



## 2020-2021 Winter Sports Season Overview

It's hard to believe but Special Olympics Minnesota's last in-person activities were almost a full year ago during the 2019-2020 Winter Sports season. During the last seven months we have learned a lot and heard from our athletes, coaches and families about what activities everyone is interested in. And although we all miss seeing each other, being together in-person and sharing in the joy that Special Olympics brings we are unable to offer a "normal" Winter Sports Season. Instead we are offering a variety of different activities both in person and virtually that can keep athletes safe and connected during this time. Please see the tentative Winter Sports Season overview below. The website will be updated in early November with more details about the season.

### In-Person Practices – Yes! They are happening!

We are offering in-person practices for Delegations that choose to opt into our Return to Play program. You must [notify Special Olympics Minnesota](#) that your Delegation is opting into Return to Play and agree to follow all of the safety protocol and guidelines. Visit the [Return to Play](#) page to see all of the guidelines.

### Winter Sport Offerings

*\*Sports offerings are tentative and subject to change*

- Alpine Ski
- Ice Fishing
- Poly Hockey skills
- Powerlifting
- Snowboard
- Snowshoe

*\*You may offer as many sport offerings as you would like as long as you are following the Return to Play guidelines and specific sport guidelines. Sport guidelines are not finalized yet.*

### Winter Invitationals – In-Person & Virtual Options

*\*Events and dates tentative and subject to change*

- **Dates TBD** – events will take place in Jan & Feb
- **Locations TBD** – spread throughout the State. No Area, Regional or State events
- **In-Person Invitationals** – Snowshoe & Poly Hockey Skills
- **Hybrid/Virtual Invitationals** – Alpine Ski/Snowboard, Powerlifting, Ice Fishing
- **Qualifying Score** – no qualifying score or team practices required. We just want to know who is attending.
- **Practice** – in-person practices are not required to attend Invitationals. If your Delegation chooses to practice in-person, they will have to opt into the [Return to Play](#) program.
- **Paperwork** – for in-person practices and invitationals, all traditional paperwork for athletes, coaches and Unified Partners is required as well as the [COVID-19 waiver](#)