

Special Olympics
Iowa



Over the Edge September 13

Presented By

SAMMONS
FINANCIAL GROUP®

345 feet. One rappel. One cause. If you've ever wondered what it would be like to face the fear of heights, now is your chance! Special Olympics Iowa's annual fundraiser Over the Edge will literally take you over the edge of the Financial Center in downtown Des Moines to raise money and awareness for SOIA athletes.

How does Over the Edge exactly work? You must fundraise a minimum of \$1,000 to secure your rappelling spot for Wednesday, September 13. You'll then be assigned a rappel time for that day. You'll report to the Financial Center the day of the event and will be given instruction on where to go and how to scale down the side of the building. And don't worry, you'll be wearing a harness and safety gear!



Of course, if going Over the Edge sounds a little scary to you, there are other ways you can get involved in the event. We're always looking for more volunteers to help out the day of the event. We even encourage you to help recruit rappellers for the event.

And even if you're not going Over the Edge yourself, you can help sponsor an athlete wanting to take part in the event by donating online to help them reach their fundraising goal. Every year we also give you a chance to "Toss Your Boss," where you and coworkers raise a minimum of \$1,000 to get your boss to go over the edge. Of course, your boss has the option to respectfully decline participation if they or the company match the donations raised by the employees. The participation spot will then be drawn from all willing individuals who contributed funds.

In 2016, sponsors and participants of Over the Edge raised more than \$80,000 for Iowa athletes, giving them opportunities to participate in year-round sports, health and educational programming – and most importantly – experience joy, pride and respect.

When you register to go Over the Edge and raise your minimum fundraising goal of \$1,000 you make a difference in the lives of our athletes. Every \$1,000 raised supports two SOIA athletes for an entire year at Special Olympics.

We'd like to thank our presenting sponsor and Champion Statewide Partner, **Sammons Financial Group**, for helping us put on this crucial fundraising event. Your dedication and support gives our athletes so many chances to compete and have fun. Thank you for being true champions of inclusion.

For more information about getting involved in Over the Edge, contact Jeanette Steinfeldt, at jsteinfeldt@soiowa.org or 515-986-5520. Or go to the [Over the Edge page on our website](#).



REGISTER TODAY!

SOIA to Roll Out New Release and Medical Forms October 1

Starting **October 1, 2017** Special Olympics will require all athletes joining Special Olympics Iowa to complete newly updated **Release and Medical Forms**.

These new forms will take the place of the Physical and Consent Forms that SOIA required athletes to fill out in the past. Any athlete with a current Physical and Consent Form on file will NOT need to renew with the new forms until their current physical expires.

Before athletes can begin competition in SOIA, they must submit the following forms:

- **Athlete Information Form** (renewed every 3 years)
- **Participant Release Form**
- **Medical Forms**
 - Health History
 - Physical Exam (renewed every 3 years)
 - Referral Form (if required)

[Continue Reading](#)

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

2017 State Volleyball



The game of volleyball is attractive to all ability levels, from competitive to developmental, young and old. To play volleyball players need to acquire basic skills, learn the rules and find a fun place to practice – from the beach to the gym. Each year, the Iowa State

University Kinesiology and Health Club provides leadership and student volunteers, helping to make the state volleyball competition a success.

Athletes may compete in:

- Team Volleyball (6-on-6)
- Developmental Division

Event Details

Date: October 7, 2017

Registration Deadline: September 15, 2017

Location: Forker Building, Iowa State University in Ames

[More Info](#)

2017 State Flag Football

Punt, pass and kick...the Special Olympics Iowa State Flag Football Tournament gives athletes of all ability levels the chance to play America's game. It is the newest state competition, with the first tournament held in 2011.



Flag football is a 5-on-5 non-contact sport played by both male and female athletes. When played as a Unified Sport, teams are made up of athletes with and without intellectual disabilities. Teams are divided into three levels. [More Info](#)

Event Details

Date: October 14, 2017

Registration Deadline: September 15, 2017

Location: Metro Youth Football Complex, Cedar Rapids

Meet New SOIA Office Administrator Tricia Wheeler

Special Olympics Iowa would like to welcome the newest member of the state office team, Office Administrator Tricia Wheeler!

Wheeler started with SOIA in August to provide administrative support and oversee general office operations. Wheeler previously worked in health care before coming to SOIA, but she is no stranger to the organization, serving as a volunteer at past SOIA events. Originally from the Cedar Rapids area, Wheeler attended Kirkwood Community College, Cornell College, and AIB College of Business. She now lives in the Des Moines area with her daughter, who is a full-time college student.

In her free time, Wheeler works with Forte International Exchange



Association, where she works with volunteer host families as they except exchange students into their home. Wheeler has even hosted exchange students in her own home before.

Wheeler is excited about her new position with SOIA and looks forward to the upcoming events in the fall. "I look forward to meeting new people and hope to be a positive addition to the already great team. I have volunteered in the past and look forward to being a cheerleader at events."

Welcome, Tricia!

2017-2018 Coaches' Guide Now Available!

We are pleased to inform you that the 2017-2018 Coaches' Guide is completed and available on our website. The updated guide is an easy to use, comprehensive resource for delegation managers and coaches.

The 2017-2018 Coaches' Guide was updated in July 2017 and is good for one year. This version of the guide contains important updates on policies and forms. All changes are highlighted in blue in the guide.

[See the Coaches' Guide](#)

For more information, contact:
[Sally Briggs](#), Program Administrative Assistant
515-986-5520

2019 Special Olympics Summer World Games Coach Application



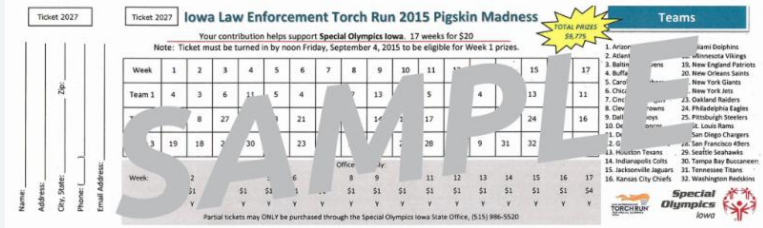
Special Olympics U.S.A. is looking for coaches to join Team U.S.A. in the 2019 Special Olympics Summer World Games in Abu Dhabi.

The application to coach at World Games is now available [here](#). Applications are due Wednesday, September 6, 2017 and can be sent to rshwarzkopf@soiowa.org. Applications MUST be sent back to the state office, where the Iowa CEO will approve of coach applications before sending them on to the national office.

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

Pigskin Madness Tickets Available NOW!

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

Tailgate for Teammates October 21



Nothing brings fans together like a good old-fashioned tailgate! Tailgate for Teammates will offer a sense of camaraderie, inclusion and pride among athletes and their supporters. Guests will indulge in upscale tailgate cuisine, take part in fun and festive sports-themed activities, bid for prizes in an auction, and cheer for athletes competing in upcoming Special Olympics Iowa events.

Event Details
Date: October 21, 2017
Location: West Des Moines Marriott
[More Information](#)
[Auction Donation Form](#)

For more information on sponsoring the event or to purchase tickets, contact: [Stuart Steffy](#), Individual Giving Officer
 515-986-5520

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 8 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](#)

World's Largest Truck Convoy October 21

Truck Convoy for Special Olympics is a national one-day celebration of the trucking industry, allied partners and law enforcement all working together to help raise money for Special Olympics Iowa.

Iowa's law enforcement officers escort the Convoy from Veterans Parkway (exit 101 off Highway 5) and travel 20 miles to the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Special Olympics Iowa athletes and families, community organizations, companies and law enforcement

agencies welcome the truckers as they enter the fairgrounds for lunch and a celebration with awards to recognize participating truckers for the support they give to Special Olympics.



Event Details

Date: Saturday, October 21, 2017

Location: Veterans Parkway to Iowa State Fairgrounds (celebration at Jalapeno Pete's) – Des Moines

Cost: \$100 per participant

Registration: [Register online here](#) OR [download our brochure](#), fill it out and mail it in.

[Download our flier \(pdf\)](#) and share it with friends!

[More Info](#)

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:

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

Upcoming Polar Plunge Dates!

Brrrrrring on the cold! Whether you plunge solo or with coworkers, friends or family – for the ultimate bonding experience – we'll help you take "cool" up a degree or two.

Being a Plunger means cooling your body while warming hearts. The Polar Plunge® is a signature fundraiser for Special Olympics and offers a unique opportunity for individuals and organizations to raise money and support Special Olympics Iowa athletes by jumping into frigid waters. [More Info](#)



Fall Polar Plunge Dates:

West Des Moines

October 15
Jordan Creek Town Center

Davenport

October 28
West Lake Park Beach

Siouxland

October 28

Brown's Lake (Salix)

Fort Dodge

November 5
Kennedy Park

Dubuque

November 18
Dubuque Water Sports Club

Coaches Corner

Coaches' Guide Available Online!

The 2017-2018 SOIA Coaches' Guide is now available on our [website](#)!

Trainings

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

Check out our new "Become a Coach" page:

<http://www.soioa.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 registration forms for all SOIA events.

Event Calendar

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

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
8- Dunkin' Donuts Cop on a Rooftop
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
23- Back the Blue 5k Pump & Run
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
20- Dubuque Challenge DAY
21- East Central Area Adult Bowling
21- Tailgate for Teammates Fundraiser
21- World's Largest Truck Convoy Fundraiser
28- South Central Area Unified Sports Training Day

November

9- Muscatine Young Athletes Play Day
14- Southwest Area unified Sports Training Day
16- Northwest Area Unified Sports Training Day
17- Northeast Area Roller Skating
18- State Bowling Tournament
27- NAIA National Volleyball Tournament Special Olympics Clinic

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Special Olympics Iowa

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

