

Scrum of Scrums Framework – Official Guide v1

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Official Site: www.scrumofscrums.com

Purpose of the Framework

The Scrum of Scrums Framework™ provides a structured yet flexible way to coordinate multiple Scrum teams working together toward unified goals. It enhances transparency, synchronization, and delivery efficiency without the complexity of rigid enterprise frameworks.

This framework is intended for agile delivery at scale across programs, portfolios, and distributed teams.

Core Components

Scrum of Scrums Team: Delegates (typically Scrum Masters or Team Leads) from multiple Scrum teams collaborate to align dependencies, share progress, and remove inter-team blockers.

- **Scrum of Scrums Coordinator (SSCF):** Facilitator responsible for guiding Scrum of Scrums sessions, maintaining cadence, and managing escalations.
- **Program Lead (SSCPL):** Oversees program-level execution, delivery health, backlog flow, and organizational alignment.
- **Certified Coach (SSCC):** Guides enterprise-level Agile scaling, maturity evolution, and culture transformation.
- **Program Backlog:** Aggregated work and dependencies across teams prioritized for incremental delivery.
- **Integration Cadence:** Regular cycle (usually bi-weekly) for joint planning, syncs, reviews, and retrospectives.
- **Scrum of Scrums Program Product Owner (SSPPO):** Aligns and prioritizes cross-team features, manages the program backlog, and interfaces with stakeholders.
- **Business/Product Sponsor (Sponsor):** Sets strategic goals, defines ROI expectations, and funds the program.

Official Certification Roles

Scrum of Scrums Certified Practitioner (SSCP): Team-level delegate who participates in SoS meetings and coordinates dependencies

Scrum of Scrums Certified Facilitator (SSCF): Facilitates SoS events, tracks impediments, ensures alignment across teams

Scrum of Scrums Certified Program Leader (SSCPL): Owns program-level coordination, backlog flow, outcomes, and reporting

Scrum of Scrums Certified Coach (SSCC): Enterprise advisor supporting strategic alignment, Agile maturity, and team evolution

Scrum of Scrums Program Product Owner (SSPPO): Aligns and prioritizes cross-team features, manages the program backlog, and interfaces with stakeholders.

Scrum of Scrums Events & Role Breakdown

Scrum of Scrums Planning

SSCF: Facilitates session, confirms cadence, logs risks/dependencies

SSCP: Presents upcoming sprint goals, blockers, and team asks

SSCPL: Validates priorities, ensures scope readiness, and roadmap alignment

SSCC (optional): Advises on collaboration models or scaling best practices

Scrum of Scrums Sync

SSCP: Shares progress: What's done, what's next, what's blocked

SSCF: Timeboxes session, manages risks log, drives visibility

SSCPL: Monitors delivery risks, downstream impact, escalates if needed

SSCC (optional): Coaches on team dynamics and dependency resolution strategies

Scrum of Scrums Review

SSCP: Demonstrates team-level deliverables and integrated features

SSCF: Manages the agenda and runs feedback session

SSCPL: Captures program-level insights, value delivered, and outcome tracking

Stakeholders: Validate deliverables and provide directional feedback

Scrum of Scrums Retrospective

SSCF: Facilitates structured retrospective format

SSCP: Provides feedback on coordination effectiveness, tooling, and timing

SSCPL: Sponsors systemic improvements or change requests

SSCC: Recommends long-term adjustments to structure, maturity, or coaching strategy

Maturity Assessment Integration

The Scrum of Scrums Maturity Dashboard—exclusive to this framework—measures cross-team agility across five dimensions:

1. Coordination Cadence
2. Backlog Transparency
3. Dependency Management
4. Risk Escalation Process
5. Outcome Alignment

This dashboard is used to assess maturity levels from Foundational → Aligned → Synchronized → Predictable → Scaled Agility.

Scaling the Product Owner Role in the Scrum of Scrums Framework

Guiding Principle:

"Keep decision-making close to delivery but elevate prioritization clarity at the program level."

Role Layers for Product Ownership

Team-Level Product Owner (PO): Owns the individual Scrum team backlog, ensures user stories are well-defined, and prioritizes sprint-level work

Scrum of Scrums Program Product Owner (SSPPO): Aligns and prioritizes cross-team features, manages the program backlog, and interfaces with stakeholders.

Business/Product Sponsor (Sponsor): Sets strategic goals, defines ROI expectations, and funds the program.

Structure

1. Each Scrum team retains its own Product Owner
 - Drives team autonomy
 - Focuses on sprint-ready work and acceptance criteria
 - Collaborates with the Scrum Master and team on iteration goals

2. The Scrum of Scrums Program Product Owner (SSPPO)

- Manages the Program Backlog across teams
- Resolves feature-level prioritization conflicts
- Leads Program Backlog Refinement sessions with all team POs
- Attends Scrum of Scrums Planning and Review events
- Collaborates with the Scrum of Scrums Certified Program Leader (SSCPL)

3. Decision-making flow:

Sponsor → SSPPO → Team POs → Dev Teams

Key Interactions

SoS Planning: Presents high-level roadmap and feature priorities

Program Backlog Refinement: Works with POs across teams to decompose features

SoS Review: Demonstrates end-to-end value with PO coordination

Stakeholder Demos: Aligns outcomes to business value across teams

Balance of Authority

Sprint stories: PO – Directly with team

Cross-team features: SSPPO – Prioritization and negotiation

Portfolio strategy: Sponsor / SSCPL – Escalation and funding alignment

Team escalations: SSCF or SSCPL – Raised through SoS structure

Maturity Considerations for SSPPO Role

Your Scrum of Scrums Maturity Dashboard can assess Product Ownership scalability via:

- **Backlog Transparency:** Are priorities clear across all teams?
- **Feature Decomposition:** Are epics and features broken into deliverable stories?
- **Cross-Team Alignment:** Are conflicts resolved proactively?
- **Stakeholder Feedback Loop:** Is feedback incorporated consistently?

Scrum of Scrums Product Owner Hierarchy Diagram

