

Appendix IV – SOC Divisioning

Special Olympics Canada Divisioning Document

Preamble:

Special Olympics divisions athletes on the basis of ability. This process outlines the most equitable competition environment for all Special Olympics athletes

Divisioning Process

Individual Sports

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%

Step 3: Divide number of athletes registered in an event

For 3 or more athletes:

Place athletes into division no less than 3 (up to %1000 differential), no more than 8.

If you have more than 8 athletes in a division reduce the performance percentage to produce new ability groupings – 5% at a time is suggested. For example an ability group could be reduced to 20% difference in performance to create two ability groupings

For 2 Athletes entered into an event:

Athletes compete against each other providing they are of the same gender.

For 1 athlete entered into an event

An athlete would compete against their own divisioning time in the event. If they are competing against their own divisioning time medals would be awarded as follows

Gold Medal: Final performance is better than the divisioning performance

Silver Medal: Final performance is the same as or less than the divisioning performance by 10%

Bronze Medal: Final performance is less than the divisioning performance by 11-25%

For events that are not divisioned the athlete would be awarded a gold medal