

# Unified Track & Field Banner Information

Unified Sports is a Special Olympics program run in partnership between Special Olympics Alberta and the Alberta Schools' Athletic Association. For more information on this program, please see the Unified Sports section of the ASAA website.

## Important notes:

- Points earned in the Unified Banner event will not be added to the school points for the ASAA banners; the Unified Banner will run as a completely separate event.
- Both Unified team members must participate in each of the three Unified events.
- Students on a Unified team may **not** be registered in any other event at Provincials. This includes both athletes and partners.
- Each Zone may send a maximum of two teams; suggestions for qualifying events are below.
- All Unified Banner events will take place on Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> for the 2024 Track & Field Provincial Championships.
- Only coaches who are registered with the ASAA will be allowed in the coach's areas; parents, support staff, and other spectators must be in the spectator's area. No exceptions.

## **Teams**

**Each Zone may send a maximum of three teams**; each team will consist of exactly **one athlete** (student with an intellectual disability) and **one partner** (student without an intellectual disability). There are no gender or age requirements, as long as both team members are of eligible age for ASAA sport. Both team members must be from the same school.

It is up to each Zone to determine which Unified teams will represent them at Provincials. To determine this, Zones may choose to add Unified events into their Zone Championships. Another option could be a "virtual qualifier" where schools send the Zone their team's best results before a set deadline set by the

Zone and the Zone uses that data to select their teams. Zones may also choose a mix of both approaches, or another approach that best suits their needs.

### Events

The Unified Banner will consist of three events:

- Long jump
  - Each competitor will have three attempts
  - Rule modifications:
    - Partners: none
    - Athletes: 1m launch area
      - As long as the athlete takes off within the defined one square metre area, their jump will be measured from the toe of their take-off foot. If they are outside of the launch area, the jump is a foul.
- 400m run
  - Each competitor will have one attempt
  - Random lane assignments
  - Rule modifications:
    - Partners: none
    - Athletes: waterfall start
- Turbo Javelin
  - Each competitor will have three attempts
  - Rule modifications:
    - All competitors, regardless of gender, will use a 500g turbo javelin. Turbo javelins will be available at the event. Contact <a href="mailto:unified@asaa.ca">unified@asaa.ca</a> if you would like to borrow a turbo javelin to practice with before the event.

## Registration

Unified teams must be registered through the same process as all other Provincial Track and Field competitors via your Zone Secretary, and by the deadline noted by your zone.

### Scoring

Scoring will be determined by combining scores from IAAF Scoring Tables for Combined Events (IAAF FAT Tables in Meet Manager) for both teammates. For consistency in scoring, all competitors will be assigned scores for their performance based on the boys table for outdoor events, regardless of the competitor's gender.

Scores will be calculated as follows:

- 1. An athlete and partner team complete an event
- 2. Each competitor's result is scored using the IAAF FAT Tables
- 3. The scores from all three events are added together for the team's overall score

If the lowest scoring athlete's performance is lower than what is represented on the Alberta Youth Table, all scores will be adjusted proportionally until the lowest score is on the table.

Example: The IAAF FAT Table awards 52 points for the shortest turbo javelin throw of 11.60m. If an athlete's best performance is a 9m throw, we would add 2.60m to all athletes' performances so that the lowest scoring throw receives 52 points and higher scoring throws receive proportionally more points.

Note that for ease of calculations numbers may be rounded to be round numbers.

### **Awards**

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded to each member of the top three teams for each event. The team with the highest overall score after all three events will win the Unified Banner for their school.

## Questions

Please contact the Unified and Para Sports Program Coordinator with any questions about this event.

E-mail: unified@asaa.ca

Phone: 587-404-9358