

Winter Games



Event Handbook

Special thanks to the 2024 Winter Games Sponsors

PRESENTING SPONSOR



STATEWIDE PARTNERS



MEDIA SPONSOR



VENUE SPONSOR





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
Location and Contact Information	3
2024 Winter Games Tentative Schedule	4
Tournament Central	5
Registration	5
Transportation	5
Competition Bibs	5
Wristbands	5
Divisioning Competition Events	5-6
Awards	6
Housing	6-7
Meals	7
Opening Ceremony/ Evening Entertainment/ Dance	7-8
Daytime Activities	8
Souvenirs	8
Medical	9

IMPORTANT LOCATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Chestnut Mountain Resort

Box 328
8700 W. Chestnut Mountain Rd.
Galena, IL 61036

Eagle Ridge Resort

444 Eagle Ridge Dr.
Galena IL, 61036

Ramada Hotel

11383 US-20
Galena, IL 61036

Stoney Creek Inn

940 Galena Square Dr.
Galena, IL 61036

PHONE NUMBERS

Chestnut Mountain Tournament Central	800-397-1320 or 847-845-6481
Chestnut Night EMT Room 205	TBA
Ramada of Galena	815-777-2043
Stoney Creek Inn	815-777-2223
Eagle Ridge Tournament Central	815-776-5110 or 309-242-7602
Eagle Ridge EMT	309-202-2955

Text Alerts & Event Status Updates

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

Special Olympics Illinois
2024 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Specific competition schedules will be in your agency packet, posted on-line and at Tournament Central. Any changes to the schedule will be posted online.

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Time	Event	Location
9:00am - 11:00am	Athlete Registration	At Assigned Hotel
9:30am – 3:30pm	Families Registration	Chestnut Mountain Lower Level / Eagle Ridge Galena Room
11:00am - 1:00pm	Lunch	Chestnut Mountain Dining Room / Eagle Ridge Ballroom
3:00pm	Final Room Check-In	At Assigned Hotel
5:15pm	Line-up for the Opening Ceremony	Downtown Galena
5:30pm - 6:00pm	Parade of Athletes	Downtown Galena
6:00pm - 7:15pm	Dinner	At Assigned Restaurant
7:30pm - 9:30pm	Family Reception	Eagle Ridge Ballroom

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Time	Event	Location
6:30am - 8:30am	Breakfast	At Assigned Hotel
8:30am – 4:00pm	Families Registration	Chestnut Mountain Lower Level / Eagle Ridge Galena Room
11:00am - 2:30pm	Lunch	Chestnut Mountain Dining Room / Eagle Ridge Ballroom
5:00pm – 6:45pm	Dinner	Eagle Ridge Galena Room / Eagle Ridge Ballroom
7:00pm – 8:30pm	Dance	Eagle Ridge Galena Room / Eagle Ridge Ballroom

Thursday, February 8, 2024

Time	Event	Location
6:30am - 8:30am	Breakfast	At Assigned Hotel
11:00am - 2:30pm	Lunch	Chestnut Mountain Dining Room / Eagle Ridge Ballroom
11:00am	Final Room Check-Out	At Assigned Hotel

TOURNAMENT CENTRAL

Chestnut Mountain Tournament Central will be located on the lower level during competition hours.

- Tuesday Hours: 8:00AM – 3:00PM
- Wednesday Hours: 8:00AM – 4:00PM
- Thursday Hours 8:00AM – 2:00PM (or competition end)
- Tournament Central will be open on the 2nd floor from the end of competition until 7:00pm Tuesday and Wednesday evening.

Eagle Ridge Tournament Central will be located on the lower level in Board Room V.

- Tuesday Hours: 8:00AM – 5:00PM
- Wednesday Hours: 8:00AM – 7:00PM
- Thursday Hours 8:00AM – 2:00PM (or competition end)

REGISTRATION

Agency Registration will take place on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 from 9:00AM – 11:00AM.

Agencies will register at their assigned housing location. Only the head coach should report to Registration.

Chestnut Mountain Registration will take place on 2nd floor in Mississippi Room.

Eagle Ridge Registration will take place in the main lobby of the Lodge.

Stoney Creek and Ramada registration locations will be located near front desk.

TRANSPORTATION

No bus transportation will be provided at Winter Games. All Agencies will need to transport themselves to competition, hotels, meals, and the Opening Ceremony.

ATHLETE COMPETITION BIBS

Each athlete is assigned a number and will receive a competition bib bearing that number.

Competition bibs must be worn during skill assessments, time trials and competition. The label with the name of the athlete goes on the front. After the athlete's competition on Thursday, bibs are returned at the awards venues. Athletes not wearing their bib will not be allowed to compete.

WRISTBANDS FOR ATHLETES

Wristbands must be worn at all times. A wristband for each athlete is provided at registration. The Head Coach is responsible for ensuring that he/she has the proper number of wristbands before leaving the registration area. Bring broken wristbands to Tournament Central for replacement.

DIVISIONING FOR COMPETITION EVENTS

During Winter Games, the snowshoe and alpine event time trials are used to division athletes for final medal round races. For event management purposes (schedule and weather) some divisions may be grouped into one race but athletes will be awarded based upon their assigned final division. All final race divisions will be posted online. Additionally, to notify you if an athlete has been disqualified from a final race, there will be a disqualification report posted online and sent to each agency head coach.

Corrections to divisions must be made prior to arrival. No changes to divisions will be made at the competition.

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.

ATHLETE AWARDS

Chestnut: Awards are downstairs in the Mississippi Vista Room. Awards on Wednesday and Thursday will take place immediately after the completion of last event for each level.

Eagle Ridge: Awards are located upstairs in Eagle Room 1 of the ballroom. Snowshoe awards will take place immediately after each final race.

HOUSING FOR ATHLETES AND COACHES

All registered coaches and athletes ***are housed at Chestnut Mountain Resort, Eagle Ridge Resort, Stoney Creek Inn or the Ramada of Galena.***

Check-In: Once you have registered, you may be allowed to check into your rooms. Some rooms may not be available until 3:00pm, the normal check-in time. There are a limited number of keys available for each room, and they are given to coaches. ***Room keys are the responsibility of the coaches.***

Check-Out: All rooms must be vacated by 11:00am Thursday. Return keys to the front desk of your assigned hotel. Please pack and load vehicles before competition begins. At Chestnut, the Mississippi Room may be used for luggage storage on Thursday. At Eagle Ridge, please use the Galena Room.

MEALS FOR ATHLETES AND COACHES

Meals are provided for registered coaches and athletes. Meal locations are assigned based on housing and competition location. If an athlete requires a special diet, it is the responsibility of the coach to provide for the athlete's needs.

Athletes and coaches will eat breakfast at their assigned hotel. Menus may vary.

All lunches are a boxed cold lunch that is served at the athlete's competition location:

- All agencies will pick up lunch in dining room upstairs at Chestnut or outside the Eagle Ridge Ballroom.
- Lunches are pre boxed by agency. All lunches for an agency must be picked up at the same time.

All agencies will eat Tuesday's dinner at assigned location in downtown Galena. Please check your agency's registration packet for restaurant assignments. Athletes not staying in provided housing may request to eat downtown. **Agencies must inform Special Olympics Illinois by the scratch deadline if they are not eating downtown on Tuesday evening.**

Athletes and coaches assigned to the Ramada or Stoney Creek will be required to eat dinner at Eagle Ridge on Wednesday evening. Athletes and coaches assigned to Chestnut will eat dinner in the Chestnut Mountain Dining Room.

OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony and the Parade of Athletes is in downtown Galena On Tuesday, February 6th beginning at 5:30pm. Line-up begins at 5:15pm on Green Street near the historic Post Office building. Agencies will line up behind their Region flag. The parade progresses through the downtown area and back to the Post Office where the Opening Ceremony is held. Please check your agency registration packet for more detailed Opening Ceremony and dinner information.

THE OPENING CEREMONY IS OUTSIDE - PLEASE DRESS APPROPRIATELY!!

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

Swimming

Lifeguards are not provided by Special Olympics Illinois. If an agency wants to allow swimming then the agency is required to provide their own lifeguard and swimming will be at the agency's own risk. According to Special Olympics Policies and Procedures, "All Special Olympics swimming training, competition, and recreational sessions will be conducted in accordance with basic safety practices as specified in the swimming section in the Special Olympics Sports Rules." Briefly, this policy specifies that in all swimming activities, there must be a certified lifeguard on duty while athletes are in the water. This policy is in place for training and competition as well as recreational swimming activities at hotel pools. If requested, proof of certification must be produced. Violation of this policy could result in disciplinary action. **NOTE:** American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor's Certification does not authorize one as a certified lifeguard.

Victory Dance

Special Olympics Illinois will offer a dance on Wednesday, February 6, 2024 from 7pm – 8:30pm. Two dance locations will be offered: The Eagle Ridge Resort Ball Room and the Eagle Ridge Galena Rooms.

DAYTIME ACTIVITIES

Alpine Skiing

Chestnut Mountain Ski Shop is offering reduced prices to Special Olympics volunteers. During competition hours, those volunteering will receive a free lift ticket and ski rental for \$40. No discount is offered for those not volunteering nor for volunteers in off hours. Athletes registered for alpine events will receive equipment rental and lift tickets, if needed, at no cost.

Healthy Habits

Healthy Habits are interactive education stations that help build awareness of how healthy habits affect sport performance and everyday life. Athletes, partners, coaches, family members, volunteers and staff will learn how to improve performance the day of competition and in the future. We will be offering two Healthy Habit topics: Hydration and Game Day Minds. Healthy Habits will be offered on Tuesday 9:30am-2:30p and Wednesday 9:30am-2:30pm. The stations will be located Eagle Ridge Lower Level.

Electric Kiosk

The Special Olympics Illinois kiosk is located in the lower level of Eagle Ridge Resort. Please utilize the kiosk to check competition schedules, results, venue and event support locations, Special Olympics Illinois information and to find out entertainment and dining options in the community.

Immersive Technology

Available at Winter Games this year is the Immersive Technology area will be set up downstairs in the foyer of the Eagle Ridge Galena Rooms. Tuesday through Thursday of Winter Games, athletes will have the opportunity to interact with immersive technology which offers Esports game systems, interactive touch boards, photo booths and more! We invite athletes, coaches and families to experience how technology can be used in our everyday lives and to accentuate our sports training and competition. The immersive technology room will be open every day of Winter Games, including during the Victory Dance. For more information on technology and Esports, contact Jonathan Frederick at jfrederick@soill.org

SOUVENIRS

Souvenirs will be sold on-site only at Eagle Ridge. Those staying at Chestnut Mountain will need to pre-order their items and can pick them up in Tournament Central at Chestnut Mountain. Customized items at either venue are only available via pre-orders. The souvenir area at Eagle Ridge is located in the lower level lobby area and is open Tuesday 10am-3pm and Wednesday 8am-1pm. Cash and most major credit cards are accepted. CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED. The cut-off for pre-orders is January 22nd.

Please go to https://orders.minervapromotions.com/soill_winter_games/shop/home to view items and submit your order

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

MEDICAL FOR ATHLETES AND COACHES

EMT's will be available at Chestnut and Eagle Ridge during the event.

In case of an emergency during the evening hours:

8:00AM – 5:00PM Tournament Central at Chestnut & Eagle Ridge

5:00PM – 8:00AM Eagle Ridge Medical (Please see phone number above)

5:00PM – 8:00AM Chestnut Mountain Medical Room 205

5:00PM – 8:00AM Ramada & Stoney Creek Inn must call 911 and notify the front desk

Please ensure that your athletes are properly clothed to be in the cold for long periods of time.