

Golf Technical Package



2017 Special Olympics BC Summer Games
Kamloops, British Columbia
July 6-9, 2017

2017 SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC SUMMER GAMES

Technical Package - Golf

Technical Packages are a critical part of Special Olympics BC (SOBC) Games. They guide the selection of athletes by describing the age and eligibility requirements, assist the organizing committees by detailing tournament formats and scoring procedures, assist Chef de Missions in verifying eligibility, help with budgeting by describing the number of participants permitted, advance coaching certification by stating minimum requirements.

Every Games' Coach, Manager, Sport Chairperson and Mission Staff has an obligation to read and understand every aspect of the Technical Package. Failure to do so could cost an athlete his or her eligibility for the Games, affect final standings or the conduct of the competition. If someone does not understand an aspect of a Technical Package, he or she is to seek clarification from the Games Organizing Committee or Special Olympics BC through his or her Chef de Mission.

Technical Packages are developed primarily by SOBC, in consultation with Summer Sport Organizations (where applicable), following the principles, guidelines and requirements of SOBC. As the overall governing body of the Games, SOBC has the ultimate authority for Technical Packages however the information contained is only valuable if understood by all Coaches and Regional Team Members.

If an individual wishes to initiate a change to a Technical Package leading up to a Games, the desired change should be directed to the Chef de Mission. The Chef de Mission will evaluate the merits of the change and will, if it has merit, submit the requested change and the rationale for the change to Special Olympics BC on the individual's behalf. The Technical Package does not govern age groups, eligibility requirements, team sizes, or staff complements. Minor corrections will be considered at almost any time, but will be increasingly difficult to achieve within one month of the Games. These time frames reinforce the importance of a complete understanding of the Technical Package early.

I. **Venue:** Kamloops Golf and Country Club

Location: 2960 Tranquille Rd.

Kamloops Golf and Country Club Course is an 18-Hole Course with spectacular mountain views that offers a driving range, putting green, chipping area, fully licensed restaurant, and pro shop. To find out more information visit <http://kamloopsgolfclub.com/>.

Note SOBC Golfers will be playing the front nine on both days from the front tees (ladies).

II. **Participants**

- a. Competitors:
Quotas were calculated using the procedures outlined on the SOBC website.

Final Athlete Quotas: 40

Region One:	3
Region Two:	4
Region Three:	12
Region Four:	3
Region Five:	4
Region Six:	7
Region Seven:	0
Region Eight :	5
Yukon	2

- b. Staff:

Special Olympics BC is piloting a caddy system where each athlete will have a coach to act as his or her caddy. Regions are not required to meet a 1-1 however it is an option. A 4-1 ratio must be met as per SOBC policy.

Final Coach Quotas: 40

Region One:	3
Region Two:	4
Region Three:	12
Region Four:	3
Region Five:	4
Region Six:	7
Region Seven:	0
Region Eight:	5
Yukon	2

III. Age Category

All participants must be 13 years of age or older as of the first day of the games.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

a. Coaches

Any coaches listed on the official registration form must obtain the following certification no later than 60 days prior to the Summer Games (May 7th, 2017).

- NCCP Special Olympics Canada - Competition Sport Workshop
- Make Ethical Decisions Workshop
- Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation – **Competition** Introduction

Exemption Process

Individuals who have coached at the Regional Qualifier for their sport and who meet all selection requirements for advancement to the Summer Games will be given the first opportunity to advance to the Summer Games. In the event a Region can not fill their quota of coaches for advancement to the Summer Games, a Region may select from other coaches within their Region provided the following:

- 1) Those coaches who attended a Regional Qualifier for their sport were given the first opportunity to move forward to the Summer Games.
- 2) ONLY those coaches who have completed their coaching certification (see above) may be considered.
- 3) Those coaches being considered for selection must meet all other criteria established for selection of coaches to the Summer Games.
- 4) All Summer Games coaching quotas given to a Region will be for Team Coaches. If Regions require a Team Volunteer (i.e. 1-1) they must make that request in writing no later than two months prior to the Games to the Leadership Council. SOBC will provide each Region with a quota for Team Managers separate from that given for coaching positions.

b. Competitors

- i. The athlete must be registered with an accredited Special Olympics BC Local, and be active in a Special Olympics program.
- ii. Only athletes that are registered with Special Olympics BC for two consecutive seasons prior to the Summer Games are eligible.
- iii. Only athletes that are training in that sport for a minimum of one sport season before Summer Games are eligible.
- iv. Only athletes that take part in qualifying events sanctioned by the Region are eligible.
- v. Athletes must be 13 years old for Summer Competitions as of July 6, 2017 to be eligible.

- vi. After quotas are established by SOBC, athletes will be selected on a standard of performance at a sanctioned Regional Qualifier, completed before July 15, 2016. When the qualifiers are complete, SOBC will announce the quotas based on the number of athletes that attended each qualifier.

V. Competition

a. Rules

The competition will be run according to The Rules of Golf as approved by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews (R&A) and the Royal Canadian Golf Association (RCGA) except when they are in conflict with Special Olympics Canada (SOC) rules. In such cases SOC rules (Appendix I) shall apply.

b. Events

i. Singles Stroke Play 9 Hole Event

Due to the numbers of participating athletes, the event will consist of two 9-hole rounds (Friday and Saturday) and awards will be presented based on total strokes. Male and female divisions will be developed based on the submitted averages.

c. Averages

Regional Teams must provide the GOC with verification of an athlete's average (based on a minimum of 6 rounds) by June 1st, 2017. The following formula will be used for those athletes whose averages are based on golf courses with a 9-hole par lower or higher than 35:

Submitted Average ÷ Par at their Golf Course X 35 = Athlete's Games Average

Medical Scratch Exemption: If an athlete is injured or falls ill while at the games the team coach has the option of filling out a medical scratch form. The medical scratch form must be signed by medical personnel onsite and the decision of this person will take precedent over that of a regional medical person. If an athlete is granted the exemption the team will continue to compete however if this forces the team below the minimum it will be disqualified from awards and will not be considered for selection to Team BC for the National Games. The athlete does have the option of returning to competition if the medical personnel onsite at the sport venue clears the athlete.

For individual sports, if a medical exemption is granted, the athlete will not be penalized for missing events and those events will not count towards selection to Team BC. If the medical situation forces an athlete below the minimum number of events required for that sport the athlete will not be considered for Team BC and the National Games.

The medical scratch Exemption Form is included in this package.

d. Caddies

Caddies will be available to athletes to provide athletes with support in the areas of distances, out of bounds, hazards, pin location, and rule clarification.

e. Score Cards

Athletes will not be required to keep their own score as caddies will be responsible for score keeping for their athlete as well as another athlete in the group (caddies will rotate cards at the beginning of the round) and will be required to sign their card at the completion of each round.

f. Schedule

The Golf competition will take place over a two day period. Athletes with lower submitted averages will tee off first to ensure the pace of play is consistent.

Tentative Schedule:

Day 1, Friday July 7, 2017

Day 2, Saturday July 8, 2017

g. Practice/Warm-Up

The competition schedule will not allow for a specific warm up time however athletes will arrive at the venue early enough on competition days to appropriately warm up.

h. Competitive Attire

All athletes and coaches must be dressed in proper golf attire consistent with the golf course's dress code. Such attire includes a collared shirt and pants with a straight hemmed bottom. In cases where athletes are competing in the warm summer months, hemmed shorts may be allowed for comfort and safety. Denim, sweat pants, stir-up pants and spandex shall not be permitted. Golf shoes are recommended and must have plastic or rubber spikes rather than metal. Sneakers are also permitted. Athletes may also wear hats, sun glasses and in the case of inclement weather- rain pants and jacket.

* Please ensure athletes pack rain gear (ie Water proof Jacket and Pants)

Please also ensure that golf attire meets all Special Olympics BC sponsor logo policies and that no athlete or coach attire has any sponsor logos being promoted other than the brand name. (i.e. Nike)

i. Divisioning

Divisioning will be conducted as per the official Special Olympics Canada Divisioning Policy.

Divisioning Process

Step 1: Divide by Gender

Step 2: Divide by Ability

Proceed on the premise that the recommended performance difference between athletes in a division is 25%.

For 3 or more athletes:

Place athletes into division no less than 3, no more than 8

j. Technical Officials

The Games Organizing Committee will select technical officials that are experienced and knowledgeable in the sport of golf.

k. Ties

If 2 or more athletes are tied after the completion of the final round, the player with the fewest number of total 10x scores shall be declared 1st place, second fewest 10x scores shall be declared 2nd place and so on. Please note that a 10 and 10x are not the same. A score of 10 is if a player's final shot went in the hole equaling 10 strokes however a 10x is when an athlete has taken 10 strokes but has not holed their ball and been forced to pick it up.

If a tie still remains, the golfer with the best 9 holes on Day 2 will be awarded 1st place. If the athletes are still tied the athlete with the best score on the final 6 holes will be declared the winner. If the athletes are still tied the athlete with the best last 3 holes will be declared the winner.

l. Protest Procedures

All protests must be approved by the **Chef de Mission** and submitted **in writing** by the **Head Coach** to the **SOBC Summer Games Representative for Golf** within 30 minutes following the posting of results.

The protest fee of \$50.00 cash must accompany all protests.

Any discrepancies in results (as posted) should first be checked with the **Results Coordinator** (located in the Results area at the venue).

Please find attached a copy of the Protest Form to be utilized for the 2017 Special Olympics BC Summer Games.

Divisioning cannot be protested.

VI. Equipment

- 1) Each player is responsible for providing his/her own equipment, including:
 - a) A set of clubs up to a maximum of 14 clubs (including at least one wood, one iron and one putter);
 - b) A golf bag;
 - c) Golf balls
 - d) A pitch mark repairer
 - e) Ball Marker
 - f) Tees

It is the expectation that all golf athletes mark their ball with a ball marker when on the greens.

The use of power golf carts is not permitted and athletes are expected to walk the length of the golf course. A case may be considered for using a power cart during the

Summer Games upon presentation of a medical certificate to the Summer Games Committee. Individual pull carts are acceptable.

VII. Head Coaches Meetings

- a. Schedule

The first head coaches meeting will take place approx. 2 weeks prior to the Games via conference call. Subsequent Head Coaches meetings will take place at the competition venue and any other meetings will be called only if necessary. **Agenda items must be in the possession of the SOBC Summer Games Representative for Golf by 10:00pm on the evening prior to the next day's competition.**

- b. Meeting Attendance

Regional Teams are limited to 1 representative they can send to the coaches meetings.

VIII. Results

Results will be posted in a designated area immediately following competition. A full results package will also be provided to all Head Coaches and Regional Coordinators within thirty days after Games.

Once results are made official they will be made available to the media and posted on-line.

IX. Award Presentations

The award presentations for golf will take place July 8th at the Golf Course. Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded to the first, second and third place athletes respectively in each division.

The athletes who have been judged first, second and third shall stand in their official uniforms, on the stand with the first place winner slightly above the second who is on his right and third who is on his left. The 3rd place award is presented first and awards then progress in ascending order to the 1st place award.

X. Spectators

Spectators will only be permitted to watch the athletes tee off on the first hole and on the green at the last hole and will not be allowed to follow athletes as they play holes 2 through 8.

Venue Diagram



Golf Rules

The Official Special Olympics Sports Rules shall govern all Special Olympics golf competitions. As an international sports program, Special Olympics has created these rules based upon The Rules of Golf as approved by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews (R&A) and the Royal Canadian Golf Association (RCGA). These rules shall govern all competition except when in conflict with the Official Special Olympics Canada Sports Rules. In such cases, the Official Special Olympics Canada Sports Rules shall apply.

SECTION A

Official Events

- i. Level 1 – Individual Skills Competition
- ii. Level 4—Individual Stroke Play Competition [9 hole]
- iii. Level 5—Individual Stroke Play Competition [18 hole]

Note: Some events may or may not be offered at the Provincial and National Games. Special Olympics Canada and the Canadian Sports Council will decide which event will be held at the National Games.

SECTION B

General Rules and Modifications

The following are maximum averages for each level of competition that will be enforced at all sanctioned competitions. Scores not meeting these criteria may be subject to disqualification.

Level 4 – average of 70 or lower

Level 5 – average of 120 or lower

1. Level 4 Golf—Individual Stroke Play Competition

a. Purpose for this Level of Play

- 1) This level is designed to meet the needs of those Special Olympics golfers who wish to play individually in a tournament where the stipulated round is nine holes.
- 2) While the player should be capable of playing independently, it is strongly recommended that the player provide their own caddie for tournaments and competitions. The player and caddie must be able to walk during the entire

nine-hole round. If the player cannot provide its own caddie, the following options could be made available for the athlete:

- Play without a caddie
- If the Organizing Committee has a pool of volunteer caddies, use one of the volunteer caddies

Note 1: Caddies do not have the right to protest. Coaches can be caddies but if they are this would take away their right to protest.

Note 2: At National Games, the delegations coaching staff will consist of 1 Head-Coach per team (for Teams who have 2 or more players) and as many caddies as there are athletes. There will be no associate coach positions allocated to Teams. Teams who have only one athlete will consist of 1 Head-Coach that will also play the role of caddie. In this situation, the caddie would have the right to protest.

b. Form of Play

- 1) The form of play shall be stroke play competition.

c. Scoring

- 1) If a 10th stroke is played without holing the shot, the player shall record a score of 10x and proceed to the next hole.
- 2) Scoring (marking of cards)—Athletes should be taught to keep score and, whenever possible in competition, serve as a marker for a fellow competitor. The

Tournament Committee may also appoint a volunteer or caddie to serve as a marker. The competitor will be responsible for verifying his/her own score and signing his/her scorecard.

d. Ties

- 1) First-place ties shall be decided in the following manner:
 - a) Of the players tied for first place, the player with the fewest number of 10x scores shall be declared the winner.
 - b) If a playoff is not feasible, the matching of scorecards is recommended. There are many options for matching cards, which can be found in the USGA and R & A Rules of Golf under Appendix I Part C: Conditions of Competition—How to Decide Ties. Please note that the tie-breaking method must be stated in the Conditions of Competition prior to the start of the tournament.
- 2) All other ties shall remain as ties and all players should be presented with the same award.

e. Stipulated Round

- 1) A stipulated round shall be nine holes.

- 2) At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, a championship may be contested over one, two, three or four rounds.

f. Tournament Venue Selection

- 1) The selection of the golf course shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- 2) The committee should consider the degree of difficulty and its impact on the conduct of the tournament.

g. Golf Course Set Up

- 1) The golf course shall be set up at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. They are encouraged to provide appropriate teeing ground locations on each hole for the Special Olympics players using the following guidelines:
 - a) Avoid any shots that require the golfer to carry a distance of greater than 47 meters (50 yards) over hazards or other obstacles, anywhere on the golf course.
 - b) Create holes that do not exceed following measurements:
 - Par 3: 140 meters (150 yards)
 - Par 4: 326 meters (350 yards)
 - Par 5: 419 meters (475 yards)
- 2) The Tournament Committee should define teeing grounds for female players.

h. Registration and Divisioning

- 1) Each player shall register by submitting a verified handicap or the most recent six scores over nine holes.
- 2) The scores must be accompanied by the par for the course for each score.
- 3) All scores must be verified by signature of the golf professional, Club Secretary or golf Association Director.
- 4) If a classification round cannot be played, the Tournament Committee may use these scores to establish divisions for tournament play.
- 5) In cases that allow for classification rounds, the Tournament Committee shall have the discretion of finalizing divisions based on information available to them.

i. Equipment

- 1) Each player is responsible for providing his/her own equipment, including:
 - a) A set of clubs (including at least one wood, one iron and one putter);
 - b) A golf bag;
 - c) Golf balls; and

- d) A pitch mark repairer.
- j. The decision to offer the use of power golf carts will be left to the discretion of the specific Tournament Committee. At any international event, athletes will be expected to walk. A case may be considered for using a power cart during World Games competition upon presentation of a medical certificate to the World Games Committee.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC 2017 SUMMER GAMES



GOLF PROTEST FORM

Delegation: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Game: _____

Lane Number: _____

Name and number of athlete(s) involved:

1. Name: _____ Region: _____ Team Number: _____

2. Name: _____ Region: _____ Team Number: _____

3. Name: _____ Region: _____ Team Number: _____

4. Name: _____ Region: _____ Team Number: _____

State concisely the circumstances and cite rule(s), which give grounds for protest:

Signed by: _____
Chef De Mission (or designate) Region

Received by: _____
SOBC Rep for Golf Time Date

PROTEST COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Protest Fee Paid:	Yes _____	No _____
Protest Committee Decision:	Accepted _____	Rejected _____
Protest Committee Initials:	_____	_____

A protest, signed by Chef de Mission (or designate), must be made to the SOBC Summer Games Committee Representative for Golf within 30 minutes following the posting of results and/or the end of a game. A protest fee of \$50 cash must accompany all written protests.