce Team
6. Modified Bocce

B. Special Olympics Missouri Rules (SOMO shall use the SOI Rules for Bocce with the following exceptions)

1. **Disputes**
 - a. The tournament referee will resolve all disputes.
 - b. The tournament referee will determine length of games
 - c. A coach or any player may request a measurement.
2. **Additional Rules**
 - a. Athletes may participate in 2 events ONLY. These MUST be a Regulation event (Singles, Doubles, or Teams) and a Unified event (Doubles or Teams).
 - b. Unified Partners may ONLY participate in 1 event (Unified Doubles or Unified Teams).

- c. Duration of Games: Singles and Doubles games will be played for 30 minutes or until one player/side reaches 12 points. Team games will be played for 40 minutes or until one team reaches 16 points. OR. Alternative scoring procedure for tournaments: At the discretion of the Competition Manager, games may be played to reach the target number of points or to a timed duration.
3. **Divisioning/Skills Test**
 - a. SOMO will use the SOI recommendation for skill tests and divisioning for Bocce (See SOI Bocce Rules Section E – Divisioning).
 - b. During the divisioning process, if the pallina is moved from its spot on the 30ft, 40ft, or 50ft, it is to be replaced on the spot before the next ball is rolled and before any measurements are taken.
 4. **Court Size**

SOMO may build courts with PVC pipe. Because of this, court size may be 10' x 60'.

C. Ramp Bocce

Only athletes who are unable to roll the ball past the 30' mark are eligible for Ramp Bocce. Athletes must submit an exception form to be approved by the Games Director.

1. Ramp Bocce Events Offered:
 - a. Bocce Ramp Singles
 - b. Bocce Ramp Doubles
 - c. Unified Sports Bocce Ramp Doubles
2. SOI Rules and SOMO Rules will be used with the following exceptions outlined below.
3. Court Dimensions:
 1. The court will be 30' x 10' (instead of the 60' x 10')
 2. The front rail will be removed to allow ease of a wheelchair to enter the court.
 3. Half court will be marked at 15'
4. Position of the ramp
 - a. The ramp may be positioned anywhere within the throwing area of the court as long as the lip of the ramp is within the first 10' area.
 - b. The athlete shall determine where the ramp is placed and at what angle it is placed. The volunteer/unified partner shall keep their back to the playing area so as to not influence the athlete's decision.

- c. It is the athlete's decision where to position the ball on the ramp in order to control its speed and distance.
 - d. Since the unified partner is to use the ramp on their turn as well, they also may determine where to place the ramp and how to release the ball on their turn.
 - e. The lip of the ramp must rest on the ground when the ball is released.
5. Divisioning / Skills Test:
 - a. The pallina will be placed at the 15', 20', and 25' respectively. All eight balls will be played at those distances. The closest three balls will be measured in centimeters.
 - b. During the divisioning process, if the pallina is moved from its spot on the 15ft, 20ft, or 25ft, it is to be replaced on the spot before the next ball is rolled and before any measurements are taken.
6. Play
 - a. All players playing in this division will use the ramp. This includes the unified partners. This keeps play from being just between the unified partners because the athletes' balls can't get near the pallina.
 - b. The pallina must pass half court (15ft).
 - c. Even though most athletes will need assistance from either a coach, volunteer, or unified partner, coaching within the court is discouraged. All conversations should take place outside of the court per SOI rules.
 - d. As stated above, anyone assisting the athlete with the ramp should have their back to the play so there is no influence on the play.
7. Dimensions of the ramp
 - a. The length of the ramp shall be 65in, ± 2 in.

C. Modified Bocce

1. Teams with lower ability levels may be placed in this division.
2. In this division, coaches may coach athletes from a coach's box placed 10 feet from the court at the Center Court Line.
 - a. Coaches MAY assist athletes with behavior and procedures (i.e. – "step into the court, pick up the red ball," etc.).
 - b. Coaches MAY NOT assist with or coach any tactics and/or strategy (i.e. – "move left, bank the ball, roll it softly," etc.).