



2026 Special Olympics GB National Summer Games Event Guide (1st Edition)

June – September 2026

Special Olympics
Great Britain



Special Olympics GB 2026 National Summer Games – Event Guide

Contents

1	About Special Olympics GB - 2026 National Summer Games	3
1.1.	Background	3
1.2.	Event Management	4
1.3.	Event Structure	5
1.4.	Estimated Event Reach	5
1.5.	Funding	6
1.6.	Key Dates & Milestones	6
2	Event Information	7
2.1	Proposed Schedule	7
2.2	Accommodation and Catering	9
2.3	Transport	9
2.4	Insurance	9
2.5	Event Health & Safety	9
2.6	Medical and Event First Aid	11
2.7	Duty of Care	12
2.8	Safeguarding	13
2.9	Fringe and Festival Activity	14



3	Entries	15
3.1	Quota	15
3.2	Registration Process	15
3.3	Representation, Eligibility and Qualification	16
3.4	Advancement	18
3.5	Sports Formats and Rules	19
3.6	Uniform/Clothing & Equipment	26
3.7	Awards	27
4	Event Volunteers, Family / Spectators Information	28



1. About Special Olympics GB - 2026 National Summer Games

1.1 Background

Special Olympics GB National Summer Games has traditionally been delivered every four years marking the pinnacle of the summer sport advancement pathway and being the most notable qualification opportunity for Special Olympics World Summer Games nominations.

Following our last National Summer Games held in Sheffield in 2017, Special Olympics GB (SOGB) was working with Liverpool City Council with a view to deliver a National Summer Games in the city in 2021. Unfortunately, the global Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent cuts to local authority budgets led the games to be postponed and then cancelled.

As we returned to activity following the pandemic, we acknowledged the increasing appetite (via home country and regional check ins, surveys, working groups, Athlete Leadership Team and regular ad-hoc queries) from the SOGB membership. There was a need to get back into regular training and also have a competition pathway re-established with national competitions included and thus, 'Guide to Competition' and 'Summer Series of Sport' were launched to support athletes and volunteers back into SOGB competitions post Covid-19.

Four years on, we have seen the enhanced development and delivery of TeamSOGB attendance at the World Summer (Berlin 2023) and World Winter (Turin 2025) Games. Along with the delivery of the first Special Olympics GB National Winter Games (Folgaria 2024), this made significant progress towards getting the domestic local-national competition programme back to pre-pandemic numbers. Over the past three years, more than 80 competitions have been delivered annually, indicating growing demand for Special Olympics GB competition opportunities and a return to the competition advancement pathway.

In April 2025, following initial scoping on the benefits and demand for a Special Olympics GB National Summer Event in 2026, the staff team delivered a stakeholder consultation to help shape the format of the event.

The intention of the Special Olympics GB 2026 National Summer Games is to introduce a new event format that brings together the most valued elements of a National Games, aligns with the resource demands of the evolving sporting landscape, and provides qualification opportunities for the World Summer Games.

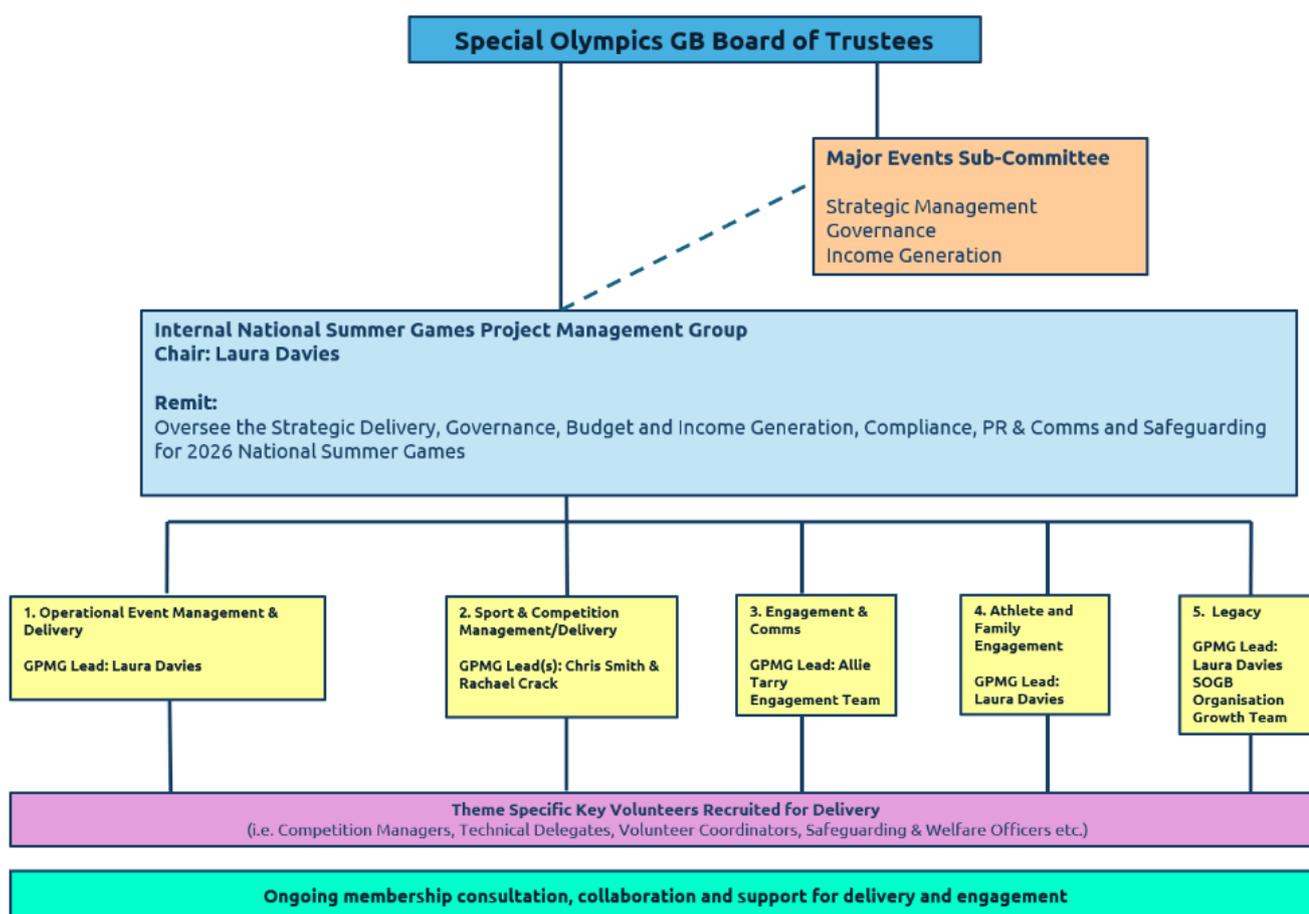
Special Olympics GB 2026 National Summer Games will provide the opportunity for our athletes to showcase their ability, meet their friends from across the Special Olympics GB movement alongside experiencing a high-quality event.



1.2 Event Management

2026 National Summer Games will be managed by a Games Organising Committee led by Special Olympics GB National Office in collaboration with Special Olympics athletes, volunteers and key stakeholders.

Event Management Structure:



1.3 Event Structure

The 2026 Special Olympics GB National Summer Games will follow a hybrid model, consisting of:

- Multi-sport event (4–5 days): Held at a single location or cluster of venues in Birmingham, prioritising Special Olympics GB’s most popular participation sports:
 - o Athletics, Boccia, Football, Artistic Gymnastics, Rhythmic Gymnastics, MATP, Swimming
- Single-sport national competitions (2-3 days): Building on the successful 2022 Summer Series of Sport, hosted at different locations across Scotland, England and Wales for:
 - o Remaining Tier 1 and selected Tier 2 sports*, including Badminton, Basketball, Bowls, Cycling, Equestrian, Golf, Table Tennis, Tennis
 - o Some competitions may be expanded versions of current national single-sport events
 - o Please note that the current list of included sports may be reduced/expanded dependent on competition viability and resource.
- National Summer Games events will also aim to include Ceremonies of varying size and scale. We hope to share more information due course.

1.4 Estimated Event Reach



* Figures based on data from consultation and 2017 NSG & 2022 SSOS events

1.5 Funding

Special Olympics GB's internal fundraising team are currently prioritising funding opportunities and potential partnerships for 2026 National Summer Games to secure the funds required to deliver the event, and to mitigate as much as possible the financial obligations of programmes and regions.

A nominal delegation fee will apply, covering the cost of sports and competition delivery. The fee will be calculated based on a rate of £25 per day of competition and sport attended by an athlete and volunteer.

Example:

- o An athlete/volunteer attending four days of swimming - (£25 x 4 days = £100)
- o The same athlete/volunteer attending two days of Table Tennis - (£25 x 2 days = £50)
- o Total amount chargeable to accredited programme for that athlete = £150

This fee will be quantified and invoiced via the 2026 National Summer Games registration system to the accredited programme. The delegation contribution fee **MUST** be paid ahead of the commencement of the games/or by an alternative deadline as set by the Games Organising Committee.

1.6 Key Dates & Milestones (*Subject to change)

Week Commencing 2 nd February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of Event Guide • Launch of Stage 1- Programme Registration
2 nd March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1 Registration Closes
1 st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of Stage 2 – Individual Registration
1 st May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 2 Registration Closes for individuals participating in both single sport & single sport & games style events • Data Verification and Credential Proofing
1 st June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 2 Registration Closes for individuals participating in games style event only • Data Verification and Credential Proofing
June - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Verification and Credential Proofing • Final Preparation • Event Attendance
September – December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event Evaluation



2. Event Information

2.1 Proposed Schedule

Single Sport Competitions (Various locations):

-  **CYCLING –BRADFORD**
3rd – 4th May
Wyke Community Sports Village, Wyke, Bradford BD12 9HA
-  **BADMINTON - NOTTINGHAM**
13th – 14th June
David Ross Sports Village, Beeston Ln, Nottingham NG7 2RD
-  **TABLE TENNIS - CREWE**
28th – 29th June
Sir William Stanier Leisure Centre, Coronation Street, Crewe, CW1 4DJ
-  **INDOOR BOWLS – PLYMOUTH**
10th – 12th July
Plymouth Life Centre, 40 Mayflower Dr, Plymouth PL2 3DG
-  **GOLF – GLASGOW**
15TH – 16TH July
Cowglen Golf Club 301 Barrhead Rd, Glasgow G43 1AU
-  **BASKETBALL – MANCHESTER**
7th – 9th August
Belle Vue Leisure Centre, Kirkmanshulme Ln, Manchester M12 4TF
-  **TENNIS – WREXHAM**
1st – 2nd August
Wrexham Tennis Centre, Plas Coch Rd, Wrexham LL11 2BW
-  **EQUESTRIAN - TBC**

Multi-Sport Competitions (HOSTED IN BIRMINGHAM):

-  **ATHLETICS**
26th – 30th August
Alexander Stadium, Walsall Rd, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2LR
-  **BOCCIA**
26th – 30th August
Wyndley Leisure Centre, Clifton Rd, The Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, Sutton Coldfield B73 6EB
-  **FOOTBALL**
26th – 30th August
High Performance Centre, Alexander Stadium, Walsall Rd, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2LR
-  **GYMNASTICS (ARTISTIC)**
26th – 30th August
GMAC, Alexander Stadium, Walsall Rd, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2LR
-  **GYMNASTICS (RHYTHMIC)**
26th – 30th August
GMAC, Alexander Stadium, Walsall Rd, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2LR
-  **MATP**
28th – 30th August
GMAC, Alexander Stadium, Walsall Rd, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2LR
-  **SWIMMING**
26th – 30th August
Wyndley Leisure Centre, Clifton Rd, The Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, Sutton Coldfield B73 6EB

2.2 Accommodation and Catering

Participating accredited programmes will be responsible for securing and covering the cost of:

- Athlete and volunteer accommodation
- Travel to and from the events
- Food/subsistence outside of the event(s).

Lunch and snacks will be provided during the competitions. Any dietary needs will be captured in stage 2 registration.

Whilst Special Olympics GB is not providing accommodation for this event, Accredited Programmes attending the 2026 National Summer Games will be expected to adhere to the [Special Olympics GB Accommodation Guidance](#) which aligns to the practice and guidance from Special Olympics International at International events.

Failing to follow the outlined Special Olympics GB policies and processes for this event, may affect cover for you by the Special Olympics GB insurance policy, resulting in the incurring of personal liability (not organisational liability) in the event of any incident and/or issue.

2.3 Transport

Participating accredited programmes will also be responsible for securing and covering the cost of athlete and volunteer travel to and from the events.

Wherever possible, we are encouraging everyone attending this event to utilise a shared/coordinated and or public transport model rather than individual travel options (single cars).

2.4 Insurance

Special Olympics GB National Office are currently in the process of ensuring appropriate insurance coverage for this event.

Full details of insurance policy and associated coverage will be coordinated by National Office and will be shared within the National Games Handbook in due course.

2.5 Event Health and Safety

Delivering a safe, meaningful and positive experience for all will be of the highest importance for the organisation and management of this event. All events will follow the Special Olympics GB organisational compliance [policies](#) and practices, including the national safeguarding policy, and implementation of health and safety protocols



to ensure participant (athlete and volunteer), supporter, and spectator wellbeing remains the top priority.

Delivering a safe Health and Safety for the Special Olympics GB 2026 National Summer Games shall be led by the Games Organising Committee in partnership with our venue providers and Competition Managers.

2.5.1 Risk Management

There will be a tiered approach to risk management across the Special Olympics GB National Summer Games. Please see the structure below:



2.5.2 Credentials

Personalised credentials will be provided to all delegations, event volunteers, Special Olympics GB staff and honoured guests registered to attend this event.

We will not be credentialing spectators for this event.

Credentials will be distributed on arrival to venues on the first day of competition and should be worn at all times when at competition venues (may be removed for competing).

As well as information to identify each individual, their role at the event, access they are permitted and the area of the games they are involved in, the front of the credential also has a series of alerts and codes to enable games staff to easily identify individuals with

any medical, dietary consent needs as identified in the 2026 National Summer Games Registration Form.

On the reverse of the credential will be a legend to support meaning for the icons identifying personal alerts and a QR code to access both the insurance documents for the games but also the reporting form for any safeguarding, welfare, or general concerns/issues throughout the games.

2.6 Medical and Event First Aid

2.6.1 Medical

Each programme is responsible for making sure that all individuals in their Delegation complete an individual online 2026 National Summer Games registration form which includes submission of information regarding health and management of medical conditions by the Stage 2 Registration deadline.

Following Stage 2 Registration, all health information shall be reviewed to ensure that there are appropriate levels of training and expertise to ensure suitable support for athletes in order for them to attend and compete safely, with reduced risk.

For example, should an athlete within the club have epilepsy, it is essential that the coach/chaperone supporting the athlete has had the relevant epilepsy training.

Should any gaps in training or expertise be identified, Special Olympics GB shall work with the accredited programme to ensure relevant support can be implemented (via further training and/or workforce) to enable the athlete to attend the event.

Please Note: The Games Organising Committee reserves the right to refuse entries if it is considered that the individual's care needs cannot be effectively met within the structures and protocols of the event.

Any individuals with any specific medical conditions and allergies will have alert icons on their games credentials to make this known to 2026 National Games staff and volunteers.

2.6.2 Medical Information

Head Coaches and key delegation support staff must also always have access to athlete health information with them for their entire squad and a copy of the Health Information Form should be kept centrally and accessible for the programme's lead volunteers in the event of any medical incident or issue.

A new version of the Special Olympics GB Health Information Form will be shared during Stage 2 registration. Medical Information submitted via the online registration shall also be accessible to the management of the games for the purposes of risk management and event safety.



2.6.3 First Aid

During Competition/Event Hours - Each venue and competition shall have First Aid provision relative to its size, scale and risk.

Outside of Competition/Event Hours – All programme coaches and chaperones should have training in order to support any athletes with underlying medical conditions (as in section 2.5.1) Special Olympics GB encourages programmes to have volunteers that are first aid trained.

Further detail on 'Out of Hours' medical and social care support shall be shared within the 2026 National Summer Games Handbook and shared prior to the event.

2.7 Duty of Care

2.7.1 Duty of Care

As is standard practice with all Special Olympics GB domestic competitions, care, supervision and safeguarding of athletes is the responsibility of the accredited programme and assigned coaches/chaperones.

During the event, athletes can be signed out of the accredited programme's duty of care back to family/usual duty of care should they not be competing. On this occasion, a **'Domestic Event Sign In/Out sheet'** should be completed and held by the athlete's Head Coach.

2.7.2 Care & Support Ratios

In alignment with **Special Olympics Sport Rules Article 1 (clause 7.2)**, Accredited Programmes **MUST** provide for adequate supervision and coaching for all athletes.

For competition activities, a maximum ratio of four athletes-to-one Coach/Chaperone (4:1 athlete-to-coach ratio) is required within the Special Olympics International Rules.

For this event, Special Olympics GB is recommending a 2 Coach/Chaperones to 4 athlete (2:4) ratio. This is to ensure effective support for athletes particularly where there is the residential element to the event. This supports with care ratios being maintained in the event of any emergencies, provides suitable care coverage if/when there are Head Coach meetings and can also support with ensuring Coach and Volunteer wellbeing is maintained with opportunity for adequate rest. If a 2:4 ratio is not feasible, contingency plans should be put in place to mitigate any risk to duty of care that may arise throughout the programme's attendance at the event.



2.7.3 Supervision for Under 16s

Following pre-approval received from Special Olympics GB National Office, Athletes under the age of 16 are permitted at the games if the following is in place:

- They have appropriate supervision and support throughout the event.
- The athlete profile and risk assessment submitted for the athlete is thorough and has been signed off by Special Olympics GB National Office.

2.8 Safeguarding and Welfare

It is our priority to ensure that everyone can take part in opportunities that are inclusive, enjoyable and within safe environments. We are committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and adults and strive for the highest levels of accountability in promoting the welfare of all children and adults and their right to be protected from harm.

Safeguarding for this event shall be delivered in line with the [Special Olympics GB Safeguarding Procedure for Adults](#) and the [Special Olympics GB Safeguarding Procedure for Children](#).

Please note below the structure for the management of Safeguarding and Welfare for this event:



2.8.1 Safeguarding and Welfare Reporting Structure

Please find below the process for reporting any safeguarding concerns or incidents during this event.

Should there be a safeguarding incident and/or concern this should be, in the first instance, reported to your accredited programme's Safeguarding and Welfare Officer (SWO), or directly to Special Olympics GB via the assigned venue based SWO, the Safeguarding Hotline (number will appear on credentials), or the [Special Olympics GB Online Reporting Form](#). Once reported, the incident and/or concern shall be triaged and managed or escalated as appropriate.

Please note if you believe someone is in immediate danger, you should contact emergency services.



2.9 Fringe and Festival Activity

It is the ambition of the games to be able to deliver a variety of activities beyond the sport and competition to enhance the experiences for all taking part.

With that in mind, we are working with partners to include Fringe and Festival activity to run alongside each competition that will engage athletes, volunteers, spectators and local communities and showcase Special Olympics GB.

Further information on these opportunities will be shared in due course.

3 Entries

3.1 Quota

Due to the numbers of athletes and volunteers submitted during the 2026 National Summer Games consultation and Register of Interest process, it is not believed that any sport will exceed capacity and therefore require a quota process.

On the close of stage 1 registration for the event, if there are any sports that have either exceeded or fallen below the threshold for meaningful competition, the Games Organising Committee along with the competition planning group for each sport shall review and take action as required.

3.2 Registration Process

There will be a 2-stage registration process for the event.

- Stage 1
 - Opens week commencing 2nd February 2026
 - Deadline 2nd March 2026
 - Programmes will register for the event as a whole via an online Cognito form. This form will cover governance, compliance and request a list of athletes and volunteers you intend to register for each sport and their respective levels and/or categories.

Stage 1 Programme Registration can be accessed via the online form [HERE](#)

- Stage 2
 - Opens 1st April 2026
 - Deadline for Single Sport Only plus Single Sport & Multi-sport 1st May 2026
 - Deadline for Multi-sport Only 1st June 2026
 - Athletes and volunteer (programme and event) will complete an individual registration for the event capturing key information.

All stages of registration must be completed by the shared deadlines.

Individuals WILL NOT be permitted to attend the event without having completed and confirmed Special Olympics GB registration.



3.3 Representation, Eligibility and Qualification

3.3.1 Representation

Athletes and Volunteers will represent a combination of their club and home country at the 2026 Games (e.g., St Albans and Special Olympics England).

While some members expressed a preference for regional representation through the National Summer Games Consultation, the size and structure of regions across the Special Olympics GB Network in Scotland, England and Wales vary significantly. Representation by club and home country ensures greater inclusivity, accessibility and stronger media opportunities from a local to national level.

To support the viability of team, doubles and/or pairs events, it will be possible for athletes from different accredited programmes (but the same region/nation to compete together).

Example:

An athlete is registered to compete in the singles competition in Badminton but would like the opportunity to also play in the doubles event. There are no other athletes within their accredited programme that are of the same ability level registered to compete in the event. There is, however, an athlete in the same situation in a nearby/connected accredited programme who the athlete has played or trained with at regional/open events.

It will be possible for those athletes to compete together representing either their region (i.e. SO West Midlands) or their home nation (i.e. SO England) in order to provide them with that opportunity. It will responsibility of the programmes to determine the 'Team/Pair Name' and/or who they will be representing at the point of individual registration.

Example:



There are 2 athletes (Athlete A – female and Athlete B – Male) from separate programmes in the West Midlands entered into the singles competition in the National Summer Games Badminton competition.

They would both like the opportunity to take part in the doubles competition. The athletes are of the same ability level and have played together before in regional/national competitions.

It is permitted for these athletes to pair up so they can take part in the mixed doubles event and during the Stage 2 registration process they will be able to identify each other as their chosen partner.

3.3.2 Athletes:

All Athletes entering the Special Olympics GB 2026 National Summer Games must: -

- Be at least 16 years old* on the start date of the competition.
- By **2nd March 2026** have a current and active SAM registration within an accredited programme.
- Have trained for a minimum of 8 weeks in their respective sport(s) and be mentally, physically, and emotionally prepared to safely compete and engage in the environment in which the competition is being held (including any required residential).
- Have participated in a sanctioned local, regional or partnership competition since **1st January 2024**, and be technically capable of competing at the level of the event they are entering .
- Always abide by the Athletes Code of Conduct.
- Have an up to date [Health Information Form](#) and Medical Form

* Any programmes wishing to enter athletes younger than 16 years of age must contact the [2026 National Summer Games Organising Committee](#) for approval prior to entry.

Please Note: The Games Organising Committee reserves the right to refuse entries if it is considered that the individual's care needs cannot be effectively met within the structures and protocols of the event.



3.3.3 Delegation Volunteers:

All Volunteers/Coaches/Chaperones who are travelling with a programme's delegation and fulfilling a specific role should be registered with Special Olympics GB by **2nd March 2026**.

The registration process includes: -

- Completion of the Special Olympics GB registration
- Compliance with the DBS/PVG requirements
- Compliance with the Volunteers/Coaches Code of Conduct.

All coaches must be suitably qualified by recognised national governing body requirements and/or trained under the Special Olympics GB specific framework. If not satisfied, coaches must possess a minimum of three years' practical coaching experience for the sport in question.

3.4 Advancement

The National Summer Games will be a qualification event for athletes who wish to be part of the selection process for the next Special Olympics World Games in Santiago, Chile, in 2027. There may be other competitions that form part of this qualification process although these are not yet confirmed/sanctioned and National Summer Games remains the primary opportunity for advancement to international competitions.

The detail on this process is currently limited because we have not received confirmation from Special Olympics International on the number of athlete and coach places that we will have available, or the sports that they can represent in.

We will share this information with the network when we have received guidance from Special Olympics International.

3.5 Sport Formats & Rules

All Sport and Competition for this event shall be following the [Special Olympics Sport Rules Article 1](#).

Please note that some of the formats listed below may change depending on competition viability and capacity based on entries.

The Sports Competitions taking place in 2026 National Summer Games are:

	<h2>Athletics</h2>
Rules	Athletics Rules Sport Impact Standards Athletics
Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track and Field • Each athlete can enter 2 individual events (e.g. 2 track events or 1 track and 1 field event) + 1 relay event. Mixed relay teams must be made up of 2 male and 2 female athletes • Divisioning will be completed using the Special Olympics International Athletics Sport Impact Standards. • Track Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m - 4x100m Relay, 4x400m Relay • Field Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Running Long Jump, Standing Long Jump, Shot Put, Soft Ball Throw, Mini Javelin

	<h2>Swimming</h2>
Rules	<p><u>Special Olympics Swimming Rules</u></p> <p><u>Special Olympics Swimming Sport Impact Standards</u></p>
Events / Format	<p>Divisioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning will be completed using the Special Olympics International Swimming Sport Impact Standards. • Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25m/50m/100m/200m in Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly 100m/200m Individual Medley 4 x 25m/50m/100m/200m Freestyle Relay <p><i>Please note that no Category 3 events will be offered, these will be available at an alternative event.</i></p>
	<h2>Boccia</h2>
Rules	<p><u>Boccia Rules</u></p>
Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals and Pairs

	<p>Divisioning will be completed using the Boccia Player Rating Form which will be made available to coaches on the National Summer Games.</p>
	<h2>Artistic Gymnastics</h2>
<p>Rules</p>	<p>Artistic Gymnastics Rules <u>Men / Women</u></p>
<p>Events / Format</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning Levels – A, B, C, 1, 2, 3, 4 – one level only for all events entered • Men’s Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vault, Floor Exercise, Still Rings, Pommel Horse, Parallel Bars, Horizontal Bar - Individual all- around, Team all-around • Women’s Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vault, Floor Exercise, Uneven Bars, Balance Beam - Individual all- around, Team all-around
	<h2>Rhythmic Gymnastics</h2>
<p>Rules</p>	<p><u>Rhythmic Gymnastics Rules</u></p>
<p>Events / Format</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning Levels – A, B, C, 1, 2, 3, 4 - one level only for all events entered

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The level determines routines that can be completed by the athlete. Male and Female
	<h2>Badminton</h2>
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Badminton Rules</u>
Events / Format	<p>Divisioning will be completed using the Badminton Player Rating Form which will be made available to coaches on the National Summer Games webpage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Singles, Doubles (Female/Male/Mixed)
	<h2>Football</h2>
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Football Rules</u> <u>Special Olympics Football Sport Impact Standards</u>
Events / Format	<p>Divisioning will be completed using the Football Skills Assessment Test which will be made available to coaches on the National Summer Games webpage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7-a-side Mixed gender, 11 players per team

	<h2>Basketball</h2>
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Basketball Rules (5x5)</u>
Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning will be completed using the Basketball Skills Assessment Tests (BAST) which will be made available to coaches on the National Summer Games webpage. • Basketball played will be 5v5
	<h2>Table Tennis</h2>
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Table Tennis Rules</u>
Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning will be completed using the Table Tennis Individual Skills Test which will be made available to coaches on the National Summer Games webpage. • Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles
	<h2>Tennis</h2>
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Tennis Rules</u>

Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning will be completed using a Skills Assessment Form which will determine an athletes level. • Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles in Levels 3,4,5 and 6.
	Golf
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Golf Rules</u>
Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1 – Individual Skills Competition • Level 4 – Individual Stroke Play Competition (9 holes) • Level 5 – Individual Stroke Play Competition (18 holes)
	Equestrian
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Equestrian Rules</u>
Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning will be completed using the Equestrian Rider Profile which will be made available to coaches on the National Summer Games webpage. • Levels – A, BI (Independent), BS (Supported), CI (Independent), CS (Supported) • Events will include:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dressage (A, BI, CI) - Prix Caprilli (A) - English Equitation (A, BI, BS, CI, CS) - English Working Trail (A, BI, BS, CI, CS)
	<h2>Indoor Bowls</h2>
Rules	<u>Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Fourth Edition</u>
Events / Format	<p>Events & Divisioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisioning will be completed using the Indoor Bowls Player Rating Form which will be made available to coaches on the National Summer Games webpage. • Levels – 1, 2, 3, 4 • Pairs
	<h2>Cycling</h2>
Rules	<u>Special Olympics Cycling Rules</u>
Events / Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Distance Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 500m Time Trial, 1km Time Trial, 3km Time Trial • Middle Distance Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3km Time Trial, 5km Time Trial, 10km Time Trial

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5km Road Race, 10km Road Race • Long Distance Events - 10km Time Trial - 10km Road Race, 15km Road Race
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Motor Activity Training Programme (MATP)</h2>
<p>Further detail on the MATP activity taking place as part of National Summer Game shall be shared in due course. For any initial queries please contact events@soqb.org.uk</p>	

3.6 Uniform/Clothing & Equipment

With the current cost of living crisis, we want to keep all costs as low as possible for all parties.

Therefore, athletes and volunteers will be able to wear kit of the club/programme that they represent at the National Summer Games. Due to the increases in cost of living and other financial pressures we do not feel it is appropriate to ask athletes and volunteers to purchase regional kit that will be worn in isolation at one event.

At the 2026 National Summer Games, all kit must align to [Special Olympics International Branding Guidelines](#) for kit, with no front of shirt sponsor branding. Kit can be branded with the Accredited Programme logo mark/team name.

This is to ensure that the Special Olympics brand is the most prominent brand on any kit, this demonstrates the Special Olympics visual identity with any partner brand being recognised in a supporting role. This also supports the current Corporate Partners who are already investing in Special Olympics GB and allowing the charity to function day-to-day. We also hope to bring in more corporate sponsorship to deliver an even stronger experience for our athletes.

Any sleeve, back of shirt or shorts sponsorship must not represent a brand that is seen as a competitor to a current [Special Olympics GB Corporate Partner](#). Further support on how to apply this guidance will be shared in due course.

All sport specific equipment and clothing must comply with the conditions outlined in the [Special Olympics Sport Rules](#).



Some examples of good practice for programme kit can be found below:



3.7 Awards

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals along with 4th – 8th place recognition will be awarded for each event and each division.

Participation recognition awards will be provided to athletes that do not finish and/or receive a technical/maximum effort violation disqualification.

Athletes that receive a disqualification for non-sportsmanlike behaviour at any stage of the event shall not receive participations awards.

4 Event Volunteers, Family / Spectators Information

4.1 Event Volunteers

We will be looking to recruit 500 Games Volunteers and 300 Officials to fulfil a broad range of roles both on and off the field of play.

These volunteers will be integral to the success, enjoyment and smooth running of this unique multi-sport event.

We are committed to recruiting a diverse and vibrant team of Volunteers who reflect the communities in which we live and will bring together a range of skills, knowledge and experience – each individual making their own special contribution to the Games.

Volunteers will be invited to sign up ahead of the Games and will receive personalised credentials showing their role and the areas they can access during the event. Some roles may also require a Basic or an Enhanced DBS/PVG check and references, which we'll ask for before the Games begin.

If you'd like to volunteer at the event, complete the form below to receive more details

[Special Olympics National Summer Games Volunteer Interest form](#)

4.2 Families and Spectators

Families, friends, and supporters play a vital role in the Special Olympics GB community. Spectators will be welcome at the Games, and we will share further information about attendance in due course.

For any questions or queries relating to this event, please contact Special Olympics GB National Office via events@sogb.org.uk





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