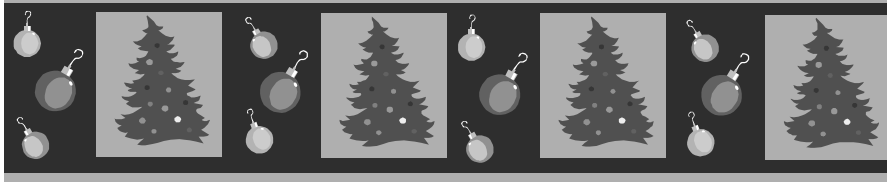




Special Olympics Iowa Newsletter

“LET ME WIN. BUT IF I CANNOT WIN,
LET ME BE BRAVE IN THE ATTEMPT.”



Happy Holidays from Special Olympics Iowa

The Special Olympics Iowa staff would like to thank you for your loyal support and dedication to the Special Olympics program and athletes. We wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season, and we look forward to working with you in 2012.

December 2011/ January 2012 Inside This Issue

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- Challenge Days
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- Mid-Winter Tournament
- Great Gift Ideas!
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- Calendar of Events

Important Reminders

Winter Games Feature

Watch for more information about Hy-Vee dieticians joining us at the Winter Games in Dubuque. You won’t want to miss this!

State Bowling Photos

Take a look at the great photos from the SOIA State Bowling Tournament in Des Moines. You will find them on the SOIA Facebook page with a link. They are also available on the SOIA website at <http://tinyurl.com/73oo2qq>. Special thanks to Dave Walter for capturing the fun and excitement of this day!



Area Basketball Skills Competitions

<u>Area</u>	<u>Date, Time & Location</u>	<u>Entry Due</u>
Central	02-02-12 9:30 a.m. at Miller Middle School in Marshalltown	01-20-12
East	02-04-12 9:00 a.m. at North Scott H.S. in Eldridge	01-04-12
East Central	02-04-12 8:30 a.m. at Northwest Junior High in Coralville	01-19-12
North	02-04-12 9:30 a.m. at the Forest City High School	01-20-12
North Central	02-09-12 10:00 a.m. at Butler Elementary School in Fort Dodge	02-02-12
Northeast	02-04-12 9:45 a.m. at UNI-PEC Gym in Cedar Falls	01-19-12
Northwest	01-21-12 9:30 a.m. at Dordt College in Sioux Center	01-13-12
South Central	01-28-12 9:00 a.m. at Creston Middle School	01-13-12
Southeast	01-21-11 10:00 a.m. at Burlington High School	01-14-12
Southwest	02-08-12 10:00 a.m. at Iowa Western Community College, Council Bluffs	01-18-12
West Central	01-28-12 9:00 a.m. at Parkview Middle School in Ankeny	01-04-12

Notes & News

Agreements and Contracts

Please send all facility agreements and contracts with Liability and Hold Harmless information to the SOIA state office. These contracts and agreements must be sent to American Specialty for their review and approval.

The contracts and agreements are then signed by Special Olympics Iowa President & CEO Mark Reed. Please contact Rhonda Schwarzkopf at 515-986-5520 or rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Special Programs

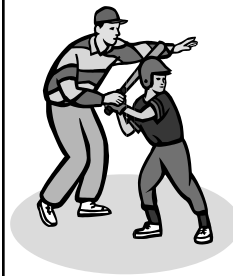
2012 Young Athletes Play Days

Young Athletes Play Days are designed for children with intellectual disabilities between the ages of two and seven. Play Days provide social opportunities for children who are too young to participate in traditional SOIA competitions (minimum entry age for competition is eight years).

Young Athletes Play Days are currently scheduled for **February 9** in Oskaloosa, **March 29** in Des Moines, Dubuque—TBA, and **April 5** in Cedar Rapids. For more information or to register, please contact Kathy Irving at kirving@soiowa.org or 515-986-5520.



Sports Recertification



Applications for Sports Re-Certification/ Continuing Education, and sport specific review quizzes are available through the state office.

Coaches who are already certified in a specific sport through SOIA training can re-certify in that sport with the completion of both forms along with documentation of a completed continuing education class or state of Iowa coaching certificate. To receive the forms, please contact Rhonda Schwarzkopf at 515-986-5520 or by email at rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org.

2012 Challenge Days: “Believe and Achieve”

Challenge Days provide athletes with severe intellectual and physical disabilities the opportunity to compete. Using switch-activated equipment, individuals who have never had an opportunity to participate in sports can participate in this program. The next Challenge Day is scheduled for **February 25 in Cedar Falls**. If you would like to participate in this event, please contact Kathy Irving at 515-986-5520 or at kirving@soiowa.org.

Annual Wartburg College Unified Sports Day is February 11



Unified Sports Days are an opportunity for Special Olympics athletes to pair with college students to compete and play in a variety of different activities geared toward both younger and older athletes including volleyball, basketball, arts and crafts and more! The next event is the **11th Annual Wartburg College Unified Sports Day on Saturday, February 11**. Registration forms are due January 26.

These events are free of cost and each athlete, chaperone or coach will receive lunch and a Unified Sports T-shirt. To receive more information and the registration forms please visit the Special Olympics Iowa website at www.soiowa.org. Under ‘Upcoming Activities’ click ‘more’ and scroll to the event, or contact Kathy Irving at 515-986-5520 or kirving@soiowa.org.

Coaches' Training



Coaches' Development Courses Offered in Spencer & Iowa City

Special Olympics, Inc. created two coach development courses for coaches who want to receive training beyond that of entry level coaches. The courses entitled "The Principles of Coaching" and "Coaching Special Olympics Athletes" will be offered in each of the 11 SOIA areas. The training session includes both courses and lasts approximately six hours.

Both courses are being offered in both Spencer and Iowa City in January. If you are available to attend either of the trainings please complete the appropriate registration form below and return it to Rhonda Schwarzkopf by the entry due date. The two courses are highly recommended by Special Olympics, Inc. Please consider attending the training session to assist with your coaching instruction, strategies, challenges and program management. The training also offers a wonderful opportunity to network with other coaches.

Please contact Rhonda Schwarzkopf at rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org or 515-986-5520 if you have any questions.

January 14 Spencer - Principles of Coaching & Coaching Special Olympics Athletes



On January 14, a coaches' development training session is scheduled at the Spencer High School (800 E. Third St.) in Spencer.

9:00 a.m. Principles of Coaching Course
12:00 p.m. Lunch
12:30 p.m. Coaching Special Olympics Athletes Course

Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Delegation: _____

Please return the registration form by January 6 to: Rhonda Schwarzkopf at Special Olympics Iowa, PO Box 620, Grimes, IA 50111 or by fax at 515-986-5530 or email: rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org



January 21 Iowa City - Principles of Coaching & Coaching Special Olympics Athletes

On January 21, a coaches' development training session is scheduled at Northwest Junior High School (1507 8th St.) in Iowa City.

9:00 a.m. Principles of Coaching Course
12:00 p.m. Lunch
12:30 p.m. Coaching Special Olympics Athletes Course

Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Delegation: _____

Please return the registration form by January 13 to: Rhonda Schwarzkopf at Special Olympics Iowa, PO Box 620, Grimes, IA 50111 or by fax at 515-986-5530 or email: rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org

Traditional Sports

Plan now for the SOIA Mid-Winter Tournament! Basketball-Cheerleading-Gymnastics-Powerlifting March 9-10, 2012 Field House at the University of Iowa



Friday, March 9

1:00-5:00 p.m. – Registration
(Registration at motel if staying overnight)
6:00-7:00 p.m. – Banquet at the Marriott
7:30-8:30 p.m. – Dance at the Marriott

Saturday, March 10

8:30 a.m. – Cheerleading competition begins
9:00 a.m. – Basketball competition begins
9:00 a.m. – Gymnastics competition begins
9:00 a.m. – Powerlifting competition begins
9:30 a.m. – Basketball Skills competition begins

Mid-Winter Tournament Entries Due:

Cheerleading – Feb. 1 (Coaches' Handbook, pg. 81)
Powerlifting – Feb. 1 (Coaches' Handbook, pg. 94)
Gymnastics – Feb. 1 (Coaches' Handbook, pg. 87)



PLEASE NOTE: Mid-Winter Entry Forms are due Feb. 17 and may be found on pages 90 and 91 in the Coaches' Handbook. SOIA will provide Friday's motel and banquet as well as Saturday's lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Wagner at the state office at 515-986-5520 ext. 104 or pwagner@soiowa.org

Coaches' Training

Coaches' Sports Training Certification Clinic January 31 in Cedar Falls

- New and existing coaches are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- New and recertification training will be offered in the sports listed below.

The training clinic is at St. Patrick's Parish Center (7th & Main St., close to 705 Main St.) in Cedar Falls.

4:30 p.m.	Bowling Training	_____	Yes, I will attend this training.
5:30 p.m.	Light Dinner		
6:00 p.m.	Basketball Training (skills & team)	_____	Yes, I will attend this training.
7:00 p.m.	Athletics Training (track & field)	_____	Yes, I will attend this training.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Delegation: _____

Please return the registration form by January 26 to: Rhonda Schwarzkopf at Special Olympics Iowa, PO Box 620, Grimes, IA 50111 or by fax at 515-986-5530 or email: rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org

Coaches' Training Clinics

Coaches' Sports Training Certification Clinic January 9 in Dubuque



- New and existing coaches are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- New and recertification training will be offered in the sports listed below.

Coaches' certification training sessions have been scheduled for January 9 in Dubuque during the Winter Games. Please complete the registration form and return it to Rhonda Schwarzkopf by January 3 if you would like to attend a session.

10:00 a.m. Snow Shoe Training _____ Yes, I will attend this training.
Training Site: Albrecht Acres

1:00 p.m. Figure Skating Training _____ Yes, I will attend this training.

*Please check the levels of training you would like covered during the figure skating training:

____ Level One ____ Level Two ____ Level Three
OR

1:00 p.m. Speed Skating Training _____ Yes, I will attend this training.
Training Site: Mystique Community Ice Center

7:15 p.m. Alpine & Nordic Skiing Training _____ Yes, I will attend this training.
Training site: Platinum Room A, Grand Harbor

Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Delegation: _____


Please return the registration form by January 3 to: Rhonda Schwarzkopf at Special Olympics Iowa, PO Box 620, Grimes, IA 50111 or by fax at 515-986-5530 or email: rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org

Great Gift Ideas

Do you need the perfect gift for the Special Olympics Iowa supporter in your life? Our online store specifically for Special Olympics Iowa features a new variety of apparel and accessories. Click on the "Visit Our Online Store" button on our home page at www.soiowa.org to check it out.

In Memory

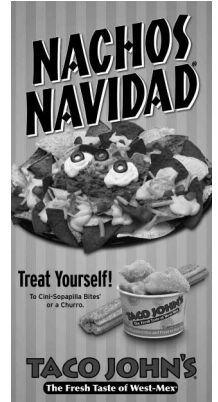
Mike Harvey of Village Northwest in Sheldon passed away on October 12. Mike was with the Village since 1978. He participated in Special Olympics Iowa for many years doing wheelchair racing and ramp bowling. We will miss Mike.



Taco John's Fundraiser Benefits SOIA athletes

Special Olympics Iowa is pleased to announce the second year of their partnership with Taco John's Restaurants in northwest Iowa for an upcoming awareness and fundraising campaign. Donations will be calculated on a portion of each Nachos Navidad® sold to benefit Special Olympics Iowa athletes in northwest Iowa between November 21 to December 25.

Nachos Navidad® is the festive Super Nachos product using red and green chips. In addition, some stores will collect change and some stores may sell paper ornaments for one dollar each. The donations from the following restaurants will benefit Special Olympics athletes in their respective states: **Cherokee, LeMars, Orange City, Sheldon, Sioux Center, Sioux City, Spencer, Spirit Lake, Storm Lake, South Sioux City (NE), and North Sioux City (SD).**



"Share the Love" With Special Olympics At Your Local Subaru Dealer

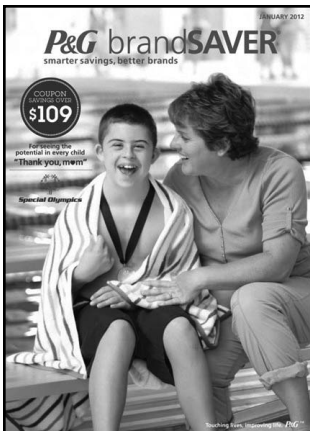


We're proud to be one of five charitable partners in the Subaru "Share the Love" event. Subaru knows their owners care. That's why they created the "Share the Love" event. You get a great deal on a new Subaru and they'll donate \$250 to your choice of five charities, one of which is Special Olympics. During the past three years, Subaru has donated nearly \$15 million to charity. Subaru hopes to donate another five million by sharing the love again this year.

Funds donated to Special Olympics will benefit programs in local communities across the U.S. helping us to provide greater services for our athletes. Whether you are in the market for a new Subaru or know someone who is, be sure to pick Special Olympics as your "Share the Love" event charity and help support our athletes. Learn more at www.subaru.com/share.

In addition to the \$250 donation per car, Subaru will also invite the Facebook community to allocate up to \$250,000 in additional support to the five charities participating in the 2011 "Share the Love" event. For each Facebook user vote, Subaru will donate \$1 to the user's charity of choice. You can help by sharing Facebook messages yourself and by "liking" Subaru's Facebook page and voting for Special Olympics at http://www.facebook.com/subaruofamerica?sk=app_257448760939476

Use Your Coupons In January To Benefit Special Olympics



It's time again for our P&GbrandSAVER® program! P&G has been a valued partner of Special Olympics for more than 30 years and we are thrilled to once again be a part of this valuable promotion. Keep an eye out for your P&GbrandSAVER® coupon book in your local newspaper on **Sunday, January 1, 2012.**

This year's promotion is based on coupon redemption: Special Olympics receives 3 cents for every coupon used. There is no limit to the gift, so the more you redeem the coupons or encourage your friends and family; the greater the money raised for Special Olympics. And don't forget the savings for you -- the P&GbrandSAVER® coupon book includes more than \$109 in savings on many of your favorite brands. **The coupons expire January 31, 2012**, so don't wait too long to start clipping and saving. This is a great opportunity to raise money for Special Olympics and to continue to spread our message of respect, acceptance and inclusion.

Calendar of Events



JANUARY

9-11	Winter Games and Coaches Training	Dubuque
10	SW Area Bocce Tournament	Council Bluffs
14	Coaches Development Training	Spencer
21	Southeast Area Basketball Skills Competition	Burlington
21	Coaches Development Training	Iowa City
21	Northwest Area Basketball Skills	Sioux Center
28	South Central Basketball Skills Competition	Creston
28	West Central Area Basketball Skills Competition	Ankeny
31	Coaches Certification Clinic	Cedar Falls

FEBRUARY

2	Central Area Basketball Skills Competition	Marshalltown
4	East Area Basketball Skills and Team Competition	Eldridge
4	Northeast Area Basketball Skills Competition	UNI, Cedar Falls
4	North Area Basketball Skills Competition	Forest City
4	East Central Area Basketball Skills Competition	Coralville
8	Southwest Area Basketball Skills Competition	Iowa Western, Council Bluffs
9	Young Athlete Play Day Program	Oskaloosa
9	North Central Area Basketball Skills Competition	Fort Dodge
11	West Central Regional Basketball Competition	Drake University, Des Moines
11	Unified Sports Day	Wartburg College, Waverly
18	East Central Conference Basketball	Cedar Rapids
25	Challenge Day	Cedar Falls
25	East Area Aquatics Competition	Muscatine
25	Polar Plunge (fundraiser)	Indianola

MARCH

3	Southeast Area Aquatics Competition	Ottumwa
3	Torch Run Dance & Auction (fundraiser)	Pleasant Hill
6	NAIA Basketball Clinic	Sioux City
9-10	Mid-Winter Tournament	University of Iowa, Iowa City
24	Polar Plunges (fundraiser)	Cedar Rapids and Iowa City
25	Northeast Area Spring Games	Cedar Falls
29	Young Athletes Play Day	Des Moines
31	East Central Aquatics Competition	Cedar Rapids
31	Southeast Area Spring Games	Oskaloosa
31	Polar Plunge (fundraiser)	Council Bluffs

Please watch for emails and check the SOIA website (www.soiowa.org) announcing details for upcoming training clinics. A complete calendar of events can be viewed from our website at www.soiowa.org and click on the Full Schedule. If you would like to volunteer for any events, please contact Rhonda Schwarzkopf at 515-986-5520 or rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org.

For the latest Special Olympics Iowa news and photos “Like” our page on Facebook.



Special Olympics
Iowa

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Thank You To Our Statewide Partners!



Statewide Partners provide a comprehensive level of support of all programs and services offered by Special Olympics Iowa (SOIA). Statewide Partners are prominently recognized in SOIA presentations and publications. Organizations may be recognized as Statewide Partners for financial support, in-kind donations or any combination thereof, and are recognized in many other ways. To find out more about our current Statewide Partners or for information on how to become one, visit our website at www.soiowa.org and look under Support Us, or contact SOIA Vice President of Development, Jamie Boersma at jboersma@soiowa.org or 515-986-5520.