

Kiwanis Special Games

Event Leaders

Presented by the Kiwanis Clubs of CalNevHa Divisions 34 &12, managed by:
The Los Altos Kiwanis Club -- organization and operation
The DeAnza Kiwanis Club -- equipment and venue

It's all about **GROUPS!**

THE CORE PRINCIPLE. We are told repeatedly that the SG is the most important day in the lives of these determined athletes. The reason is that this is the one day when they are validated, rather than excused, for their physical capabilities. It is essential that the conduct of the Games be formal and official, and above all competitive. The value is not just going through the motions of the Event, the value is in trying your hardest, and **WINNING** that ribbon as a recognition of your determination and success in a demanding physical endeavor.

DON'T MIX GROUPS. The athletes in a Group are at the same level of capability, and may compete with each other in any order, but they may not compete with athletes of other Groups.

TWO TEAMS. Divide your personnel into the **EVENT TEAM**, to handle running the Event and awarding ribbons, and the **CORRAL WRANGLERS**, to manage the traffic flow and provide the Event with a stream of athletes divided into contest-sized subgroups, ready to compete. They also keep the Event area clear of everyone except currently competing athletes. After each contest, ensure athletes rejoin their Group at the Corral.

RIBBONS. After each Contest, draw attention to, and celebrate the ribbon awarding ceremony. Give it weight and formality. This is so important to the athletes. Assign 3 (or 4 if your Event will have "Best Effort" winners) dedicated spotters to identify 1st, 2d, 3d and B.E. place winners, and to actually distribute ribbons. Be quick but focused.

EXCEPTIONS. Slalom, Obstacle Course, and Figure 8 are "single file" timed Events. Award ribbons to the athletes in Contests of 3, but Contests of just 2 athletes are OK to avoid isolating one athlete at the end of the Group.

PERSONNEL. Need more workers, or you **HAVE** more workers than you need at your Event? Check with registration. (Please don't hoard volunteers!)