



## Comparison between Unified Sports Competitive and Player Development Models

Competitive Unified Sports	Unified Sports Player Development
Inclusive sports program	Inclusive sports program
Approximately equal number of athletes and partners train and compete	Approximately equal number of athletes and partners train and compete
Similar ability and age of athletes and partners	Similar age
Differentiation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Have attained sufficient &amp; necessary sport-specific skills and tactics</li> <li>2) No modifications of Official Special Olympics Sports Rules</li> <li>3) Eligible to advance to higher levels of play beyond the Program level (such as Regional and World Games)</li> </ol>	Differentiation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Not required to be of similar ability; teammates of higher ability serve as mentors to assist players of lower abilities</li> <li>2) Rules modifications define players' roles, ensure meaningful involvement and prevent player dominance</li> <li>3) No advancement beyond the Program level</li> </ol>
Never comprised solely of individuals with disabilities	Never comprised solely of individuals with disabilities
Awards based on place of finish within divisions	Program has choice of providing awards based on finish or participation (same award for all)
<p><b>Profile of Unified Sports Team Competitive Model</b></p> <p>ABILITY LEVEL</p> <p>Higher</p> <p>Lower</p> <p>PARTNERS (P)      ATHLETES (P)</p>	<p><b>Profile of Unified Sports Team Player Development Model</b></p> <p>ABILITY LEVEL</p> <p>Higher</p> <p>Lower</p> <p>PARTNERS (P)      ATHLETES (A)</p>