

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS 2023 STATE FLOOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT EVENT HANDBOOK



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2023 State Floor Hockey Tournament Event Handbook

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**Special Olympics Illinois
2023 State Floor Hockey Tournament**

Tentative Schedule of Events

Saturday, November 18, 2023

7:00am – 8:15 am	Registration for Agencies/Assemble for OC
8:30 am – 8:45 am	Opening Ceremony
8:30am – 12:30pm	Family Information/Registration open
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Floor Hockey Team Competition
9:00 am - 11:30 pm	Floor Hockey Individual Skills Competition
11:00 am – 3:30 pm	Healthy Habits
10:30 am - 1:30 pm	Lunch

Tournament Contact Number

Special Olympics Illinois Tournament Central

847-845-6481

Text Alerts & Event Status Updates

Please sign up for the text alert. This alert will send you any last minute changes in the Floor Hockey schedule. To register, please text “FloorHockey” to the number 844-393-0980.

In case of inclement weather, check the website at www.soill.org for schedule changes or cancellations.

<https://www.soill.org/blog/events/state-floor-hockey/>

Address

Northeastern Illinois University
Sports Complex
3600 Foster
Chicago, IL

Parking

The 2023 Special Olympics Floor Hockey Competition will take place in the Physical Education Building. *Free parking* will be available in Lot J only. There are 251 spaces, which should be plenty of room for all. Please make sure to only use 1 spot for cars and no more than 2 spots for buses.

To park in Lots L or H, it will cost \$5.00 (per day), paid via mobile phone to Northeastern Illinois University. To pay for parking, follow these steps on your mobile device:

- Download the free app or visit [PassPort Parking](#) to create your account.
- Quickly register in the app with your phone number, email, or directly through your Facebook account.
- Enter your zone number (located on the signage in your specific parking location).
- Pay for your parking.

You will receive a notification before the end of your parking session to help avoid parking citations. If you need to stay longer, you can extend your parking session directly from your phone (up to the maximum allotted time).

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 this code of 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. Understanding the rules will 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. Allow coaches to do the coaching. Please refrain from shouting instructions to athletes.
6. Stay out of the competition areas. Only registered coaches, athletes and officials should be in the playing area.
7. 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. Refrain from any form of personal abuse (verbal, physical, emotional, etc.) towards coaches, athletes, unified partners, volunteers, spectators, family members, etc. Such behavior will not be tolerated by Special Olympics.

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 any of the following:

1. Will be escorted from the venue;
2. Will be banned from attending future events for a given period of time;
3. Will be permanently banned from attending any Special Olympics Illinois event.

Coach's Responsibilities

1. It is important that coaches are adequately prepared to deal with the athletes for an extended period of time.
2. The coach is responsible for the athletes 24 hours a day. It is up to the coach to ensure:
 - a. the athletes' physical and emotional needs are met during the tournament
 - b. The athletes are properly warmed up prior to competition
 - c. first aid is administered promptly. Bring a first aid kit if possible to deal with minor problems not needing professional attention
 - d. athletes get adequate rest
 - e. athletes eat properly and avoid overeating or missing meals
3. If the 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
4. Each coach should be aware of the athlete's possessions. Check for lost items at Tournament Central
5. 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
6. The coach is required to carry a copy of the valid Application for Participation for each athlete at all times
7. 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
8. The coach is expected to be familiar with the sports rules
9. **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED.** Agencies breaking alcohol use rules will be disciplined by Special Olympics Illinois
10. **SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED AT THE VENUE SITE**
11. Communicate with families of the athletes. Inform them of the upcoming tournament and encourage them to attend the Special Olympics Illinois Floor Hockey Tournament

Registration for Agencies

Location: Northeastern Illinois University
Physical Education Complex
3600 Foster Ave, Chicago IL

Time: 7:00 AM

Date: Saturday, November 18, 2023

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 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 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. Meal tickets for athletes and coaches.
 - c. Tournament mementos for athletes and coaches.
 - d. Tournament brackets for floor hockey.
 - e. Wristbands for athletes

Individual Skills Competition

Staging for all divisions begins at 8:45am. The Individual Skills Competition will begin at 9:00 am. Awards will be presented after the completion of each skills competition division. Athletes competing in Floor Hockey Skills will be required to wear appropriate attire. No jeans or jean shorts will be allowed for any athlete in skills competition.

Team Competition

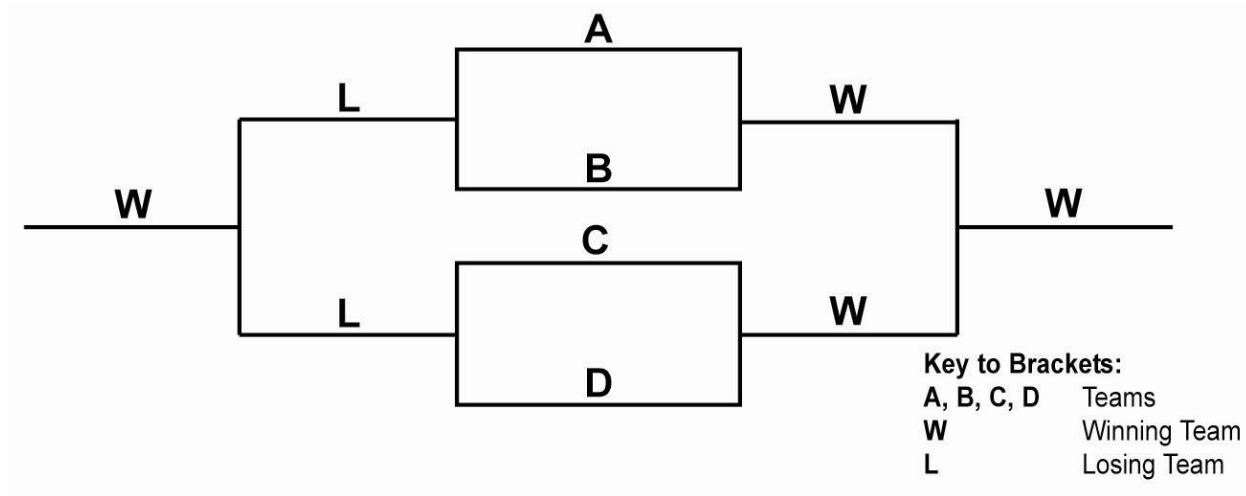
1. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to game time to warm up, submit line up to score table and discuss game situations with officials.
2. Games will start as scheduled.
3. Teams not ready to play within 10 minutes of the designated starting time will forfeit the game.
4. Teams must start with a minimum of 9 players or will forfeit that game.
5. Special Olympics Inc. rules and Special Olympics Illinois rule interpretations will govern all Special Olympics Illinois Floor Hockey Tournament play.
6. Special Olympics Illinois staff will make all final decisions.
7. Athletes competing in floor hockey team competition will be required to wear appropriate attire:
 - Helmets with protective cages or shields
 - Protective gloves
 - Shin guards
 - Tennis Shoes
 - Uniforms with 6-8” numbers on back
8. Elbow pads are recommended but not required

Team Brackets

Team brackets indicating divisions and game times will be available to agency coaches prior to the tournament. The following explanation covers all bracketing procedures to be employed by Special Olympics Illinois for tournament play.

Four Team Divisions:

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.

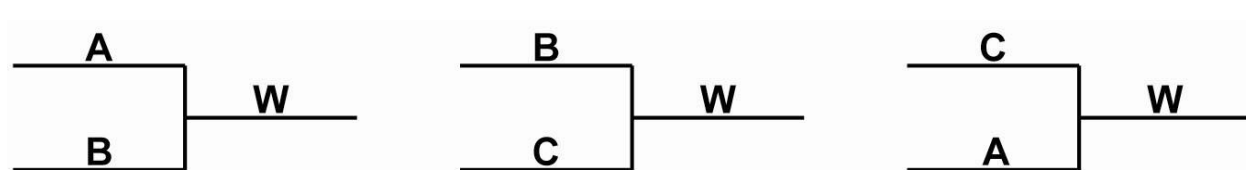


Three Team Divisions:

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.

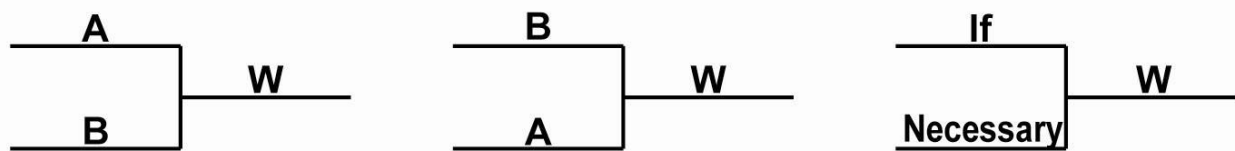
If all three teams win one game and lose one game, places of finish will be determined:

- By the point differential in the games played during the tournament.
- If the point differential is the same, by the total points scored by each team during the tournament (highest scoring team receives first place).
- If point differential and point totals are the same, by fewest penalty minutes in the games played during the tournament.



Two Team Divisions:

All play is best two of three games. Teams will be given adequate time to rest between games. Due to the fact that this is a one day tournament, there will be no 3rd game.



Individual Sports and Individual Skills Divisioning

For individual sports and individual skills competition, divisions will have no more than eight athletes and whenever possible, no less than three. In team sports, the best practice is to have four team divisions to allow for fair and equitable competition.

When possible, athlete divisions have no more than a 20% recorded difference.

At any point in time, genders and age may be combined to allow for competitive divisions.

The following universal designations are used:

- M Male
- F Female
- OP Open (eliminates age delineations)
- C Combined (eliminates gender delineations)
- CO Combined Open (eliminates both age and gender delineations)

Disqualification Procedures

Disqualifications will be handled in accordance with Special Olympics Illinois' Disqualification Process:

1. It is the coach's responsibility to be aware of disqualifications at all times. Event officials will be signaled of infractions by the referees. 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: running of the event; notice of disqualification if necessary; appeal of disqualification if brought forth; and 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 unless the disqualification is for unsportsmanlike conduct, then no award will be presented.
7. No disqualification protest will be heard once awards have been completed.

Filing Protests Procedures for Coaches

1. Protests to the Games Rules Committee may be made concerning only Games presentation, structure and conduct.
2. Protests to the Competition Rules Committee may be made concerning only competition of athletes within a venue, where within that competition; rulings are either made or not made in regard to fairness and equity of competition. Procedural or technical issues may be protested. Judgment calls made by officials cannot be protested.
3. Protests must be presented by the Sport Head 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.
4. Any verbal protests must be made prior to the presentation of awards. (All awards for the division in question will be held until resolution of the protest.)
5. If the awards presentation has taken place the registered coach has 30 minutes after the awards presentation to file a protest. A corrected awards presentation will be made to that athlete if needed.
6. The Head Official may rule immediately on appeals. If the response of the Head Official does not resolve the protest, a formal protest may follow.
7. All formal protests must be made by the Sport Head Coach within one hour of the event being protested.
8. All formal protests must be made on the specified form obtained from the Head Official.
9. All protests will be brought to the Competition Rules Committee for final resolution. The decision of this committee shall be final and binding unless this committee concludes that the protest concerns Games presentation, structure or conduct, and refers the protest to the Games Rules Committee.

Awards

Awards will take place immediately following 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 place and ribbons will be awarded to 4th-8th place finishers. Trophies will be presented to gold-medal floor hockey teams. In cases of disqualification, athletes will receive a participation ribbon. Please do not delay awards presentations for picture taking. In cases of ties, awards will be presented using the Olympic format, i.e., 1st, 2nd, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th.

Results of Competition

Special Olympics Illinois will post the results on the website at <https://www.soill.org/blog/events/state-floor-hockey/> 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 to Special Olympics athletes.

Meals for Athletes and Coaches

Lunch will be provided to registered athletes and coaches. Lunch will be distributed in the second floor lounge area. Lunch tickets must be presented to the food service volunteers. If an athlete requires a special diet, it is the responsibility of the coach to provide for the athlete's needs.

If an event is cancelled or postponed, Special Olympics Illinois may not be able to provide all scheduled meals. In this case, each agency is responsible to arrange and pay for meals Special Olympics Illinois is unable to provide.

Medical Information

Trained medical personnel will be available during the tournament. Coaches **MUST** carry a copy of each athlete's current Special Olympics Illinois Application for Participation with them at all times.

Special Olympics Illinois has an accident insurance policy which provides secondary coverage for all athletes, coaches and volunteers. This is provided as backup coverage to your personal insurance. Accident claim forms will be available at the First Aid Station or Tournament Central.

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony will begin at 8:00 am in the small gymnasium. There will be no assigned seating. There will be a torch run all other components of a typical Opening Ceremony.

Locker Rooms

Locker rooms will be available in the Physical Education Complex. Individuals will be responsible for providing their own locks. Special Olympics Illinois is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Healthy Habits

Stop by the Healthy Habits Stations in the 2nd floor lunch area between 10:00am – 2:30pm to learn more about how smoking and sleeping can effect your sport performance and everyday life!

Esports

Love video games??? Come check out our ESports area located on the 2nd floor near the lunch area from 10:00am – 2:30pm to learn more about how to join our gaming community and try out some of our games!

Families

Families are encouraged to stop by the Family Registration area to pick up a free raffle ticket and event lapel pin as well as other event details and flyers. Family Registration will be open from 8:30am-12:30pm on Saturday.

Guest/Family Meals

There are a variety of restaurants in the area. Information about area restaurants will be available at the Family Center. Meals will be provided only to registered athletes and coaches.

Souvenirs

All items are available by on-line pre-order only. The order deadline is Wednesday, November 8th at Noon. Please use this link to access merchandise options and place your pre-order https://orders.minervapromotions.com/soill_state_floor_hockey/shop/home Souvenirs can be picked up at the main table in the foyer.

Souvenir items are offered by Minerva Promotions and a percentage of sales are given to Special Olympics Illinois.

Water Safety Policy

All Special Olympics Illinois aquatics training, competition and recreational sessions shall be conducted in accordance with basic safety practices as specified in the Sports Rules Book, Section C of the aquatics 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 aquatic activities off-site, such as use of a hotel pool.

Northeastern Illinois University



3600 Foster
Chicago, IL

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
Normal, IL 61761-2682
309-888-2551

**Special Olympics Illinois
Northern Office**
1724 S Finley Ave
Lombard, IL 60148
630-942-5610

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

www.soill.org



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