

Special Olympics Iowa Newsletter



Special Olympics
Iowa

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

Traditional Programs

JUNE & JULY 2011
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2011 Summer Games Highlights



Nearly 3,000 athletes gathered at the Iowa State University campus May 26 - May 28 for the Special Olympics Iowa State Summer Games competitions and events. A big thank you to all volunteers, fans and athletes! We couldn't have done it without all of *you*.



Traditional Programs

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2011 Summer Games Opening Ceremonies DVD, CD & Photos

The 2011 Summer Games were a huge success! Don't miss your chance to keep the memories alive . . .

You can purchase a DVD of the Opening Ceremonies, a CD of photos, or individuals photos taken during the three-day event. Visit our website for more information, at www.soiowa.org or call 515-986-5520.



Traditional Programs

Upcoming Summer Softball Events

Softball Skills Competition Atlantic - July 29 and Muscatine - August 15

Kathy Blazek of Atlantic and Jason Miller of Muscatine will each host a Softball Skills Competition. This is a fun day for Special Olympics Iowa athletes who do not have the ability to play on a team. For more information, please contact Kathy (Atlantic) at 712-249-0511 or Jason (Muscatine) at 563-263-9996. **Entries are due in the state office by Friday, June 17.**

State Softball Tournament West Des Moines - August 6

SOIA will have conference play in our softball competition, with the 20 winning teams advancing to the state tournament. The conference teams will be divisional by location and ability. Coaches will be notified of their conference by the end of June. **Team entries are due in the state office by June 9, ratings by June 14.**

SOIA State Equestrian Competition

Saturday, September 10
Jester Park Riding Stables in Granger

The events offered include:

- Horsemanship (Walk only, Western and English)
- Egg and Spoon (Must trot)
- Barrel Race
- Ball Drop (One bucket)
- Key Hole Racing
- Pole Bending
- Baton Relay



Contact the state office for entry forms. **Entries are due no later than August 1.**

Special Programs

G & G Hosts 1st Unified Sports Day June 11

The **first annual** G & G Unified Sports Day will be Saturday, June 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Guttenberg. Volunteers will partner up with Special Olympics Iowa athletes to play a variety of outdoor activities! There will be activities geared toward both younger and older athletes as well as those who use wheelchairs. Please contact Erin Hall at 515-986-5520 or ehall@soiowa.org, or visit www.soiowa.org for registration information.

Challenge Days "Believe and Achieve"

Challenge Day events provide athletes with severe intellectual and physical disabilities the opportunity to compete and have fun. Switch-activated equipment allows athletes in wheelchairs to shoot a basketball, putt a golf ball or hit a volleyball. Individuals who have never had an opportunity to participate in sports can participate in this program.

A Challenge Day event is scheduled for **June 4 in Lake City and a date TBD in Glenwood.**

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 is eight years).

Young Athletes Days are scheduled for **June 11 in Dubuque, July 13 in Waterloo and July 14 in Cedar Falls.**

For more information or to sign up, please contact Kathy Irving at kirving@soiowa.org or by calling 515-986-5520.

Special Programs

Unified Golf Tournaments

Unified Golf has continued to grow and improve each year. You don't want to miss these fun events, so don't forget to sign up! You could miss your chance for a hole-in-one!

Contact Kathy Irving at 515-986-5520 ext. 111 or kirving@soiowa.org for more information on the following events:

- Spencer - August 7**
- Jester Park - TBD**
- Waterloo - September 9**
- Muscatine - September 15**

Contact Erin Hall at 515-986-5520 ext. 119 or ehall@soiowa.org for more information on the following events:

- Davenport - June 25**
- Ottumwa - July 27**
- Cedar Rapids - August 20**
- Marshalltown - September TBD**
- Akron - October TBD**



Handbook & Newsletter



Attention Coaches!

You will notice that there is either a 10-11 or an 11-12 on the address label that was used to send this newsletter to you. If you have an 11-12, that means you have registered to receive the 2011-2012 Coaches Handbook and will receive the Coaches Newsletter. If you have an 10-11 above your name, please complete and return the registration form below as soon as possible.

2011 - 2012 Coaches' Handbook / Newsletter Request Form

The Special Olympics Iowa Coaches' Handbook will be mailed in August to those who return a request form. If you have not yet done so, please complete the form below and return it to: Special Olympics Iowa, PO Box 620, Grimes, Iowa 50111, by fax at 515-986-5530 or by email to jrichey@soiowa.org.

EACH YEAR YOU NEED TO REGISTER FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND A HANDBOOK!

Name: _____ Area: _____

Home Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Delegation (School/Facility): _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Business) _____ (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail Address*: _____ Fax: _____

Send newsletter to: Home School Facility E-mail

Send handbook to: Home School Facility Don't need Handbook

*To save on postage, most correspondence will be via email.

Coaches Training Clinic

Golf Coaches' Sports Training Certification Clinic Scheduled for June 8 in Waukee



PGA Teaching Professional, Sarah Bidney, will offer a coaches' training session to SOIA coaches on June 8 in Waukee at the Sugar Creek Golf Course (1505 6th Street) in conjunction with the athlete clinic. Coaches will observe Sarah while she instructs the SOIA athletes on the fundamentals of golf. Following the clinic, Sarah will also hold a 30 minute question-and-answer session for the coaches.

- New and existing coaches are welcome to attend.
- New and recertification training will be offered.

Please complete the registration form and return it to Rhonda Schwarzkopf by **Friday, June 3.**

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Golf Training _____ Yes, I will attend this training.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Delegation: _____

Return this form by June 3 to Rhonda Schwarzkopf at SOIA, PO Box 620, Grimes, IA 50111. Contact Rhonda at 515-986-5520, via fax at 515-986-5530, or email at rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org

Golf Training

Sarah Bidney Offers Free Golf Lessons to SOIA Athletes

2010 Iowa PGA Teacher of the Year Sarah Bidney is once again offering free lessons to SOIA athletes. Space is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. If space is available, athletes may attend more than one lesson. All registrants must have a current SOIA Physical/Release on file to participate. If you would like to sign up, please return the registration form below by **Wednesday, June 1.** For more information, please visit the website at www.soiowa.org or contact Cathy Richey at crichey@soiowa.org or by calling 515-986-5520.

All lessons are at **Sugar Creek Municipal Golf Course**, 1505 6th St., Waukee, IA.

Golf Lessons Registration Form

Athlete Name: _____ Age _____

Delegation: _____

Coach's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail _____

Golf Experience (years): _____

June 8, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **FULL** *also a coaches clinic

June 22, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. _____

July 13, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. _____

July 27, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. _____

August 10, 7:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. _____

An adult must accompany each athlete to assist while Sarah is working one-on-one with other athletes.

If you wish to attend more than one session, please indicate your first choice, second choice, etc. We will contact you to let you know which sessions have room.

Fundraiser



Financial Center in downtown Des Moines

Over the Edge 2011 Are you fan enough?

Are you a **courageous** enough fan? Are you a **thrill-seeker**? Are you looking to add some **excitement** to your life? Here's a tall **challenge** for you!

Be one of a few to go Over the Edge for Special Olympics Iowa by rappelling off a 345 ft. building, the Financial Center in downtown Des Moines, **Wednesday, September 21, 2011!**

To be a participant and go Over the Edge for Special Olympics, you must...

- Raise a minimum of \$1,000
- Weigh a minimum of 110lbs and a maximum of 300 lbs
- Be 18 years of age on the day of the event



For more information on how you can become involved with this exciting fundraiser, or to register for the event, visit www.soiowa.org and hover over "Support Us" then "Fundraisers." Click on "Over the Edge." If you have any additional questions, contact Jeanette Steinfeldt at 515-986-5520 ext. 107, or jsteinfeldt@soiowa.org, or Lindsay Eastin at 515-986-5520 ext. 108 or lestin@soiowa.org.

Upcoming Events

<p><u>JUNE 2011</u></p>	<p><u>JULY 2011</u></p>	<p>August 7</p>
<p>June 4 Challenge Day <i>Lake City</i></p>	<p>July 13 Young Athletes Program <i>Waterloo</i></p>	<p>Unified Golf <i>Spencer</i></p>
<p>June 8 Swing with the Celebrities Golf Tournament (Fundraiser) <i>Brown Deer Golf Course, Coralville</i></p>	<p>July 14 Young Athletes Program <i>Cedar Falls</i></p>	<p>August 13 Cargill Night at the ballpark (Fundraiser) <i>Cedar Rapids</i></p>
<p>June 11 Young Athletes Program <i>Dubuque</i> G & G Unified Sports Day <i>Guttenberg</i></p>	<p>July 27 Unified Golf <i>Ottumwa</i></p> <p>July 29 Softball Skills Competition <i>Atlantic</i></p>	<p>August 15 Softball Skills Competition <i>Muscatine</i></p> <p>August 20 Unified Golf <i>Cedar Rapids</i></p>
<p>June 25 Unified Golf <i>Davenport</i></p>	<p><u>AUGUST 2011</u></p> <p>August 6 State Softball Tournament <i>West Des Moines</i></p>	<p>August 24 Jim Jordan Golf Outing (Fundraiser) <i>Ankeny</i></p>
<p>TBD Challenge Day <i>Glenwood</i></p>		<p>*Visit www.soiowa.org for a complete listing of events.</p>



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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.