

**Special
Olympics
Illinois**



MEMORANDUM

TO: State Basketball Event Coaches
FROM: Nate Henry
DATE: February 15, 2024
REGARDS: **Event Handbook and General Information**

Congratulations on qualifying for the State Basketball Tournament! On the Special Olympics Illinois website at <https://www.soill.org/blog/events/state-basketball-tournament-980-984/> is a copy of the *State Basketball Event Handbook*. Please make sure you read the entire *Event Handbook*, as changes have been made from last year. **As a reminder, the schedules and times in the event handbook are tentative due to printing deadlines.** The tournament will be held March 8-10, 2024 (Friday, Saturday, **and Sunday**) at Illinois State University's Horton Field House and Illinois Wesleyan University's Shirk Center for team play. **State Basketball Skills has moved to Metcalf Elementary, which is part of Illinois State University and a short walk from Horton Field House.** The address for Metcalf is in the coach handbook, and there is parking available on-site. Entrances are located on both sides of the facility.

Also on the website is a copy of your agency listing. Please look over this list carefully and email me at nhenry@soill.org with any changes. **Changes need to be made by Thursday, February 22, 2024.** *Changes to the athlete's events will not be made at the tournament.* If the agency list has athletes who are not competing at this year's tournament, please contact your Region Director so those athletes can be scratched. Please report any scratches to your Region Director as soon as possible. Special Olympics Illinois does have to pay for all meals that are ordered, and orders are based on the scratch numbers.

Individual Skills Basketball competition will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday at Metcalf Elementary School. Female, High School and Junior team divisions will begin competition on Friday, March 8 at 10:00 am at both the Horton Field House and the Shirk Center. **Team competition for Female, High School and Junior Divisions will be played Friday, with some divisions finishing on Saturday morning.** Team competition for Senior Male divisions will be conducted at both facilities and will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday and Sunday, with games ending before lunch on Sunday, March 10.

On February 23rd the final division list and schedules will be posted. At this time, your agency will be assigned a registration site in order to receive your coach's packet. Registration will begin at 8:00 am on Friday, March 8^h at both the Horton Field House and the Shirk Center. Registration will begin at 8:00 am on Saturday, March 9 at Metcalf Elementary School, Horton Field House and the Shirk Center. If your agency does not compete until later in the day, you can register at Tournament Central after 12:00 pm.

Teams and skills competition athletes and coaches competing at Horton Field House and Metcalf Elementary School will eat at Linkins Dining Center for lunch on Friday and Saturday.

All athletes and coaches will eat dinner at Linkins Dining Center on Friday evening and on Saturday evening. Boxed lunches will be served on Friday and Saturday at Shirk Center for teams competing at Illinois Wesleyan University.

There will be an Opening Ceremony on Friday night 7:00 pm-7:30 pm. A dance and laser tag activity is scheduled on Friday 7:30-9:00 pm. This will all take place at Horton Field House. A dance and bags activity is scheduled for Saturday night from 7:00-9:00 p.m. This is also at Horton Field House

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at nhenry@soill.org

Congratulations and good luck at the Tournament!