

**Special Olympics**  
Iowa



## Special Olympics Iowa Announces Team for 2018 USA Games

Special Olympics Iowa is pleased to announce the 2018 Team Iowa members going to USA Games next year in Seattle! One year from now – July 1-6, 2018 – more than 4,000 Special Olympics athletes and coaches from all



**SPECIAL OLYMPICS**  
**USA GAMES**  
**SEATTLE 2018**



50 states and the District of Columbia will gather in Seattle to compete before tens of thousands of spectators and volunteers. The 2018 USA Games will showcase the limitless talents of people with intellectual disabilities while promoting the barrier-breaking power of sport to promote inclusion and acceptance.

Among those 4,000 athletes and coaches will be Team Iowa:

### **Athletics:**

Brandon Baier, Mike Carnes, Angela Dohrn, Josh Hickey, Lacey Kutsch, Rick Malles, Laura Smith, Abbi Stasny

### **Flag Football:**

John Barker, Benjamin Bradshaw, Nicholas Forrest, Luke Ross, Bryon Sexton Jr., Dylan Soppe, Jesse Strasser, Greg Werning, Paul White, Robbie White

### **Powerlifting:**

Mitchel Betsworth, Brad Small

### **Swimming:**

Mary-Kate Dorrlacombe, Adam Kolek, Travis Moss, Brittany Ryerson

### **Tennis:**

Alex Brooks, Gabriel Veasey

### **Unified Bocce:**

Mark Farrell, Colin Fye, Theresa Lemen, Marie Randol

### **Unified Bowling:**

Ann Newton, JJ Reeg-Beckner, Ron Schmidt, Estrella Tejeda

[Continue Reading](#)

---

**State Softball Tournament August 5**

The Special Olympics Iowa State Softball Tournament sponsored by [Sammons Financial Group](#) highlights the end of summer each August. Athletes play slow-pitch softball, which involves two teams of 10 athletes each.

Softball can also be played as a Unified Sport, joining athletes with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team.

Individual skills competition is also offered to allow athletes to train and compete in basic softball skills. The development of these key skills is necessary prior to advancing to team competition. These skills include base running, batting, fielding and throwing.

Skills and conference competitions will take place prior to the state event. [More Info](#)

### **State Softball Tournament**

**Date:** August 5, 2017

**Area Registration Deadline:** June 16, 2017

**State Registration Deadline:** July 21, 2017

**Location:** Prairie Ridge Sports Complex, Ankeny



---

## **SOIA at the Iowa State Fair**



Come join Special Olympics Iowa at the 2017 [Iowa State Fair](#)!

On Friday, August 18, SOIA will be co-hosting the second annual Adaptive Sports on the Grand Concourse day with our friends from [Adaptive Sports Iowa](#) and [Courage League Sports](#). The day will consist of games of power soccer, wheelchair basketball and bocce as well as equipment

demonstrations and program overviews. It will be a day to show how sports can be adaptive for inclusion so everyone can participate.

Additionally at the fair, Statewide Partner, the [Iowa Knights of Columbus](#), will be supporting SOIA by hosting the Special Olympics booth. [Continue Reading](#)

---

## **Meet New LETR Event Coordinator Mary Besler**



Special Olympics Iowa is happy to announce the newest addition to the SOIA staff. Mary Besler joined the Law Enforcement Torch Run team in July as the new LETR Event Coordinator. Besler will work closely with law enforcement volunteers to organize fundraising events for SOIA.

Originally from Iowa City, Besler attended Ellsworth Community College her first two years of school and played volleyball before transferring and graduating from the University of Northern Iowa in May 2016 with a degree in public relations. Before coming to SOIA, Besler worked for the Iowa City Downtown District doing events and marketing.

Besler is excited to get started in her new role at SOIA. "I'm excited to be working for Special Olympics because I have always admired this organization and what it does. I love planning events, so I am thrilled to be doing that for Special Olympics."

Welcome to the team, Mary!

## New Area Swimming Competition

Special Olympics Iowa wants to ensure that all athletes have a fair opportunity to qualify for and compete at the state swimming competition. Therefore all athletes who participate in swimming will be required to compete in an area competition in order to qualify for the [state meet in Ames](#), just like athletes in track and field do. Athletes who compete in swimming in areas that do not offer a swimming competition will compete in a neighboring area.

The following is a breakdown of where area swimming competitions are held and which areas will compete in them:

<b>City:</b>	<b>Area:</b>
Cedar Falls	Northeast Area
Cedar Rapids	East Central Area
Clinton	East Area and Southeast Area
Indianola	South Central Area, Southwest Area and West Central Area
Marshalltown	Central Area and North Central Area
Spirit Lake	North Area and Northwest Area

Delegations may contact Rhonda Schwarzkopf at [rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org](mailto:rschwarzkopf@soiowa.org) or 515-986-5520 if they have any questions.

## Pigskin Madness Tickets Available NOW!

**Ticket 2027** Iowa Law Enforcement Torch Run 2015 Pigskin Madness

Your contribution helps support Special Olympics Iowa... 17 weeks for \$20

Note: Ticket must be turned in by noon Friday, September 4, 2015 to be eligible for Week 1 prizes.

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Team 1	4	3	6	11	5	4		7	13	5	4	13	11				
Team 2	8	27							17		24	16					
Team 3	19	18	2	30	23					28	9	31	32				

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Week: 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 9 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

Partial tickets may ONLY be purchased through the Special Olympics Iowa State Office, (515) 986-5520

**Teams**

- Arizona Cardinals
- Atlanta Falcons
- Baltimore Ravens
- Buffalo Bills
- Cleveland Browns
- Dallas Cowboys
- Denver Broncos
- Detroit Lions
- Green Bay Packers
- Houston Texans
- Indianapolis Colts
- Jacksonville Jaguars
- Kansas City Chiefs
- Los Angeles Rams
- Los Angeles Chargers
- Minnesota Vikings
- New England Patriots
- New Orleans Saints
- New York Giants
- New York Jets
- Oakland Raiders
- Philadelphia Eagles
- Pittsburgh Steelers
- San Diego Chargers
- San Francisco 49ers
- Seattle Seahawks
- Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- Tennessee Titans
- Washington Redskins

It's almost that time of year again!

This annual fundraiser combines two of our favorite things...NFL football and raising money for Special

Olympics Iowa! For just \$20, you have 8 chances to win each week of the regular NFL football season – that's 17 weeks of play!

Each raffle ticket will have three randomly assigned teams on it for each week of the NFL season (17 weeks). Each week, your three team scores are added together to determine the winners. (For example, if in week one you had Houston Texans, Kansas City Chiefs and Minnesota Vikings, the points they score will be added together for a total). If a team has a bye week, their previous week's score is used.

Help us sell tickets too! We'll send you a book of 25 tickets to sell. You do not need to pay anything up front. Just turn in the sold tickets and money as well as any unsold tickets by the deadline.

For more information, to purchase tickets or to sell tickets, contact: [Jeanette Steinfeldt](#), 515-986-5520 x107

**MORE INFO**

---

## *Upcoming Events at SOIA*

---

### **Upcoming Unified Golf Dates**



Special Olympics Iowa Unified Golf pairs individuals with intellectual disabilities with Unified Partners (golfers without intellectual disabilities) to compete in a team environment. Unified Sports are crucial to our mission as they promote inclusion and friendship for all.

Several skill levels are offered to meet the skill level of any athlete:

- 9-hole: Pro (knows the game and skills for a full golf game)
- 6-hole: Intermediate (knows the basics of golf but still improving skills)
- 3-hole: Beginner (just learning the game of golf)

There is no charge to participate. Lunch and water will be provided along with a tournament t-shirt and awards at the end of play.

#### **Upcoming Tournaments:**

##### **Spencer Unified Golf**

**Date:** August 13, 2017

**Location:** Spencer Municipal Golf Course

##### **Vinton Unified Mini Golf**

**Date:** August 19, 2017

**Location:** Vinton Skate & Activity Center

##### **Cedar Rapids Unified Golf**

**Date:** August 26, 2017

**Location:** Twin Pines Golf Course

**River Hills Unified Golf**

**Date:** September 8, 2017

**Location:** River Hills School

**Muscatine Unified Golf**

**Date:** September 13, 2017

**Location:** Muscatine Municipal Golf Course

**Jester Park Unified Golf**

**Date:** September 23, 2017

**Location:** Jester Park Golf Course

**Akron Unified Golf**

**Date:** September 30, 2017

**Location:** Akron Golf Club

**REGISTER TODAY**

---

## **Cargill Night at the Ballpark**

Join Cargill and Special Olympics Iowa for a night out at the Cedar Rapids Kernels game. In addition to the ballgame, participants will enjoy a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. Special Olympics Iowa athletes who wear a medal or ribbon receive free admission and a meal voucher and will be introduced on-field prior to the game.



### **Event Details**

**Date:** August 19, 2017

**Location:** 950 Rockford Rd. SW, Cedar Rapids

**Additional Details:** Be sure to stick around for fireworks following the game! Athletes must arrive early to receive free admission ticket, meal voucher and to go onto the field to be introduced.

### **More Info**

For more information, contact:

[Jeanette Steinfeldt](#), Vice President, LETR  
515-986-5520 x107

---

## **USTA Tennis Tournament August 26**

**Save the date!**  
**Saturday, August 26**  
**Eldridge, IA**

Call 913-967-9926 with questions.



## Discount Tickets for Iowa Vs. Wyoming Available for SOIA Athletes, Family and Friends



Friends and family of Special Olympics Iowa are invited to the Iowa vs. Wyoming football game on **Saturday, September 2**. The game will kickoff at 11 a.m. SOIA athletes and guests will save \$10 on the purchase of the football tickets with the SOIA price being \$35 per ticket for the game.

Group orders will be seated together. Tickets will be sent two weeks prior

to the game. All orders will be filled on a first come, first serve basis and sellouts are expected.

For more information, contact Bravo Sports at 319-626-8286.

**PURCHASE TICKETS TODAY**

## LETR Golf Tournament August 14



Join us for the 6th Annual **LETR Golf Tournament** benefiting Special Olympics Iowa!

### Event Details

**Date:** Monday, August 14th, 2017

**Location:** Echo Valley Country Club, Norwalk

**Cost:** \$85 (includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart, and lunch provided by Chili's)

**Registration:** [Download our flier](#)

### Schedule of Events

8 a.m. – Registration/Check-In

9:30 a.m. – Shotgun start (four person best shot)

1:45 p.m. – Lunch/Awards  
2:30 p.m. – Raffles & Prizes

For more information or to register a team, contact:  
[Rachel Bosworth](#), 515-986-5520 x108

---

## Jim Jordan Memorial Golf Tournament August 16



The Kiwanis Club of Urbandale presents the Jim Jordan Memorial Golf Classic!

Jim Jordan was a long time supporter of Special Olympics Iowa, volunteering at area competitions, fundraising through Knights of Columbus and eventually serving on the Board of Directors. Jim was also a long time member of the Merle Hay-Urbandale

Kiwanis Club, which has partnered with SOIA for many years.

In 1995, Jim and fellow committee members established a golf outing to benefit SOIA. In July of 2003, while plans for the golf outing were underway, Jim tragically died in an accident while on vacation in London. In honor of his service to SOIA and Kiwanis, this event was renamed the Jim Jordan Memorial Golf Classic.

### Event Details

**Date:** Wednesday, August 16, 2017

**Location:** Otter Creek Golf Course, Ankeny

**Cost:** \$80 per person. All golfers receive 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch and opportunity for prizes. Kiwanis members receive a discount of \$10 per person.

**Registration:** [Download our brochure](#) for more details and to register!

### Schedule of Events

---

## Dunkin' Donuts Cop on a Rooftop Event September 8

Law enforcement officers will stake themselves atop 18 participating Dunkin' Donuts locations across the state of Iowa on September 9 to help raise money for Special Olympics Iowa (SOIA) in the 3rd annual Cop on a Rooftop event.



"Cop on a Rooftop" is a unique fundraiser where local officers stand on the roof of a local business while other officers help collect donations at the entrance and drive-thru of the business. Free coffee coupons from participating Dunkin' Donuts stores will be handed out when you make a donation to SOIA.

This event is one of many planned and implemented each year by the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) in support of SOIA.

Each year, the LETR initiative continues to grow. In 2016, LETR worked with 1,000+ law enforcement officers to raise more than \$875,000 for Iowa athletes.

### Event Details

**Who:** Local law enforcement officials

**What:** Cop on a Rooftop for Special Olympics Iowa

**When:** Friday, September 8 from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.

**Where:** Participating Dunkin' Donuts locations in Iowa

### Participating Store Locations

---

## 2017 State Equestrian

Equestrian is one of the most fascinating sports offered by Special Olympics Iowa. The balance, the stability and the right communication between the horse and the rider are key elements for success in equestrian sport.

Athletes may choose to compete in two of the following events:

- Horsemanship (walk only, Western and English)
- Egg and Spoon (must trot)
- Barrel Race
- Ball Drop (one bucket)
- Key Hole Race
- Pole Bending
- Baton Relay



### Event Details

**Date:** September 16, 2017

**Registration Deadline:** August 17, 2017

**Location:** Jester Park Equestrian Center

---

## Save the Date! Over the Edge September 13

### Presented By Sammons Financial Group

The fear of heights is one of the most common phobias in the world... but why let that stop you? Over the Edge is a unique opportunity for individuals and organizations to raise money and support SOIA athletes by rappelling off the 345-ft Financial Center in downtown Des Moines!

### EVENT DETAILS

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12th – VIP Day

Wednesday, September 13th – Official Over the Edge day

**Location:** Financial Center, downtown Des Moines



Cost: \$1,000 per person



**REGISTER TODAY!**

---

## Coaches Corner

### Coaches' Guide Available Online!

It can be found under the "Competitions" tab on the homepage or at this [link](#).

### **Trainings**

Getting involved as a coach and re-certification is now easier than ever!

Check out our new "Become a Coach" page:

<http://www.soiowa.org/get-involved/become-a-coach/>

You can now become certified/re-certified [ONLINE!](#)

### **Fall Coaches Meetings**

[See Online Calendar for all Coaches Meeting Dates](#)

### **Registration Forms Available Online**

Registration forms for Challenge Days and Young Athlete Play Days are now available online! Go to the [Participation Forms](#) page on our website to view

## Event Calendar

Visit our [online calendar](#) for event updates!

### August

- 5- Softball- Team and Skills State Tournament
- 10- Council Bluffs Challenge Day
- 13- Spencer Unified Golf Tournament
- 14- LETR Golf Tournament
- 16- Jim Jordan Memorial Golf Classic
- 19- Vinton Unified Mini-Golf
- 19- Cargill Night at the Ballpark
- 23- East Area Coaches Meeting
- 26- USTA Iowa All Stars Tennis Tournament
- 26- Cedar Rapids Unified Golf Tournament
- 26- Southwest Iowa Open Cycling Tournament

### September

- 2- University of Iowa Special Olympics Game
- 5- Northwest Area Fall Coaches Meeting
- 5- Northeast Area Fall Coaches Meeting
- 6- Southeast Area Fall Coaches Meeting
- 6- West Central Area Fall Coaches Meeting
- 7- Southwest Area Coaches Meeting
- 7- North Central Area Coaches Meeting
- 8- River Hills Unified Golf Tournament
- 12- South Central Area Fall Coaches Meeting
- 13- East Central Coaches Meeting
- 13- Over the Edge
- 13- Muscatine Unified Golf Tournament
- 14- Sioux City Young Athletes Play Day
- 14- Davenport Unified Golf Tournament
- 14- North Area Fall Coaches Meeting
- 14- Central Area Fall Coaches Meeting
- 16- State Equestrian Competition
- 22- Northeast Area Soccer Skills
- 23- Jester Park Unified Golf Tournament
- 27- East Area Bowling
- 29- River Hills Challenge Day
- 30- Upper Iowa University Unified Sports Day
- 30- Akron Unified Golf Tournament

### October

- 6- East Area Bowling
- 7- State Volleyball Tournament
- 10- Southwest Area Bowling (Ages 8-21)
- 10- West Central Area Bowling (RVM and Smouse)
- 12- North Area Soccer Skills
- 12- West Central Area Bowling (Ages 8-21)
- 12- Central Area Bowling
- 13- South Central Bowling (Ages 8-29)
- 13- West Central Area Bowling (Ages 22+)
- 14- State Flag Football Tournament
- 14- Northeast Area Bowling
- 14- Northwest Area Bowling
- 14- South Central Area Bowling (Ages 30+)

- 14- Southeast Area Adult Bowling (Ages 22+)
- 15- Northwest Area Bowling
- 16- Southeast Area Youth Bowling (Ages 8-21)
- 17- Southwest Area Bowling (Ages 22+)
- 18- North Area Bowling
- 19- North Central Area Bowling
- 20- East Central Area Youth Bowling
- 21- East Central Area Adult Bowling
- 21- Tailgate for Teammates Fundraiser
- 21- World's Largest Truck Convoy Fundraiser

**Thank You to Our Partners!**

**Champion Statewide Partners**



**Premier Statewide Partners**



**Special Olympics Iowa**

<http://www.soiowa.org/>

