



2022 Special Olympics USA Games

Team Florida Advancement Process

UPDATED 2.27.2021

Given the current situation surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic Special Olympics Florida leadership, along with the 2022 USA Games Advancement Committee, has carefully considered the impact that event cancellation/postponements will have on the 2022 USA Games advancement process. As a result of these conversations, and considerations, the Team Florida Advancement Process and criteria has been updated. The updated procedure can be found below.

- Eligible athletes/partners are those who:
 - A: Place first at State Games within the eligibility window (see below)
 - B: Place first at Area Games in all years of the eligibility window (see below), but are not selected to go to State Games
- **INDIVIDUAL SPORTS**
 - Equestrian, Tennis, Athletics, Bocce, Stand Up Paddle, Bowling, Swimming, Surfing, Powerlifting, Artistic Gymnastics, Golf, Open Water Swim, Sprint Triathlon -2018, 2019, **2021*****
- **TEAM SPORTS** (1-year window for eligibility)
 - Flag Football, Softball, Soccer, Volleyball, Cheerleading -2019
 - Basketball - 2020



- Athletes/teams who place first at State Games for each sport in the time frames listed above will be entered into a random draw.
** We will use a different procedure for bocce, bowling and swimming in Miami-Dade County. Due to participation numbers for these sports in Miami-Dade, we will use Area Games as the qualifying games rather than State Games.*

****Given the timing and uncertainty of 2021 State events there will be two drawings conducted. The first drawing, which will take place in June 2021, will include all team sports and up to 80% of the available quota for the individual sports utilizing 2018, 2019 and 2020 competition results. A supplemental drawing, which will take place in December 2021, will be held to determine the remaining individual quota spots utilizing 2021 State or Virtual competition results.*

Random draw conducted to invite athletes to training camps (this number will exceed our quota as alternates will be included)

Training camps will be split up and conducted by region/sport and will be held in both virtual and in-person settings. In many instances confirmation of availability for training camps, and subsequent participation dates, will be needed before athletes are included in the random draw

- Athletes will be evaluated at training camps based on ability to follow rules of the sport, ability to travel and lodge, etc. All athletes, with the exception of those deemed “alternate,” who successfully display this ability will advance to Team Florida. If athletes are unable to display the ability to follow rules of sport, travel, lodge, etc., they will not advance, and alternates will be activated.