



Hello Families and Friends!

Congratulations on your athlete's qualification to the [2024 Special Olympics Illinois State Basketball Tournament](#)! More than 1500 athletes and 500 coaches will be competing at these games either the Team or Individual Skills competitions. We hope you will join in the excitement and witness some great, athletic competition! The 3-day tournament will take place on March 8-10th at Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan and Metcalf Elementary School ! Details, schedules and links (in blue) to additional information will be helpful as you plan your trip. We look forward to seeing you!

WHEN: March 8-10, 2024

WHERE: Illinois State University (ISU) - Horton Field House (Main & College Avenue, Normal)
Illinois Wesleyan University (IWU) – Shirk Center (302 E. Emerson, Bloomington)
Metcalf Elementary School (Individual Skills) - 7000 S University St, Normal, IL 61790

TEAM COMPETITION: Friday, March 8th: High School, Junior and Female Teams **There are a few HS games on Saturday.*

Male/Senior Teams: Saturday

Schedule: See attached or visit [here](#).

INDIVIDUAL SKILLS: Metcalf Elementary School - Saturday, 8:00a.m. – 12:00 pm

GAMES SCHEDULES: See attached or click [HERE](#).

EVENT SCHEDULE:

Friday, March 8, 2024

8:00am – 1:00pm Team Registration – Horton Field House & Shirk Center
9:00am – 3:00pm Family Information Center Open - Horton Field House & Shirk Center
10:00am – 5:00pm Team Competition for Female Teams, Junior & High School Teams- Horton Field House and Shirk Center **(All divisions play Friday only with awards following)**
11:00am – 2:00pm Lunch - ISU Linkins Dining Center & Shirk Center
9:30am – 4:00pm Souvenir Sales - Horton Field House & Shirk Center
5:00pm – 7:00pm Dinner- ISU Linkins Dining Center
7:00pm – 7:30pm Opening Ceremony
7L30pm – 9:00pm Victory Dance & Laser Tag - Horton Field House

Saturday, March 9, 2024

8:00am – 1:00pm Team Registration - Horton Field House & Shirk Center
8:00am – 12:00pm Individual Skills Registration – Metcalf School
8:00am – 4:00pm Family Information Center Open – Horton Field House & Shirk Center
9:00am – 5:00pm Team Competition (all) Horton Field House & Shirk Center
9:00am – 4:00pm Souvenir Sales Horton Field House & Shirk Center
11:00am – 2:00pm Lunch – ISU Linkins Dining Center & Shirk Center
5:00pm – 7:00pm Dinner – ISU Linkins Dining Center
7:00pm – 9:00pm Victory Dance & Bags – Horton Field House

Sunday, March 10, 2024

9:00am – 12:30pm Team Competition for Senior Male Teams – Horton Field House and Shirk Center

Event Handbook – This is available online by going to – <https://www.soill.org/wp-content/uploads/2024-Event-Handbook.pdf>

You will find more specific information on the State Basketball Tournament including: Competition Information; Meals for Athletes and Coaches; Medical Information; Concealed Carry and Prohibited Weapons Policy; Animals at Venue; Activities & Entertainment; Families & Guests and more.

Family Registration: The Family Program of Special Olympics Illinois is dedicated to providing family members with a welcoming, informed and great experience! Please stop by the Family Information area at either ISU or IWU, Friday – Saturday and pick up your event packet and games souvenir! You may also enter the free raffle for giveaways! Families wearing their credentials will get an extra ticket for the raffle!

Family Information Center	Friday, March 8	Saturday, March 9
ISU – Horton Field House	9:00am – 3:00pm	8:00am – 4:00pm
IWU –Shirk Center	9:00am – 3:00pm	8:00am – 4:00pm

Souvenirs: Minerva Promotions is selling souvenirs at Horton Field House and The Shirk Center on Friday, from 9:30am to 4:00pm and on Saturday, from 9:00am to 4:00pm. State Basketball Tournament specific items will be sold. Cash and most major credit cards are accepted. CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED. A percentage of sales are given to Special Olympics Illinois.

Fan Zone: Be sure to stop by the Fan Zone table to make a POSTER for making table where you can make your own poster to cheer on your athlete!



Lodging: If you are need of lodging for the tournament, you can utilize this link through the Bloomington/Normal CVB to find hotels - <https://www.visitbn.org/visit/listings/accommodations/>

Text Alerts and Event Status: In case of inclement weather, schedule changes or cancellations check the website for updates. Please sign up for the text alert. This alert will send you any last minute changes in the State Basketball schedule. Please text **"Basketball" to 844-393-0980** to receive State Basketball related text alerts.

Congratulations once again on your athlete's advancement to State! I do hope you can join us for the Special Olympics Illinois State Basketball Tournament and our very own March Madness! Please call or email me with any questions – kmilligan@soill.org or 1.309.888.2013

Warmest Regards,

Karen