

2021 Virtual Winter Games FAQ

What is the Virtual Winter Games?

- Virtual Winter Games is a safe way for Athletes, Young Athletes, Unified Partners, Volunteers and Supporters to keep the spirit of Special Olympics Michigan's Winter Games alive by competing from home safely, or at your socially-distanced return to play session. Choose three total activities from events including Alpine Skiing, Snowboarding, Cross Country, Snowshoe, Speed Skating, Figure Skating and Fitness as sport. Just compete from your home, submit your scores online and you will be awarded a virtual participation award for your accomplishments.

Who can participate in Virtual Winter Games?

- Virtual Winter Games is open to both Special Olympics athletes and Unified Partners. Any non-Special Olympics Athlete – community member, family member, friend, corporate partner - can participate as a Unified Partner, so Virtual Winter Games is open to everyone!

When can I register?

- Registration for the Winter Virtual Games is now open.

When should I turn in my scores?

- You can submit your scores starting February 10 through February 24 at Noon at somi.org/virtualgames.

How do I register?

- Registration will take place at somi.org/virtualgames. Once there, click on the red box labeled 'Submit your results here' to submit your results. If you prefer to register with a printed form that will be turned into your Area for submission, please contact your coach or Area Director.

How many events can I participate in?

- You can participate in up to three (3) events from any sport offered; mix and match sports if you desired. For example, you could choose the Snowshoe, Figure Skating, and the Alpine Skiing event.

How do I choose my events?

- Simple, just choose the three (3) events you feel most comfortable in, or the three (3) that interest you the most, and compete.

Can I participate in a sport I have never played before?

- Yes, you can participate in any of the events offered regardless on your past participation - however, practice is strongly encouraged.

How do I know how to complete each event? Are there instructions to follow?

- Go to somi.org/virtualgames and check out the sports and events offered. Each event has a description showing how to complete each skill.

I am a Unified partner, but I do not have an athlete to participate with. Can I still participate in the Virtual Winter Games?

- Yes, you will register at somi.org/virtualgames. Registration is open now and runs through February 24. Once registered, we will work to team-up athletes with Unified partners to train and compete if you request us to do so.

How do I find out where I placed in my events?

- The celebration concludes on Friday, February 26 with the premiere of the Winter Games Celebration video where video clips submitted by participants during the score submission process will be highlighted. Participants will also receive an email with digital participation awards certificates.

Have any additional questions? Feel free to email somiforms@somi.org for more help.