

VOLUNTEERS!!!

The life *blood* of Special Olympics is the generosity, time and energy of our volunteers, without whom **our program** would not exist. Not only do your efforts make a difference in the program, but they also make a difference in the lives of the athletes! The opportunities to lend volunteer support are almost endless; assist on game days, officiate, coach, work on mailings and communications, plan or manage events, etc. We will train you, challenge you, excite you and reward you with an unforgettable experience! **If you would like more information about Toledo Public Special Olympics please fill out the form below and return it to the Special Olympics office, or call Sue Hess at 419-450-0835, or fax 419-893-2655 or email at sue.hess@tps.org.**

I am interested in:

- Coaching*
- Volunteer opportunities*
- Being a Unified Partner*
- Fundraising*
- Marketing support/Advertising*
- Social event*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Donations

Special Olympics Toledo Public program relies on grants, fundraisers and your donations. Our program does not receive cash funding from Toledo Public Schools. All money raised for Special Olympics Toledo Public goes directly toward the athletes. Expenses include uniforms, competition fees, office and postage expenses, facilities rental for training, and transportation. No donation *is* too small and each is deeply appreciated. We are available to make a presentation about our program and our goals to any business, community or service organization. To make an appointment contact Sue Hess, Special Olympics Coordinator at 419-450-0835 or fax 419-893-2655 or email at sue.hess@tps.org

Make checks payable to
"Special Olympics Toledo Public" and mail to:

**Special Olympics Toledo Public
Sue Hess, Coordinator
613 Midfield Dr.
Maumee, Ohio 43537**

All donations are tax deductible! Thank you!

Please accept this donation of:

\$10 \$15 \$25 \$50 \$75
 \$100 other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Individual Service Organization Corporation



**SPECIAL OLYMPICS
OHIO
TOLEDO PUBLIC**

**Let Me Win
But If I Cannot Win
Let Me Be Brave
In The Attempt**

Toledo Public Special Olympics

became accredited with Special Olympics Ohio in spring of 2002. We are part of the international organization of Special Olympics began by Eunice Kennedy Shriver. Special Olympics have more than 200 Programs in over 150 countries.

Our mission is to provide year round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for students with intellectual disabilities. Giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympic athletes and the community.

How can my child participate in Special Olympics? To be eligible to compete, your child must be at least 8 years old and identified as having intellectual disabilities or cognitive delays as measured by formal assessment, or significant learning or vocational problems due to intellectual disability that require specially designed instruction. Children 5-7 years old may participate in training activities. Athletes' families will not be charged any fees for participation. To registration, the Special Olympics Ohio Athlete Application for Participation form which includes a physical portion signed by a physician is required. This form and the Official Release form must be signed by guardian or parent and submitted by the required deadline in order to participate in training and competitions.

We allow students to begin training with Special Olympics Toledo Public in kindergarten, but students must be eight years old to compete in any Special Olympics Sports.

Special Olympics Sports Programs

**Indicates sports SOTP currently participates in.
**Indicates Unified Sports*

Alpine Skiing

***Aquatics**

***Athletics**

***Basketball**

Bocce

****Bowling**

***Cycling**

***Equestrian**

****Golf**

***Gymnastics**

***Motor Activities**

Nordic Skiing

***Power lifting**

****Soccer**

Softball

Skating

***Tennis**

***Volleyball**



A variety of sports opportunities are provided for all ability levels. Ability groupings are created through divisioning to provide equitable competition for all athletes within each division. Awards are provided to all participants who compete. The criterion for athlete advancement to higher level competition is based on order of finish for each division and random drawings. Individual Skills training and competition is offered for those with gross motor delays in most of the sports. Individual skills training may be held during regular practices or may be scheduled separately depending on the sport. Individual Skills Competitions are offered at Area, Sectional and State events.

Special Olympics offers Unified Sports for team competitions. Unified teams are balanced and divisioned properly so each member of the team can play to the best of their ability just as it is done in traditional Special Olympics Sports. Partners must also register with Special Olympics. They must train along with the Special Olympic athletes as part of the team. Unified sports partners will be selected that can commit and adhere to the tradition of Special Olympics.

What impact do Special Olympics have on athletes? Children who participate in Special Olympics develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence and a more positive self image. They grow mentally, socially and spiritually and through their activities, exhibit boundless courage and enthusiasm, enjoy the rewards of friendship and ultimately discover not only new abilities and talents but "their voices" as well.

Who do I contact?

Call Sue Hess at 419-450-0835 or email: sue.hess@tps.org. You may also bring your child to any sports practice. We attempt to send letters with updated information through all TPS Special Education teachers.