

# New Mexico Senior Olympics

## Terms & Definitions

Revised 3-2017

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1. **Able Bodied Athlete:** NMSO is comprised of 25 sports for “able-bodied” athletes. At the discretion of the NMSO, athletes with physical disabilities may be allowed to compete insofar as any and all handicap devices used by the athlete falls within certain rules and regulations to ensure fairness in competition. NMSO will abide by the rules of the National Governing Body of the athlete's sport to govern circumstances regarding athletes with disabilities in able-bodied competition for specific sport instances. The use of any technical device that incorporates springs, wheels or any other element that provides the user with an advantage over another athlete not using such a device will be prohibited in athletic competition.
2. **Arbitrators:** ultimate decision makers on rulings and policies. Named by the Senior Olympics Summer Games Game Management. Membership may include but not be limited to NMSO Board of Director Chairman, Executive Director, and Local Planning Committee Events Coordinator.
3. **Athlete/participant:** registered game entrant age 50+.
4. **Event:** An event is a component within a Sport. Example – Bowling Singles is an event within the sport of Bowling.
5. **Events Coordinator:** NMSO has two staff members to assist Sport Coordinators with the event planning of each tournament at Summer Games. Event Coordinators will answer to the Executive Director of NMSO and make periodic report(s) to the Local Planning Steering Committee regarding events.
6. **Executive Director:** the full-time staff member employed by the New Mexico Senior Olympics Board of Directors. The Executive Director will serve at the discretion of the NMSO State Board of Directors.
7. **Fun Events:** Potato Spoon Relay, Balloon Popping Relay and Chair Exercise Activity. No pre-registration is required and drop-ins are welcome.
8. **Local Game Coordinators:** Volunteer advocates associated with Local Games in each city/county or pueblo. Local Coordinators answer to the local advisory senior program directors in their area. Local Coordinators assist with Summer Game registrations and many attend the Games as game volunteers to support the Events.
9. **Local Games:** NMSO has established one designated organization per county or locality to be the sanctioned entity to promote established objectives and philosophies to involve senior adults 50+ in physical activity and senior games. Local Games are required to have established a local governing advisory board of directors.
10. **Local Planning or Steering Committee:** Invited Senior Agencies are asked to provide local input from the host city to plan and implement the Senior Olympics Annual Summer Games under the direction of the NMSO Executive Director.

## Terms & Definitions (cont.)

11. **National Senior Game Association (NSGA):** the sanctioning organization which conducts National Games on a biennial basis. Qualifying years will be the even numbered years (2018, 2020, etc.).  
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12. **Non-Ambulatory Athlete:** NMSO is comprised of three “limited” non-ambulatory sports – bowling, horseshoes and shuffleboard. NMSO will abide by the rules of the National Governing Body of the athlete’s sport to govern circumstances regarding athletes with disabilities. NMSO has the right to modify the rules depending on the abilities of the participants.
13. **Official:** an individual with decision making authority related to the running of the Games, such as a NMSO Board of Director Member, Sport Coordinator, game referee, or NMSO Game Management Staff.
14. **Open State:** a state that allows competitors from outside of their state to register and compete at the State Competition. New Mexico is an “Open State” for all 50+ seniors in individual, doubles and team tournament competitions.
15. **Registrar:** NMSO staff member who registers game entrants. Registrar will mail event confirmations to registered athletes, provide event listings to all Sport Coordinators and provide game results to local game sites.
16. **Recreational Sports:** This will be one sport with the following as events: Basketball Free Throw, Basketball 3 Point Shot, Frisbee Accuracy, Frisbee Distance, Huachas, Soccer Kick and Softball Throw. **Recreational sports** are competitive physical games that are played for fun as an activity as opposed to competing professionally. Recreational activities are included in the Games to promote participation, with the related goals of improved physical fitness, fun, and social involvement.
17. **Sanctioned Game Site:** designated game site that has agreed to support and promote year-round physical fitness in collaboration with New Mexico Senior Olympics. Currently there are twenty-five (25) Local Sanctioned Games.
18. **Spectator or Guest:** An individual who is registered as a non-competitor and attending the Games for game privileges such as game shirt, meal and housing accommodations and socials. Spectators/Guests who require campus housing plans must register in advance to include a signed liability waiver.
19. **Sport Limit:** An athlete may register for up to five (5) Sports
20. **Sport Coordinator:** Game volunteer recruited to implement and manage an individual sporting event at the Summer Games. The role of Sport Coordinator includes recruiting and supervising volunteers, overseeing playing rules and running a quality event. Sport Coordinators are trained by NMSO.
21. **Sport:** an activity undertaken for competition and health and fitness identified by the NMSO Board of Directors for the Summer Games. The Senior Olympic Summer Games offer **twenty-four (24)** individual sports and three (3) Team Sports.
22. **Staff:** trained game personnel identified by NMSO Game Management.
23. **Team Captain:** an individual identified by a team or group to serve as the leader or spokesperson. Team tournament sports identify a coach or captain to be the lead and in charge of all game communications for the entire team. Captains are identified on team information form or team roster.