

2019 OUTDOOR FESTIVAL EVENT HANDBOOK



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Olympics***
Illinois

Emergency Telephone Numbers

St. Mary's Hospital	217-464-2966
Decatur Memorial Hospital	217-872-608 / 217-876-8121
Fire Department - Non-emergency	217-429-5201
Police Department - Non-emergency	217-424-2711
Fire / Police - Emergency	911
Hickory Point Golf Course	217-421-7444
Rotary Park	217-422-2854

Event Status Updates

Please visit the OSF page on the website the week before the tournament to find a number to text to receive all event status updates and weather alerts.

<https://www.soill.org/event/outdoor-sports-festival/>

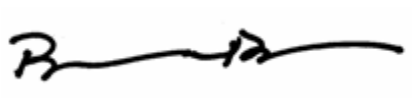
Hello,

Congratulations and welcome to the 2019 Special Olympics Illinois Outdoor Sports Festival! The staff of Special Olympics Illinois and the Outdoor Sports Festival Committee extend their best wishes for your athletes' success at this year's tournament.

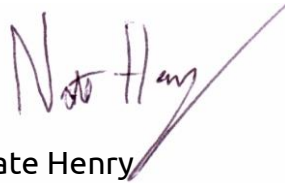
This handbook is designed to answer as many of your questions as possible and make your trip to the tournament an enjoyable experience. Instructions for registration, meals, the Opening Ceremony, medical assistance, a tentative schedule of events and other general information is contained in this handbook. Please make sure to read the handbook carefully since there have been changes made since last year.

During the tournament, please take time to thank the many volunteers who make this competition the success that it is. Also, take a moment to thank the staff at the Decatur Civic Center, Rotary Park, Hickory Point Golf Course and the Decatur community for being a part of the Special Olympics Illinois Outdoor Sports Festival.

Good luck,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brianna Beers".

Brianna Beers
Director of State Championships

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nate Henry".

Nate Henry
Director of State Championships

2019 Outdoor Sports Festival Coaches Handbook

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Souvenirs will only be sold on Saturday.

Spectator Code of Conduct

As fans (family, friends and supporters) of Special Olympics athletes, it is expected that everyone will play a positive role at Special Olympics Illinois events by following these codes for conduct:

1. Refrain from using abusive or offensive language towards anyone: officials, coaches, opponents and fellow spectators.
2. Remember that athletes are amateur athletes and the coaches and officials are volunteers.
3. An understanding of the rules may lead to a more positive experience at the event. All Special Olympics Illinois sports follow the designated National Governing Body (NGB) rules and any exceptions or modifications to those rules are included in the Special Olympics Illinois Rules Interpretations for the sport. A list of the designated NGB rules and the Rules Interpretations can be found at www.soill.org in the coach section.
4. Keep in mind the Special Olympics oath and remember that winning is not the emphasis of Special Olympics competition.
5. Coaches should be the ones to do the coaching. Please refrain from shouting instructions to athletes.
6. Spectators and fans are prohibited in the competition areas. Only registered coaches, athletes and officials should be in the playing area.
7. ALL CHEERS should be positive and display good sportsmanship. Derogatory comments directed to players, coaches and officials will not be tolerated.
8. Follow instructions or directives given by officials, volunteers or Special Olympics Illinois staff.
9. Special Olympics Illinois has a no tolerance policy to physical altercations involving coaches, athletes, unified partners, volunteers, spectators, family members, etc.

Any spectator who fails to follow directives given by volunteers, officials or Special Olympics Illinois staff or does not adhere to the code of conduct items above will be reprimanded. A reprimand could include one of the following:

Will be escorted from the venue;

Will be banned from attending future events for a given period of time;

Will be permanently banned from attending any Special Olympics Illinois event.

Special Olympics Illinois 2019 Outdoor Sports Festival

Tentative Schedule of Events

Saturday, September 7, 2019

8:30am - Noon	Softball Registration	RP
7:30am - 8:30am	Golf 9-Hole Registration	HPGC
8:30am - 10:00am	Golf Individual Skills Registration	HPGC
10:45am - Noon	Golf 3 & 6 Hole Registration	HPGC
9:00am - 2:30pm	Golf 9-Hole Competition (Shotgun Start)	HPGC
9:00am - 2:00pm	Souvenir Sales at Golf Venue	HPGC
10:00am - 3:30pm	Golf Individual Skills Competition	HPGC
8:30am - 2:00pm	Family Information & Registration Open	HPGC
8:30am - 4:00pm	Family Information & Registration Open	RP
10:00am - 5:30pm	Softball Team Competition	RP
10:00am - 1:00pm	Softball Individual Skills Competition	RP
10:00am - 4:00pm	Souvenir Sales at Softball Venue	RP
11:00am - 2:00pm	Softball Lunch	RP
11:30am - 2:30pm	Golf Lunch	HPGC
12:30pm - 4:00pm	Golf 6-Hole Competition (Shotgun Start)	HPGC
12:30pm - 4:00pm	Golf 3-Hole Competition (Tee Times)	HPGC
5:45pm - 6:15pm	Drop off for the Opening Ceremony	CP
6:15pm - 7:00pm	Opening Ceremony and Parade	CP
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Dinner (Only Athletes & Coaches)	CC
7:00pm - 8:30pm	Family Reception	DPP
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Dance	CC

Sunday, September 8, 2019

8:00am - 3:30pm	Softball Team Competition	RP
8:00am - 11:00am	Family Information & Registration Open	RP
9:00am - noon	Golf 9-Hole Competition (Shotgun Start)	HPGC
11:00am - 2:00pm	Softball Lunch	RP
11:30am - 2:30pm	Golf Lunch	HPGC

RP — Rotary Park
 HPGC — Hickory Point Golf Course
 CC — Decatur Civic Center
 CP — Central Park
 DPP — Doherty's Pub & Pins

Coach's Responsibilities

It is important that coaches are adequately prepared to deal with the athletes for an extended period of time.

1. The coach is responsible for the athletes 24 hours a day. It is up to the coach to ensure the athletes' physical and emotional needs are met during the tournament.
 - a. Be sure athletes are properly warmed up prior to competition.
 - b. Be sure needed first aid is administered promptly. Bring a first aid kit if possible to deal with minor problems not needing professional attention.
 - c. Be sure athletes are getting adequate rest.
 - d. Be sure athletes eat properly and avoid overeating or missing meals.
NOTE: If an athlete requires a special diet, it is the responsibility of the coach to provide for the athlete's needs. For special diets, bring a cooler with all the proper foods.
2. Each coach should be aware of the athlete's possessions. Check for lost items at Tournament Central.
3. The coach is expected to be totally familiar with the medical conditions, precautions and medication requirements of the athletes. It is the coach's responsibility to administer medication. Knowledge of the medication regimen (what, how much and when) is essential.
4. The coach is required to carry a copy of the valid Application for Participation for each athlete at all times.
5. The coach must ensure that the wristband is worn by the athlete at all times.
6. The coach must be totally familiar with all schedules. Make sure that the athletes are on time for their games or events so they do not miss the opportunity to compete.
7. The coach is expected to be familiar with sports rules.
8. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED. Agencies breaking alcohol use rules will be disciplined by Special Olympics Illinois.
9. SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED AT THE VENUE SITES.
10. Communicate with families of the athletes. Inform them of the upcoming tournament and encourage them to attend the Special Olympics Illinois Outdoor Sports Festival.

Registration

Softball

Location: Rotary Park
Time: 8:30am - Noon
Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019

Golf

Location: Hickory Point Golf Course
Time: 7:30am - Noon
Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019

1. Only the Head Coach should report to the registration area and bring a state or federal issued photo ID.
2. Verify numbers of coaches, Unified partners and athletes who are actually attending the tournament. The Head Coach will either agree to verify the identity of all of his/her agency coaches/chaperones or these individuals will be required to present their photo ID for verification.
3. Report the names of those registered as of Scratch Deadline but unable to attend (no shows). No mementos, wristbands or meal tickets will be issued in the name of "no show" athletes, Unified partners or coaches.
4. The Head Coach must count meal tickets, wristbands and mementos at the registration table to be certain adequate numbers have been included in the packet.
5. Receive the tournament Coaches Packet containing:
 - a. Computer printout listing your agency's athletes and their divisions.
 - b. Wristbands for athletes and Unified partners.
 - c. Meal tickets for athletes, Unified partners and coaches.
 - d. Tournament mementos for athletes, Unified partners and coaches.
 - e. Tournament flyers.

Wristbands

Wristbands must be worn at all times. A wristband for each athlete and Unified partner will be provided at registration. The Head Coach is responsible for ensuring that he/she has the proper number of wristbands before leaving the registration area. Bring broken wristbands to Tournament Central for replacement.

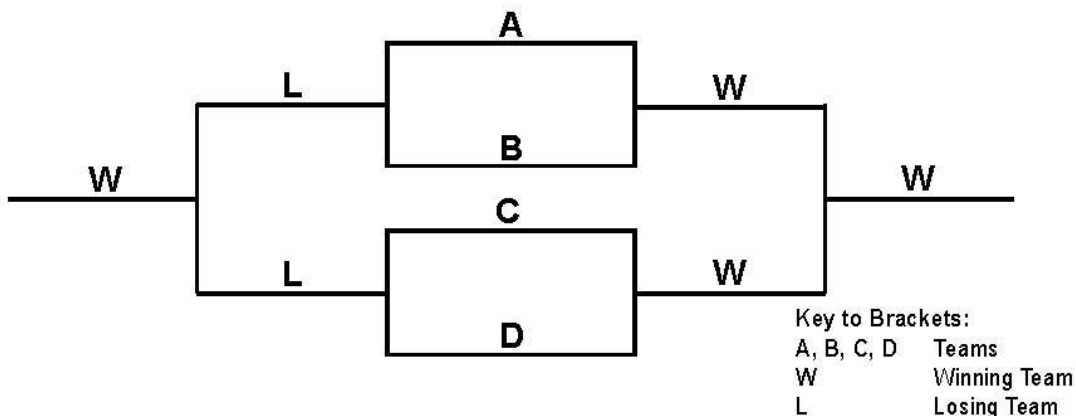
Team Competition

1. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to game time to warm up and discuss game situations with officials.
2. Games will start as scheduled.
3. Teams not ready to play within 10 minutes of the designated starting time will forfeit the game.
4. ASA rules and Special Olympics Illinois will govern all Special Olympics Illinois State Softball Tournament play.
5. Special Olympics Illinois softball staff will make all final decisions.
6. Wristbands must be worn during all tournament play.
7. Athletes competing in the softball team competition will be required to wear appropriate attire. Only ball pants, sweat pants or athletic type shorts will be allowed during the competition. No jeans or jean shorts will be allowed for the softball team competition.

Team Brackets

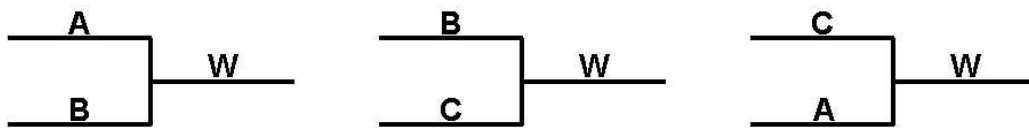
Team brackets indicating divisions and game times will be mailed to agency coaches prior to the tournament. The goal of Special Olympics Illinois is to create four team divisions whenever possible for all state tournament play. In some cases, divisions of two or three teams must be designed in order to provide appropriate competition at state tournaments. In such cases, special rules apply so that each team is given a fair and equal opportunity to achieve success. The following explanation covers all bracketing procedures to be employed by Special Olympics Illinois for tournament play.

Four Team Division: In a four team bracket, each team plays two games. Teams that win first round games move to the right side of the bracket, and teams that lose first round games move to the left side of the bracket. The two winning teams then play for 1st and 2nd place; the losing teams play for 3rd and 4th place. When possible, first round games will be played on one day and 3rd/4th place games and championship games played on the following day.



Three Team Division: All play is round robin style. In these divisions, three games will be played with each team competing twice. The team with the best record at the end of the three games will receive first place. If all three teams win one game and lose one game, places of finish will be determined:

1. By the point differential in the games played during the tournament.
2. If the point differential is the same, by the total points scored by each team during the tournament (highest scoring team receives first place).
3. If point differential and point totals are the same, by fewest number of strike outs in the games played during the tournament.



Two Team Division: All play is best two of three games. Teams will be given adequate time to rest between games and should a division go to a third game, the final game will be highlighted for its championship status. In two team divisions, first round games will be played on one day with second round games played the following morning and third round games, if necessary, played late in the afternoon.



Disqualification

Disqualifications will be handled in accordance with Special Olympics Illinois' Disqualification Process (08/01/05):

1. It is the coach's responsibility to be aware of disqualifications at all times. Event officials will be signaled of infractions by course judges. Event officials will not announce disqualifications to the general audience.
2. Disqualified athletes will be given notice of the rule infraction upon completion of the event.
3. A Competition Rules Committee will be available to hear questions concerning disqualified athletes.
4. Awards will be presented upon completion of the event which includes:
 - a. running of the event;
 - b. notice of disqualification if necessary;
 - c. appeal of disqualification if brought forth; and
 - d. final decision of Competition Rules Committee.
5. Decisions of the Competition Rules Committee will be final and binding.
6. Disqualified athletes will receive a participation ribbon. An athlete who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct will not receive a participation ribbon.
7. No disqualification protest will be heard once awards have been completed.

Filing Protests

1. Protests to Games Rules Committee may only be made concerning Game presentation, structure, and conduct.
2. Protests to the Competition Rules Committee may only be made concerning competition of athletes or partners within a venue, where within that competition; rulings are either made or not made in regard to the fairness and equity of the competition. Procedural or technical issues may be protested. Judgment calls made by officials cannot be protested.
3. Protests must be presented by the Coach to the Head Official of the event immediately in an oral fashion so that other event officials may be made aware of the appeal. Any verbal protests should be made prior to the presentation of awards.
4. If the awards presentation has taken place the registered sport coach has 30 minutes after the awards presentation to file a protest. A corrected awards presentation will be made to that athlete if needed.
5. The Head Official may rule on appeals immediately, but if the response of the Head Official does not resolve the protest, a formal protest may follow.
6. All formal protests must be made by the registered sport coach within one hour of the event in question.
7. All formal protests must be made on the specified form (available from the Head Official).
8. All protests will be brought to the attention of the Competition Rules Committee for final resolution. The decision of this committee will be final and binding unless this committee concludes that the protest concerns Games presentation, structure, and/or conduct, at which time the committee will refer the protest to the Games Rules Committee.

Individual Skills Competition

Softball Individual Skills Competition is on Saturday, September 7th at Rotary Park. The Staging Area is located in the tent between Fields 1 and 2. Competition begins at 10:00am. Awards are presented after the completion of each skills competition division. Athletes competing in Softball Skills are required to wear appropriate attire. Only ball pants, sweat pants or athletic type shorts are allowed for athletes during competition. No jeans or jean shorts are allowed for any athlete in skills competition.

Golf Individual Skills Competition is held at Hickory Point Golf Course on Saturday, September 7th beginning at 10:00am. Athletes are assigned a starting time and must check in 15 minutes before their assigned time. Athletes report to the putting green next to the clubhouse. Athletes competing in Golf Skills are required to wear appropriate attire. Athletes are not allowed to compete in jeans or jean shorts.

3 Hole & 6 Hole Competition

Three & Six hole competition for Golf is conducted on Saturday, September 7th. Golfers play one round with awards being presented immediately after the event. Three hole Golfers are assigned tee times and Six hole golfers proceed with a shotgun start. Golfers must report at 11:15am for lunch and training. Afterwards athletes are shuttled to the appropriate hole. Golfers are expected to walk during the actual play of each hole unless prior permission of cart use was approved. **Note:** All golf bags will remain in cart throughout competition. Pull carts and carrying of bags is not allowed.

Unified & Traditional 9 Hole Competition

Athletes/Partners are divisioned based on their entry scores and grouped accordingly for the first (divisioning) round. After the first round, athletes are re-divisioned based on their first round scores and grouped accordingly for the second round of play. The aggregate score from both rounds is the final score used for the awards presentations. Golfers and partners must report at 8:00am for training at assigned golf cart. **Note:** All golf bags will remain in cart throughout competition. Pull carts and carrying of bags is not allowed.

Golf Cart Rentals at Golf Venue

The clubhouse will not have golf carts available to rent to spectators, coaches or caddies. Spectators can be shuttled to their golfers starting hole

Golf Live Scoring

Live scoring is available for all 3, 6, and 9 Hole golfers. Individuals will be able to see scores throughout the weekend. Specific information on how to see scores online will be shared as soon as it is available.

Softball Live Scoring

Special Olympics Illinois is offering live scoring of all games via the website. Games scores will be updated throughout the game and posted to the website to allow those not at the tournament to track their team's progress. Please visit the OSF page on the website the week before the tournament to secure the link to live scoring results.

The link to the tournament page is

<https://www.soill.org/event/outdoor-sports-festival/>

Awards

Awards for each sport will take place immediately following the competition. In case of protests, awards for the division in question will be presented once the protest is adjudicated by the Rules Committee. Medals will be awarded to all athletes who finish first, second or third and ribbons are awarded to 4-8 place finishers. Trophies are presented to gold-medal softball teams. In cases of disqualification, athletes receive a participation ribbon. Please do not delay awards presentations for picture taking. In cases of ties, awards are presented using the Olympic format, i.e., 1st, 2nd, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th. Awards presentations are conducted at each competition venue.

Results

Special Olympics Illinois will post the results on the website at www.soill.org after the Tournament. Go to the Results Table to secure a team's scores or place of finish; do not ask event officials or awards presenters; this will delay the process of presenting awards. Results are set up at each of the competition venues.

Meals

Meal tickets must be presented so the appropriate meal number may be punched. Meal times are:

Saturday	Softball Lunch	11:00am - 2:00pm	Rotary Park
Saturday	Golf Lunch	Assigned	Hickory Point G.C.
Saturday	All Sports Dinner	7:00pm - 8:00pm	Civic Center
Sunday	Softball Lunch	11:00am - 2:00pm	Rotary Park
Sunday	Golf Lunch	Assigned	Hickory Point G.C.

Golf athletes are assigned a lunch time based on their assigned tee time or division assignment. Please check the schedule mailing for the assigned lunch time.

If an athlete requires a special diet, it is the responsibility of the coach to provide for the athlete's needs. Provisions for special dietary needs of athletes or coaches cannot be made by Special Olympics Illinois.

Guest/Family Meals

Concessions are available at Hickory Point Golf Course and Rotary Park. There are also a variety of restaurants in the Decatur area. Information about area restaurants is available at the Family Center (see page 11). Meals are only provided to registered athletes, Unified partners and coaches.

Medical Information

Trained medical personnel are at each competition site during the weekend.

Coaches **MUST** carry a copy of each athlete's current Special Olympics Illinois Application for Participation with them at all times.

Opening Ceremony & Parade of Athletes

The Opening Ceremony is held in Central Park in downtown Decatur. Teams are able to drop off athletes at Central Park then park at the Civic Center. Drop off begins at 5:45pm and the Opening Ceremony begins at 6:15 pm. After the Ceremony, agencies parade to the Decatur Civic Center for dinner. Please refer to information in the event mailings for parking directions and maps that illustrate the locations of the downtown venues.

In the event of bad weather, agencies will be instructed to report directly to the Decatur Civic Center. The same time frames are used if events are moved to the Decatur Civic Center. Because of limited space in the Decatur Civic Center, there will be no Parade of Athletes, but the Opening Ceremony will be held, followed by dinner and then the dance.

Souvenirs

Souvenirs will only be sold on Saturday.

Souvenir items are sold at both venues.

Softball	9:00am - 4:00pm	Saturday
Golf	9:00am - 2:00pm	Saturday

Items range from \$1 to \$55 and include clothing and other traditional souvenir items. Cash and most major credit cards are accepted for souvenir sales. CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED. Souvenir items are offered by Minerva Promotions and a percentage of sales are given to Special Olympics Illinois.

You can save time and pre-order items and pick them up on-site. If you want to personalize any items then you must pre-order them. On-site customization is not offered at the tournament. Please go to www.soillstatestore.com to view items and submit your preorder.

Victory Dance

The dance will take place at the Decatur Civic Center after dinner on Saturday, September 7 from 8:00pm - 9:00pm.

Water Safety Policy

All Special Olympics Illinois swimming training, competition and recreational sessions shall be conducted in accordance with basic safety practices as specified in the Special Olympics Sports Rule Book, Section C of the swimming section. Briefly, this policy specifies that in all swimming activities, there must be a certified lifeguard on duty while Special Olympics Illinois athletes are in the water. This policy is in place for training and competition as well as recreational swimming activities off-site, such as use of a hotel pool.

Families

Stop by the family registration area at either of the competition venues to receive your event packet and a raffle ticket for the FREE Raffle. **Don't forget to wear your credentials.** Hours are as follows:

Softball	8:30am - 4:00pm	Saturday
	8:00am – 11:00am	Sunday
Golf	8:30am - 2:00pm	Saturday

Family Reception

A family social will be held on Saturday, September 7 from 7:00-8:30pm at Doherty's Pub & Pins. This event, sponsored by the Family Leadership Team, will take place during the athlete/team dinner and dance at the Decatur Civic Center. (Doherty's Pub & Pins is 1 block from the Decatur Civic Center).

The Family Leadership team has an enjoyable evening planned which includes heavy appetizers and dessert and time to socialize with families from around the state. A fun activity is also planned that we're sure you'll enjoy! More information including a map will go out in the family email/ mailing and will also be available at the Family Information area at Softball and Golf.

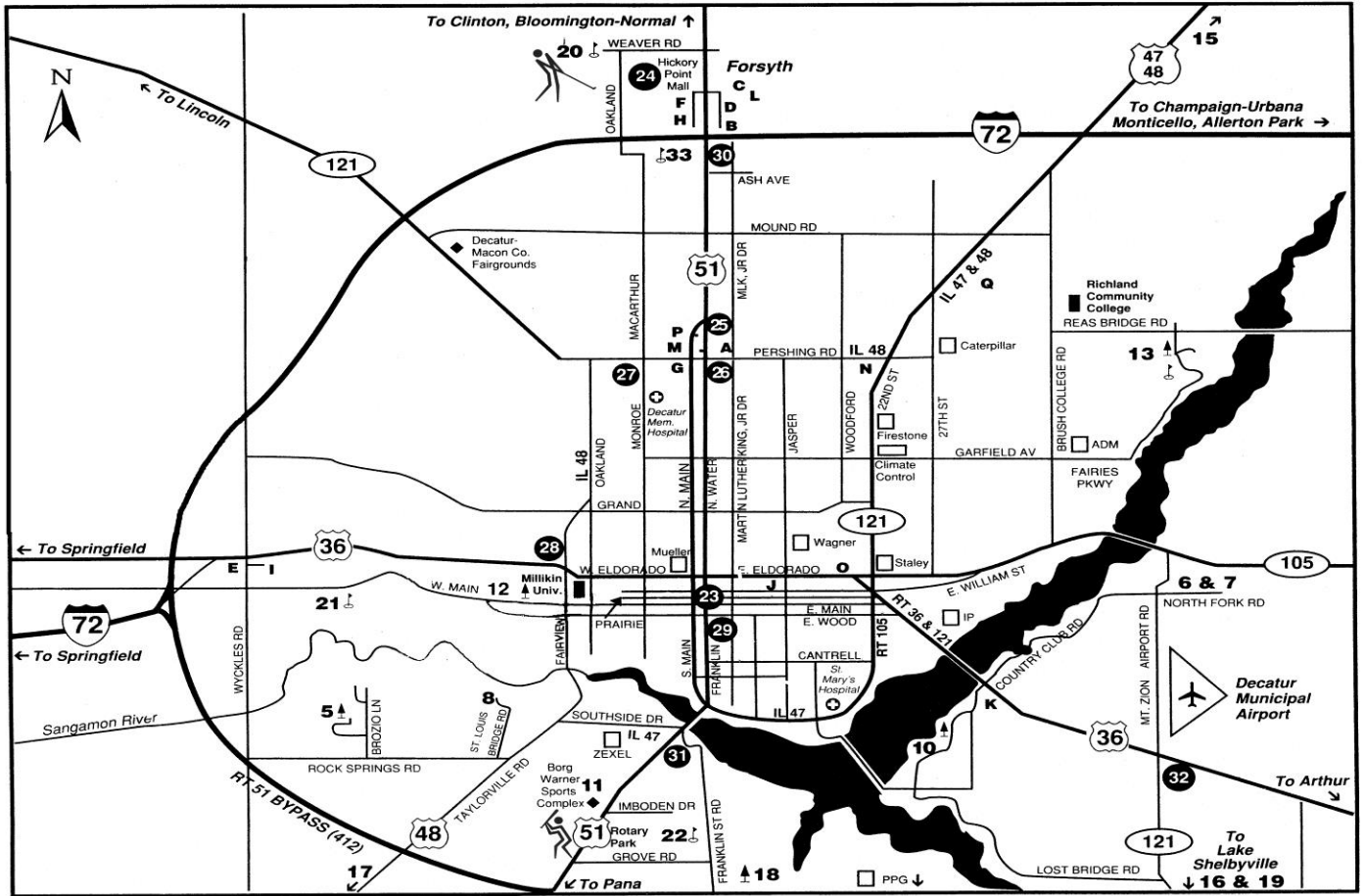
Golf Cart Rentals at Golf Venue

The clubhouse will not have golf carts available to rent to spectators, coaches or caddies. Spectators can be shuttled to their golfers starting hole

Alcohol Policy

No alcoholic beverages are allowed during competition or at the venue sites. Alcohol consumption by athletes, Unified partner or coaches is not permitted. Individuals breaking alcohol use rules will be disciplined by Special Olympics Illinois.

Decatur

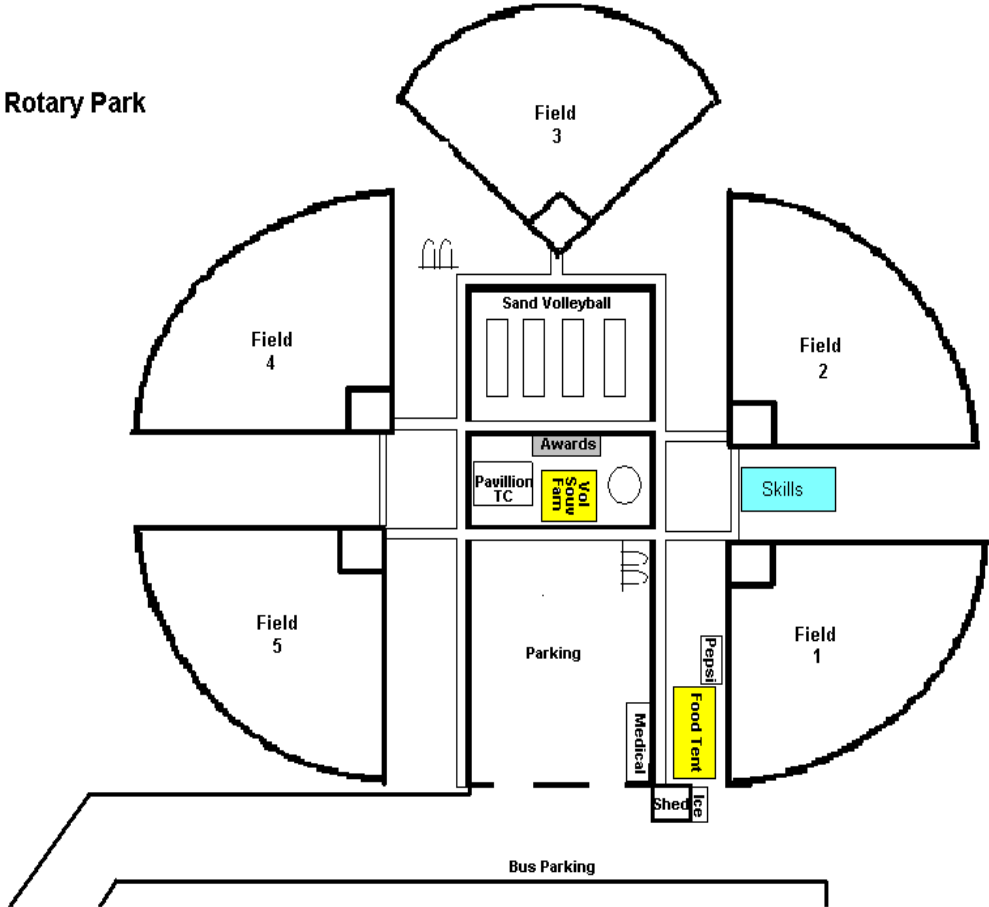


Hickory Point Golf Course
727 W Weaver Road
Forsyth

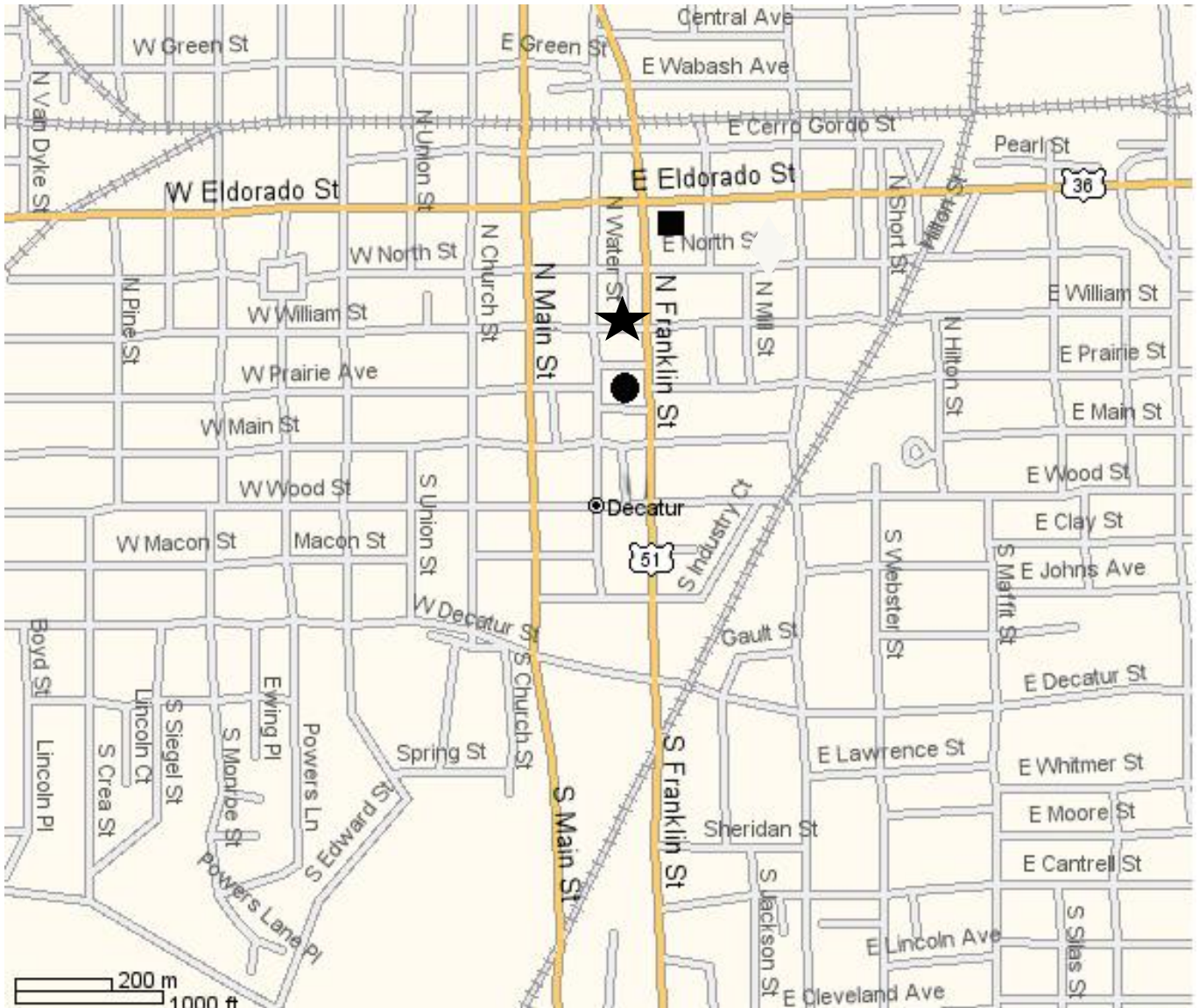


Rotary Park
Route 51 South
Decatur

Rotary Park



Downtown Decatur



■ **Decatur Civic Center**
#1 Gary K Anderson Plaza
Decatur, IL 62523
Dinner/Dance

● **Central Park**
Opening Ceremony

★ **Doherty's Pub & Pins**
242 E William St
Decatur
Family Reception

Map is enlarged—distances are not as long as they appear.

**Let me win.
But if I cannot win,
Let me be brave in the attempt.**
— Special Olympics Oath

Special Olympics Illinois
State Headquarters
605 East Willow Street
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309-888-2551

Special Olympics Illinois
Northern Office
500 Waters Edge, Suite 100
Lombard, IL 60148
630-942-5610

Special Olympics Illinois
Southern Regional Office
1318 Mercantile Drive
Highland, IL 62249
618-654-6680

www.soill.org



***Special
Olympics***
Illinois

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For the Benefit of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities.