Special Olympics Oklahoma

BOCCE COMPETITION RULES

Competition Format

- Open competition is divided by age groups with **Singles and Unified Doubles** divisions.
- Tournament format may vary; all athletes are guaranteed at least **two games**.

Court & Equipment

- Court size: **12' x 60'** grass court with marked boundary lines.
- Court includes **10' throwing lines** and a **30' center line**.
- Each player/team uses **4 official bocce balls**.
- The **palina** may not exceed **2½ inches** in diameter.

Game Play

- A coin toss determines which player/team throws the palina first.
- The palina must cross the center line to be playable. If not, the opposing player/team attempts placement. If still unplayable, the judge places the palina on the designated spot.
- The team controlling the palina throws the first bocce ball.
- After the first ball is thrown, the team furthest from the palina continues throwing until it becomes the closest ball ("in" ball).
- Play continues until all balls have been rolled.
- Athletes must throw their own balls and may not receive physical assistance.

Scoring

- One point is awarded for each bocce ball that is closer to the palina than the opponent's closest ball.
- A frame is complete when all eight balls have been thrown and scored.
- **Singles:** Each athlete throws 4 balls per frame.
- **Doubles:** Each athlete throws 2 balls per frame; teammates may choose the throwing order.

Game Length

- A game consists of a maximum of **12 frames or 15 minutes**, whichever comes first.
- The player/team with the highest score at the end of play is declared the winner.

Additional Rules

- No substitutions are allowed.
- Each court will have a judge and scorekeeper.
- All judge decisions are final.

Ramp Athletes

- Athletes requiring a ramp must provide their own.
- Ramps may not be shared between courts.
- For ramp play, the ramp is positioned near midcourt and both the palina and bocce balls are delivered from that location throughout the game.