



2013 SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS YOUNG ATHLETES FACT SHEET

SO ILL REV. 8/01/12



REGISTRATION/ EVENT DATES:

WINTER GAMES – JANUARY 29-31, 2013

GALENA, ILLINOIS

Med App Deadline: January 7, 2013

Entry Deadline: January 7, 2013

Scratch Deadline: January 14, 2013

STATE BASKETBALL – MARCH 15-17, 2013

NORMAL, ILLINOIS

Entry Deadline: February 13, 2013

Med App Deadline: February 13, 2013

Scratch Deadline: February 28, 2013

SUMMER GAMES – JUNE 14-16, 2013

NORMAL, ILLINOIS

Med App Deadline: April 12, 2013

Entry Deadline: May 15, 2013

Scratch Deadline: May 30, 2013

OUTDOOR SPORTS FESTIVAL – SEPTEMBER 7-8, 2013

DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Med App Deadline: August 7, 2013

Entry Deadline: August 7, 2013

Scratch Deadline: August 22, 2013

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The Young Athletes program is an innovative sports play program for children ages 2-7 with intellectual disabilities and their peers, designed to introduce them into the world of sports. The benefits to this program have been proven worldwide. First and foremost, these activities will help the children improve physically, cognitively and socially. This program will also raise awareness of the Special Olympics program and serve as an introduction to the resources and support available within Special Olympics Illinois.

This program is designed to address two specific levels of play. Level 1 includes physical activities focused on developing fundamental motor tracking and eye-hand coordination. Level 2 concentrates on the application of these physical activities through a sports skills activity program and developing skills consistent with Special Olympics sports play. The activities will consist of foundational skills, walking & running, balance & jumping, trapping & catching, throwing, striking, kicking and advanced skills.

PARTICIPATION:

Agencies and individuals interested in participating in the Young Athletes program must be approved and registered through the Young Athletes Manager.

COMPETITION:

Continuing opportunities will be offered to young athletes ages 6-7 in preparation for participation in the traditional Special Olympics program. Young Athletes participating in these continued opportunities must have a medical application on file. These events are not considered competitions and are considered demonstration events. All athletes participating in these events will receive a participation ribbon regardless of what place they finish.

Demonstration events will be offered in Athletics (50 Meter Run and Tennis Ball Throw), Basketball (Individual Skills), Soccer (Individual Skills), Softball (Individual Skills) and Snowshoeing (25 Meter Race and 50 Meter Race) at the state level. Various areas may also offer demonstration events for 6-7 year olds.

Athletes can participate in more than 1 (one) sport. Registration will be limited to the first 25 individuals with completed forms at Summer Games, Outdoor Sports Festival and Basketball, and the first 5 to register for Winter Games due to scheduling and housing limitations.

For more information on participating in these continuing opportunities please contact one of the Manager of Young Athletes.

LODGING:

Lodging for Winter Games will be provided to registered coaches and young athletes by Special Olympics Illinois. The lodging site location for Winter Games will be determined at a later date.

Blocks of rooms at nearby hotels have been reserved for the State Basketball tournament in Normal. Hotel Blocks are made as an additional service to ensure accommodations and assist in providing a reasonable hotel rate. Lodging for the Basketball Tournament is not provided by Special Olympics Illinois.

Lodging for registered coaches and young athletes at Summer Games will be provided by Special Olympics Illinois. Lodging is in ISU Residence Halls. Residence Hall rooms all have single beds, but the number of beds per room varies (singles, doubles, triples, quads). Blocks of rooms at a nearby hotel have been reserved as an alternate to staying in the ISU Residence Halls. Hotel rooms are not provided by Special Olympics Illinois and are the responsibility of the attending individual.

Lodging for the Outdoors Sports Festival is not provided by Special Olympics Illinois. Registered coaches and young athletes will be sent local motel information.

COACHING:

A 1:1 coaching ratio is allowed for all Young Athletes participating in State events. Registered coaches must have a valid Class A form on file.

MEALS:

Registered young athletes and coaches will be provided with the same meal ticket as a traditional Special Olympics athlete.

For more information of the Young Athletes program or how to get involved, please contact:

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