

Special Olympics Illinois



TO: Flag Football Coaches
FROM: Nate Henry
DATE: October 8, 2019
REGARDS: Flag Football Tournament

Congratulations on your athlete's qualification to the 2019 Special Olympics Illinois State Flag Football tournament that will be held in Pekin at the Avanti's Dome on Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3, 2019! Available on the Special Olympics Illinois website at <https://www.soill.org/event/state-flag-football/> is a copy of your agency listing and event handbook. The final division listing for teams and the grid schedule will be available the website October 18, 2019.

You will need to look over the agency list and e-mail Nate Henry at nhenry@soill.org with any changes that need to be made. **The deadline to make those changes is Thursday, October 17, 2019.** Changes to the athlete's events will not be made after this deadline.

Registration will begin at 10:00am on November 2, 2019. Team competition will begin at 11:00 am. A lunch will be served to each registered athlete and coach on Saturday, November 2nd. Following competition Saturday, Opening Ceremonies will begin at 6:00pm at the Avanti's Dome with dinner and activities after. With competition being set to be complete in the morning hours Sunday, no lunch services will be provided Sunday, November 3rd. Concessions will be available for purchase on both days.

Souvenir items will be sold from 10:00am – 3:00pm on Saturday. Cash and most major credit cards are accepted. If you want to customize items then you must do a preorder. **Minerva is offering a 15% discount on all preorder over \$50.**

The 2019 State Flag Football Event will be played with the updated Policies and Procedures for 2019: Specifically, here are some rules that may have been different at the Region Events:

B-2. All participants must have a playing uniform consisting of matching shirts, shorts or pants, and matching numbers on the back which can be tucked in at the waist to avoid obstruction of flag pulling. Shorts and pants must have no pockets.

Previously, this rule included the number had to be on the back and front, SOILL now only requires the number to be on the back.

G-1. The game will consist of two (2) 20 minute halves (running time).

At some events, the clock was stopped during a dead ball within the last minute of each half. At the State Championship the clock will stop only if a time-out is called.

Players and coaches are prohibited from being a foot or more from the field if they are not in the game. Additionally, coaches must remain in an area from the goal line to the 50 yard line on the side of the field their team bench lies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nate Henry at nhenry@soill.org
Good luck to your athletes!