

2024 Special Olympics QLD State Games Q&A

Q	What are State Games and why are they different to Inter Club competitions?
A	State Games are the highest-level of sport competition in Queensland, medals will be presented in each sport. State Games are also used as a selection event for Team Queensland.

Q	Why are 2 or 3 sports held on the same day
A	SOA State Games is a Multi-Sport Event and due to the size of Special Olympics Queensland, it is spread out over 3 weekends in 2024 to allow greatest participation for the athletes.

Q	But what about Table Tennis – its not on the same weekends
A	That’s correct – Here in Queensland we have been training and holding Inter Club competitions for nearly 10years, unfortunately the other States have only just started enjoying this great sport, and we are hopeful that Table Tennis will be included at SOA National Games for the first time in 2026 and the decision was made to give all athletes the greatest opportunity to compete at this sport. Decision was made by SOQ State Committee in January 2024.

Q	I live in Bundaberg, where should I go for basketball
A	The decision is ultimately up to you and your family, Bundaberg Club will have communication with everyone regarding athletes and teams that will travel to either Mackay for the Central Qld games or into Southeast Qld, but the choice and decision is yours. Remembering you can only compete in one of the basketball events not both.

Q	What if I don’t train with Special Olympics
A	If your registered as a Special Olympics athlete and you train with an Affiliated group, you are eligible to compete at the State Games

Q	Why do I need to make a choice, I should be able to compete in all my sports
A	Fortunately, Special Olympics gives all athletes with an intellectual disability and/or Autism the opportunity to train and play in over 30 Olympic type sports, but ultimately you can only pursue your goal of representing Queensland and/or Australia in 1 sport in the 4-year games cycle. Special Olympics Queensland will allow you to compete in 4 sports over the State Games, but you can only nominate 2 sports that you wish to pursue your goal of representing Queensland at the next National Games.

Further information

Any questions? Please contact the Special Olympics Queensland State Games Organising Committee via email at qld.stategames@specialolympics.com.au