



June 23, 2017

Special Announcement

The Genesee Region will host the 2018 and 2019 Winter State Games!

The 2018 Winter State Games will commence on February 23 with Opening Ceremonies, including a ceremonial parade of athletes, motivational speeches, local entertainment and the Law Enforcement Torch Run at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center which will also host Olympic Village and Healthy Athletes throughout. The Rochester Riverside Convention Center will also host Closing Ceremonies and a Victory Dance on February 24, 2018.



Neal Johnson, President & CEO of Special Olympics New York, welcomes the 2018 and 2019 Winter State Games to Rochester as athletes from the Great Tigers look on.

Winter State Games event venues include:
Alpine Skiing - Swain Ski Resort
Figure Skating and Speed Skating - Genesee Valley Sports Complex
Nordic Skiing - Bristol Mountain

A Games Organizing Committee (GOC) has been established to organize the various aspects of the games, secure local community support, sponsorship and provide a unique Greater Rochester feel to the games. The Co-Chairs of the 2018 & 2019 State Winter Games GOC are Dennis Mullen, President/Founder of The Mullen Group, Managing Director of the Monroe County Sports Commission and Maggie Brooks, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Regional Transit Service.

The 2018 Special Olympics State Winter Games will require extensive local support to be as successful as possible. Local businesses and organizations can also provide support through a range of sponsorship opportunities. We are proud to announce the following corporate partners who have made a commitment to the 2018 Winter Games- Constellation Brands, The Bonadio Group, E.R. Select, The Mullen Group, Tobey Village Office Park, Genesee Regional Bank and Lily Pond Ventures. For more information about sponsorships, contact Kelley Ligozio, Senior Director of Development, at 585-586-7400 or email her at kligozio@nyso.org.

Local volunteers - individuals or groups - will be needed for various jobs throughout the weekend. For more information and to register online, please visit www.specialolympicsny.org or email volunteer@nyso.org.

The full press release can be found [here](#).

Coach of the Year Nominations

Do you know a Special Olympics Coach that goes above and beyond to provide opportunities for our athletes? We are accepting nominations (link provided below) for the Genesee Region Coach of the Year until Saturday, July 1st. This person will be recognized regionally, but will automatically become the Genesee Region nominee for our state-wide Coach of the Year competition.

In general, the coach should meet the following criteria:

1. Be an active, certified Special Olympics coach with at least 3 years of coaching experience.
2. Trains athletes at least twice a week during the sport season.
3. Provides at least 5 competitions for his/her athletes.
4. Provides other opportunities for athlete(s) with the purpose of improving their health, fitness, well-being and integration with the community.
5. Exhibits sportsmanship qualities.
6. Has made a significant impact to his or her athletes, the Program and the Movement.

Please nominate any coach that you find deserving of this prestigious award.

[SONY Coach of the Year Nomination Form](#)

Any completed forms can be sent to Jonathan at jcastrechino@nyso.org

Coaches Corner

Coaches Training

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a certified Special Olympics New York coach, the first step is to attend one of our online general sessions followed by attending one of our sport specific trainings. Please click the link(s) provided below to register for the corresponding general session

and/or sport specific training.

Style of Training	Date	Time	Location
General Session Orientation	7/12/2017	6-9pm	Online



Rochester Youth Triathlon

Rochester Area Triathletes will be hosting their 7th annual Youth Triathlon on July 22th at 8:30am at Genesee Valley Park. The triathlon is open to anyone ages 6-17 and there are three distances to choose from: Short, Long, or Teen Super Sprint. Special Olympics athletes can register at a discounted rate of \$5 for the event, just select that you are a city resident on the registration form. Please check out the website [here](#). If you have any questions or would like some more information please contact Betsy Ernst at bernst@nysa.org.

IRON EAGLE 5K AND FUN RUN

IN MEMORY OF SHANE BARTHOLF



JULY 8TH AT 9:00 AM
MENDON FIRE HALL

BENEFITING
Special Olympics
New York

SIGN UP AT ACTIVE.COM



More information regarding this event can be found [here](#).

You may register for the event [here](#).



Special Olympics Athlete Scholarships Offered Through YMCA of Greater Rochester

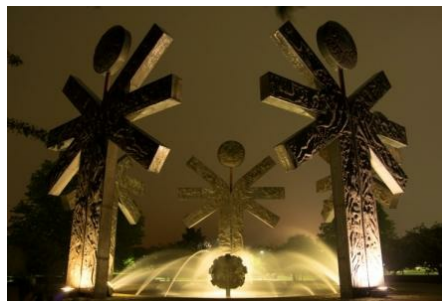
Did you know that the YMCA of Greater Rochester offers Special Olympic's Athletes a personalized financial assistance process for individual memberships?

Did you know that the YMCA of Greater Rochester is supportive of 1:1 support at all of their branches as a benefit to the Athletes membership?!

Take advantage of these great benefits today by filling out [this application](#) and emailing/faxing it directly to Caroline Moran at carolinem@rochesterymca.org, fax 585-454-1326, or contact Caroline directly at 585-263-3941.

Competitions and Volunteer Opportunities

Fall season events are posted on the calendar and we are adding more information for these events as it comes in. To access registration forms or volunteer at any of these events, please visit our calendar and click on the program(s) that interest you.



[OUR CALENDAR](#)

"Volunteering for the Special Olympics has been a life changing experience. The athletes I have met and worked with have given me a new outlook on life!"

Special Olympics Volunteer, Jessica Anders

"Participating with Special Olympics New York has allowed me to make lots of new friends and have experiences that would never have been possible before"

Special Olympics Athlete, Amanda Vito

"There is no greater cause on earth, which is why I jump into Lake Ontario every year to support it!"

Special Olympics Supporter, Mitch Caracho

[Links: Resources/ Medical & Consent/ Concussion Training/ Protective Behaviors](#)

Would you like to see something specific in the Regional Update? Email Jonathan at jcastrechino@nyso.org with your ideas!

OUR SPONSORS:



STAY CONNECTED:

