



**Special
Olympics**
Illinois

MEMORANDUM

TO: Summer Games Coaches
FROM: Nate Henry, Brianna Beers, Carolyn Cronin, Rob Queenan
DATE: May 18, 2023
REGARDS: SUMMER GAMES

Congratulations on your athlete's success and their advancement to this year's Summer Games! A copy of the 2023 Summer Games Event Handbook is available on the Special Olympics Illinois website at www.soill.org.

You can click on this link and it will take you directly to the information on the website: <https://www.soill.org/blog/events/summer-games-116/> Please read the materials carefully as there have been many changes made from the 2022 Summer Games.

The specific sport schedules will not be available until June 2. A tentative schedule of events is located in the Event Handbook.

Included on the website is your agency's listing of coaches, athletes and Unified partners and their events.

Please review the list carefully to ensure:

- ***We have the athlete's and Unified partner's correct event information, qualifying time, level, age and gender. All athlete and Unified partner changes must be made by Thursday May 25, 2023.*** Athlete and Unified partner changes **will not** be made after this deadline and will not be made during the weekend regardless of the circumstances.
- Please review the list of coaches to ensure all have been registered. If an agency only has one coach and they have not completed all registration and screening requirements then the agency will not be allowed to participate in Summer Games.
- **Email or call Nate Henry at 309-888-2574 or nhenry@soill.org with any needed corrections.**

Please contact your Region Director for the scratch deadline in your Region and report any scratches (athletes, Unified partners and coaches) before the deadline.

As a reminder, registration is from 8:30 am until 2:00pm on Friday, June 9. All coaches checking in at the registration table will be asked to provide a photo ID. All coaches/chaperones are required to have a completed Class A form on file with Special Olympics Illinois and to have completed the Protective Behaviors and Concussion Awareness Training requirements. You can contact your Region Director to verify that the coaches who are attending the Summer Games with your agency have completed all the necessary requirements.

HEAD COACHES MEETINGS

Friday, June 9

Athletics: 11:00 am Bleachers, South End of Track

Artistic Gymnastics: 10:45 am Horton Field House, West Bleachers

Bocce: 11:30 am ISU Baseball Field

Soccer: 11:30 am ISU Intramural Fields, Officials Tent

Saturday, June 10

Rhythmic Gymnastics: 8:00 am Main Gym, Normal Community High School

Swimming: 8:00 am Normal Community High School

Powerlifting: 8:00 am Main Gym, Kingsley JHS

Sunday, June 11

Powerlifting: 8:00 am Main Gym, Kingsley JHS

Attendance at Head Coaches Meeting is mandatory by the head sport coach of each agency.

Sport and/or Event changes and reminders:

1. **Swimming** - Competition is held Saturday and Sunday at Normal Community High School. Lunch is available to all registered athletes and coaches. No pre order form is required. Lunch is delivered to your competition location.
2. **Rhythmic Gymnastics** - Competition is held on Saturday and Sunday at Normal Community High School. Lunch is available to all registered athletes and coaches. No pre order form is required. Lunch is delivered to your competition location.
3. **Artistic Gymnastics (Male & Female)** – Competition is held Friday and Saturday inside Horton Fieldhouse on the main floor. Lunch is available to all registered athletes and coaches. No pre order form is required. Lunch is delivered to your competition location.
4. **Soccer** - Team competition is held on Friday and Saturday at the ISU Intramural Fields located on Gregory Street. Individual Skills competition is held on Saturday morning at the ISU Intramural Fields. There will not be spectator seating at this venue. All spectators will need to bring chairs or blankets.
5. **Powerlifting** - Competition is held at Kingsley Junior High School. **All athletes are required to weigh in on Friday, June 9.** Competition is held on Saturday and Sunday. Friday Weigh-Ins are held at Kingsley Junior High.

Housing procedures and/or changes:

1. Housing for registered athletes and coaches is located at Illinois State University: Wilkins, Wright, Haynie, Hewett and Manchester and Waterson Halls.
2. **Wristbands must be worn** at all times and this includes coaches, Unified partners and athletes. **Wristbands are color coded to indicate where individuals are staying and dining.** Wristbands are needed for access into the residence and dining halls. All registered coaches, Unified partners and athletes will have access to residence halls 24 hours a day. If an individual loses their wristband, please go to Tournament Central to pick up a new one of the same color as the one lost.
3. **Pets are not allowed in the residence halls.** Only official working and trained guide dogs are allowed in residence halls. It is recommended that spectators not bring dogs to Summer Games.
4. Please remember agencies are held responsible for damage done to rooms such as soiled bedding, moved furniture, removed screens, broken windows, missing fans, etc. If an athlete, Unified partner or coach needs to have a mattress pad put on their bed, please notify the residence hall staff upon check in at your assigned hall.

Dining procedures and/or changes:

<u>HOUSING LOCATION</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>DINING LOCATION</u>
Watterson	Orange	Bone Student Center
Hewett, Manchester	Orange	Bone Student Center
Wilkins, Haynie, Wright	Yellow	The Marketplace at Linkins
Not Staying in Housing	Blue	Meals will not be provided

1. You must eat in the dining location which serves the housing location you have been assigned.
2. Individuals receive colored wristbands which allow them access into their assigned dining location (above). Individuals cannot change dining locations.
3. Individuals not staying in dorms will not receive meals unless lunch is being delivered to your venue (below).
4. Dining locations **cannot** seat all athletes and coaches at one time. Plan meal times according to your schedule.
5. Provisions for special diets cannot be made. Menus are subject to change without notice.
6. **Lunch is delivered for athletes and coaches at some venues on specified days:**
 - a. Powerlifting - Saturday only
 - b. Artistic Gymnastics – Friday and Saturday
 - c. Rhythmic Gymnastics – Saturday and Sunday
 - d. Swimming – Saturday only

- e. If you are not scheduled to receive lunch at a venue, athletes, Unified partners and coaches will dine in at your agency's assigned dining location.

Souvenirs:

1. Minerva Promotions is selling souvenirs at ISU in the North Gym from 9:00 am-4:00 pm on both Friday and Saturday. **If you want anything customized then you must pre-order. No customization will be done on-site at the event.** June 1 is the pre-order deadline. Use this link to connect to Summer Games merchandise options: https://orders.minervapromotions.com/soill_summer_games/shop/home
2. Special Olympics Illinois will also offer Law Enforcement Torch Run and Respect merchandise and sale items at the North Gym venue.
3. Mystery Bags will be for sale in the North Gym location. Each bag contains at least \$20 of merchandise. Bags are offered by size and a few contain some surprise gift cards.

Travel:

There is a great deal of road construction around the Bloomington-Normal area that is causing traffic delays. Please plan your travel arrangements around the construction and plan to arrive early to prevent your agency from missing competition or meals.

Weather:

If a severe weather watch or warning is issued, events may be canceled or rescheduled depending upon the time and event. Because of the size of Summer Games, some events cannot be moved because there is not an alternate facility. Please plan activities for athletes if this should occur. The Residence Halls are not responsible for providing entertainment if events are canceled due to weather conditions.

Please sign up for the text alert system. This alert system will send you any last minute changes to the Summer Games schedule. To register, please text Summer to 844-393-0980.

Shuttle Buses:

Shuttle buses are available to the public. The event map and shuttle bus route is located in the handbook on page 24. Feel free to share this information with families and spectators attending the games.

See you at Summer Games!

Nate Henry- Director - Sports & Competition - Special Olympics Illinois

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