

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Alexandra McMillin: 312-502-7954 | amcmillin@soill.org

Special Olympics Illinois Athletes to Compete in State Winter Games in Galena, IL

GALENA, IL- Tuesday, February 5- Thursday, February 7 over 450 athletes will compete in the 2019 State Winter Games. Winter Games will be hosted at Chestnut Mountain in Galena, IL.

Winter Games is one of 9 state sports competitions. It is the culminating competition for those participating in Alpine Skiing and Snowshoeing. Winter Games is hosted at Chestnut Mountain in Galena, IL. The public is invited and encouraged to attend any and all parts of Special Olympics Illinois Winter Games.

Tentative Competition Times

Alpine Skiing

- Tuesday, 1:30 pm assessments
- Wednesday & Thursday , 9:00am – 4:00 pm

Snowshoeing

- Tuesday, 12:00pm-2:30pm
- Wednesday, 9:30am – 2:00pm
- Thursday, 9:30am- 11:00am

Young Athletes have the opportunity to participate in the 50-meter and 100-meter snowshoe exhibition on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 5 & 6. To take part in the transitional exhibitions Young Athletes must have a valid Medical Application. For more information, please email youngathletes@soill.org.

Opening Ceremony and the Parade of Athletes will be in downtown Galena beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. The parade will progress through the downtown area and back to the Post Office area where Opening Ceremony will be held. To kick off the games, Law Enforcement Torch Run officers will hand off the torch to athletes who will carry it along its path and light the cauldron holding the Flame of Hope. A fireworks display will take place at the end of the Opening Ceremony.

Special Olympics Illinois is a not-for-profit organization offering year-round training and competition in 18 sports for more than 23,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities and nearly 20,000 Young Athletes ages 2-7 with and without intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics transforms the lives of people with intellectual disabilities, allowing them to realize their full potential in sports and in life. Special Olympics programs enhance physical fitness, motor skills, self-confidence, social skills and encourage family and community support. If you are interested in learning more about Special Olympics Illinois, volunteering or providing financial support to help make Special Olympics programs possible, contact your local Special Olympics agency, call 800-394-0562 or visit our website at www.soill.org. Follow Special Olympics Illinois on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

In case of inclement weather, schedule changes or cancellations check the website here for updates. You can also call 309-888-2000 Ext. 245

###