

SPECIAL OLYMPICS PENNSYLVANIA ALLOCATION PROCESS

I. INITIAL ALLOCATIONS

- Step 1:** Local program submits number of athletes training by sport within one month of the season to the appropriate Competition Director.
- Step 2:** The numbers are reviewed and questions or concerns addressed by the Sr. Sports Director.
- Step 3:** The total number of athletes across Pennsylvania training in each sport is calculated by SOPA.
- Step 4:** The percentage of athletes training in each sport by program is calculated.
- Step 5:** SOPA Competition Department and Games Committees determine the number of available allocations or slots for competition in each sport.
- Step 6:** Programs then receive their initial allocations based upon their “athlete” (those athletes who trained and competed at any level the prior year) percentage. **No program will receive more than 20% of the initial slots by sport.** Minimum slots are given to each program (i.e. minimum of 1 athlete/ individual sport and 1 team/ team sport except for sports which are qualifiers for States).

Example: Area X trains 100 athletes in aquatics. Pennsylvania has 10,000 athletes across the state training in aquatics. Area X therefore has 1% of the aquatics athletes. The SOPA Competition Department and Games Committee determine that 300 athletes can be accommodated at the event. Therefore Area X receives 1% of the 300 slots or 3 allocations. If Area X would like to bring 5 aquatics athletes to the competition, then Area X would confirm their 3 allocations and request 2 more allocations on their Letter of Intent. If Area X can only bring 2 athletes, then they would confirm 2 athletes and return 1 allocation so another program may use it.

Sectional Competitions: The same process is used but the percentage is based upon the total number of athletes training in the respective sport per section of the state.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS PENNSYLVANIA
ALLOCATION PROCESS (cont'd)**

II. REALLOCATIONS

- Step 1:** Every effort is made to accommodate requests for additional slots. Programs who return Letters of Intent after the deadline will not be registered for the event. Priority is given to all other programs as follows:
- Step 2:** First priority is given to counties or local programs training in new sports. **New programs may be given “token” allocations but may not compete in team events at States their first year training.**
- Step 3:** Second priority will be given to local programs that attended the sectional for the season in the sport offered. (If the sport is not offered, then proceed to Step 4). If insufficient slots are available, then all programs who attended the sectional will be randomly drawn for the remaining slots following the procedures in letters a, b and c below.
- Step 4:** Third priority is a random selection of spaces available after Step 3 with some consideration given to larger programs:
- a. If sufficient allocations are available, all programs will receive additional requested slots (i.e. if 32 slots are requested and 40 are available, then everyone will receive their requests).
 - b. If enough allocations are available, then each program will receive one additional slot with all remaining allocations to be randomly drawn (i.e. if 10 counties each request 2 additional slots and 15 slots are available, then each country will receive 1 slot and all counties' names will be placed in the random draw for the remaining 5 slots).
 - c. If space is not available to accommodate all requests, then slots will be allocated by a **weighted** random draw. The procedure will be as follows:
 - **Delegations requesting additional slots will be listed by the size of their “athlete” numbers, largest to smallest.**
 - **The largest 25% get their name in the random draw 4 times.**
 - **The next largest 25% get their name in the drawing 3 times.**
 - **The next largest 25%, 2 times.**
 - **The smallest, 25%, 1 time.**