



## **BOWLING**

The Official Special Olympics Sports Rules shall govern all Special Olympics Bowling competitions. As an international Sports Program, Special Olympics has created these rules based upon the American Bowling Congress (ABC) and the Women's International Bowling Congress (WIBC) Rules for bowling competition. ABC or WIBC Rules shall be employed except when they are in conflict with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules. In such cases, the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules shall apply.

### **A. Events Offered by Special Olympics Missouri**

1. Individual Events:
  - a. Singles (2-Game or 3-Game)
  - b. Ramp (2-Game or 3-Game)
  - c. Assisted Ramp (2-Game or 3-Game)
  - d. Bumper Bowling (NOT a State Event)
  
2. Doubles Events:
  - a. Doubles (2-Game or 3-Game)
  - b. Unified Doubles
  - c. Junior Division Unified Doubles
  - d. Ramp Doubles (2-Game or 3-Game)
  - e. Ramp Unified Doubles
  
3. Team Events:
  - a. Team (2-Game or 3-Game)
  - b. Unified Team
  - c. Junior Division Unified Team
  - d. Ramp Team (2-Game or 3-Game)
  - e. Ramp Unified Team

### **B. Special Olympics Missouri Rules**

1. SOMO Bowling Tournaments will use Scratch Tournament Rules (see

Section 4.2 in the SOI Bowling Rules). For fair and accurate divisioning, it is recommended for bowlers to use their highest average score from the most recent 15 games. At a **minimum**, bowlers should use their highest average score from **no less than** the most recent 8 games.

2. Bowlers may bowl in two game or three game competitions. All Unified Bowlers **MUST** bowl 3 games except Junior Division Unified Sports® Doubles and Teams **MUST** only bowl 2 games.
3. Bowlers **MUST** bowl an average of at least 50 to bowl in any three game competitions. Bowlers with an average of 150 or higher **MUST** bowl 3 games.
4. Bowlers, including Unified Partners, may **ONLY** bowl in one event.
5. Ramp bowlers may bowl on Unified Sports® Doubles or Teams as long as they have a 50 minimum average and can bowl three games in 2 hours and 15 minutes AND they must be registered as Ramp/Regulation or Ramp/Unified Doubles or Teams (failure to comply will result in forfeit).
6. Ramp Bowlers will **NOT** switch lanes, unless they are bowling on a Regulation or Unified Sports® doubles or team.
7. Unified Sports® Doubles or Teams will be scratched when the Special Olympics athletes are not present to bowl.
8. Any team that has at least one member of the opposite sex on the team shall be a mixed/coed team.
9. Late bowlers will be given "0" for each frame they miss, however they may bowl in any subsequent game without penalty.
10. A bowler that misses a complete game will receive a "0". There will not be "Blind Scores".
11. Any athlete that has a valid medical form and has bowled at an area or local event may bowl as an alternate on Doubles or Team as long as they do not change the Gender or Age Group of the Doubles or Team.
12. Bumper Bowling is **ONLY** allowed at area or local events.

### **C. Competition Uniforms**

1. Slacks or appropriate skirts are recommended **not required**.

2. Blue jeans may be worn but they **must** be clean and without holes.
3. T-shirts may be worn but **must** be clean without holes and **cannot** have vulgar language or pictures on them.