

# Provincial News Update Fall 2008



**Special Olympics**  
*Ontario*

Visit our website at [www.specialolympicsontario.com](http://www.specialolympicsontario.com)

We hope this update package brings you the information you need to plan your programs, and helps you to keep current with Special Olympics news and provincial initiatives. Each of the staff from the provincial office has inserted a few comments to connect you to their specific area. Please feel free to provide us with feedback or send us any questions you have about the details in this package.

**-SOO Staff**

## District Developer Updates

District Developers are active within each region to provide support and guidance to communities in a variety of ways. This staff team works to ensure that communication between all groups (Community Councils, RCMT and Provincial Office) is a top priority across the province. Please feel free to contact your District Developer if you have any questions or concerns about happenings in your community.

<i>Jennifer Klaus</i>	<i>Region 1 &amp; 2</i>
<i>Jeannie Skeggs</i>	<i>Region 3 &amp; 5</i>
<i>Juli Prokopchuk Brattan</i>	<i>Region 4 &amp; 6</i>
<i>Kathi Jones</i>	<i>Region 7 &amp; 12</i>
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Region 9, 10 and 12</i>
<i>Dia Sue-Wah-Sing</i>	<i>Region 11</i>

## **New Manager of Field Services – James Noronha**

Congratulations to James Noronha for accepting the position of Manager of Field Services for Special Olympics Ontario.

James Noronha's background is strongly rooted in volunteerism and organizational development, particularly in the non-profit sector. For the past two years James has served as the Program Officer for Special Olympics Toronto where he has been responsible for strategic planning, organizational development and program operations. As a member of the provincial field services team James has been part of the Provincial Games in Owen Sound and Durham as well as mission staff for the National Winter Games in Quebec City. James was also involved in the Healthy Athlete and Leadership Conferences held in Durham this past spring. Prior to joining Special Olympics James held many positions in the academic and volunteer services fields.

Having been with Special Olympics for a couple of years, James is excited about the future and the role of Field Services Manager. SOO has an abundance of compassionate and dedicated volunteers, a wide variety of incredible programs, an energetic and enthusiastic collection of athletes and a phenomenal set of field staff. Over the next few months his goals will be to try to connect with and where possible visit as many of the regions as he can in order to get a feel for your programs and your ideas about how the area would be best served and supported. He will be working with the field team over the next few months to develop a plan for strategic growth and operation in all the regions. Over the next few months the field team will be working on this plans with the volunteer base as well as introducing new tools, resources and initiatives which will allow us to better serve our athletes, coaches and volunteers. James would appreciate any insights, comments and criticisms you may have to offer this process and he looks forward to working with you in the very near future.

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# COMPETITION INFORMATION

## 2009 World Winter Games

Special Olympics Canada is proud to announce its roster of 81 inspiring athletes who will represent Canada at next year's Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho. Joined by 34 coaches and mission staff, Team Canada will take to the world stage February 6 to 13, 2009 with as many as 3,000 athletes from 85 countries.

The athletes, coaches and mission staff from Ontario are:

**Mission Staff:** Dee Mitchell

**Alpine Skiing:** Samantha Mayer, Brittany MacKay

**Cross County Skiing:** Steve Caban, Aynsley Kemila

**Figure Skating:** **Coaches:** Janet Collins, Holly Baril, Julie Dunlop, Lisa Janssen

**Athletes:** Thomas Babcock, Tim Goodacre, Kyle Mayhew, Stephanie Rowe, Angela Van Casteren, Jessica Young

**Floor Hockey:** **Coaches:** Paul Turner, Shawn Turner

**Athletes:** Doug Dunk, Mike Farley, Jim Hamill, Dan Jamieson, Mark Jamieson, Andrew McTaggart, Paul McTaggart, Edgar Riel, Patric Seeds, Stephen Slezsak, Scott Tennant, Ben TinHolt, Jamie Walker, Jeff Tromp

**Snowshoeing:** **Coaches:** Claudette Faubert-Michaud,

**Athletes:** Brian Dinwoodie, Sandra Hunt, Robert McLellan

**Speedskating:** Nicholas Dagenais, Carol Forbes, Stephen Graham, Derek Trainor

All of the athletes have training coaches who are a very important piece to making the National Team Program puzzle fit together. A Training coach is the club coach that the athlete works with in preparation for the Games. The athletes commit to train a minimum of three times per week and the Training Coach coordinates, coaches and ensures that this happens. THANK YOU to all of them!!!

## 2009 Provincial Summer Games

Windsor Police Service will be the host of the 2009 Summer Provincial Games scheduled to be held July 23-26, 2009. Geoff Stotts of the Windsor Police has been selected as the Games Coordinator. He has surrounded himself with some very strong people from the community and the police service to begin the planning of these games. Congratulations and welcome to Geoff and his team.

- Key Contacts in your region are the Regional Team Manager and Regional Coordinator. The Regional Coordinator oversees the athlete and coach selection to Provincial Games. The Regional Team Manager job includes coordinating transportation to and from the Games (bill sent to Prov. Office), regional team uniforms, information collection and sharing (they are the key contact the Provincial office uses leading up to and at the Games).
- **ACTION REQUIRED: If your region has not yet selected a Regional Team Manager, please see the attached job description and elect one at this meeting.**
- Draft #3 of the quotas has been sent to all regional coordinators. Athlete and coach selection will be based on this draft.

## GMS: Games Management System

Special Olympics uses a software programme called Games Management System which is designed to make competitions management easier and more efficient. The programme is used at Provincial, National and World Games and is extremely effective with large regional competitions. If you are interested in receiving a copy, please contact Jennifer Goosen at ex. 235.

## 2009 Canada Summer Games

The Ontario track and field team will be competing at the 2009 Canada Games. For the first time on the Ontario track and field team, there are two male and two female team positions which are reserved exclusively for Special Olympics Ontario athletes. There is one additional Special Olympics Ontario athletics coach or manager who will be a member of the team. The athletes from Ontario will have the opportunity to compete in the 100m and 200m races against other Special Olympics athletes from other provinces and territories. The Canada Games is a multi-sport and cultural event that brings together the best athletes in a specified age group from each province and territory. The Canada Games will take place August 15<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Prince Edward Island. The Canada Games qualifier took place on September 6<sup>th</sup> in Newmarket. Congratulations to Kyle Whitehouse, Terry Kuczwal, Catherine Partlow, and Stephanie Meloche who have been selected for the 2009 Canada Summer Games. There are two athletes who have been named as alternates and they are Ryan Normand and Casey Dielman.

Special Olympics Ontario will partner with Swim Ontario on a qualifying meet which will take place in Ottawa the last weekend of February. Within the next few months, there will be more information to come on this meet.

## 2008-09 REGIONAL AND INVITATIONAL COMPETITION PLANNING

- The most important aspect of every Regional Coaches Meeting is the setting of the upcoming season competition schedule.
- Special Olympics Ontario's mandate is for every region to host a minimum of one competition per sport per year, in which there are two or more active clubs.
- Competitions are hosted by a Sport Club, under the guidance of the Region's Competition Manager for the season in which the sport is played. The Competition Manager is responsible for ensuring that the organization and quality of the competition meets the standards of Special Olympics Ontario.
- One competition per sport, per region is only a **MINIMUM** requirement. Communities throughout each region are still encouraged to host invitational tournaments, leagues, exhibition games or meets, etc. Ideally, each community that has a sport club would host a competition in that sport for the rest of the clubs within their region. Obviously, there are many geographical, financial and logistical factors that make this difficult. However, we will always strive for as many opportunities for athletes to compete as possible.
- The most important factor in the setting of your season schedules is communicating dates and registration information throughout the Region. After the RCM a schedule should start coming together and should be communicated to the RCMT and District Developer immediately. If a new event is scheduled at a later date, please ensure to inform your Competition Manager and District Developer so they can disseminate the information to the rest of the Region. Too many clubs are missing out on competitive opportunities because they are unaware that events are even occurring.
- The chart below can be used to create your schedule and appoint a contact person for each event. If you have any questions, please be sure to get in touch with your District Developer for assistance. Have a great season!!!
- **ACTION REQUIRED: All dates for winter and spring competitions should be forwarded to Pauline Carey at [paulinec@osoinc.com](mailto:paulinec@osoinc.com) as soon as possible so that the web site can be updated to advertise these competitions.**

**See Page 17 within this document for the Competition Planning Form**

## 2010 National Summer Games

The National Summer Games Organizing Committee is busy preparing to host over 1300 athletes, coaches and team managers from July 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in London, Ontario. Team Ontario will be sending approximately 284 athletes, 69 coaches, 1 Chef de Mission, 1 Team Manager, and 12 mission staff. The athletes will be competing in 5 pin Bowling, 10 pin Bowling, powerlifting, swimming, track and field, softball, soccer and rhythmic gymnastics.

Athletes' will qualify from the 2010 National Summer Games for the 2011 World Games in Athens, Greece.

# HOMETOWN GAMES



## Why Hometown Games?

- Nearly 40 years of experience have taught us that the full benefit of Special Olympics is achieved only when the athletes can apply in competition the skills and fitness acquired through training. Games and competition are essential to the Special Olympics' experience.
- Special Olympics is well known for its "high end" events: World, National and Provincial Games. However, a significant number of athletes will not advance beyond local and regional competitions, since the capacity of Provincial and National Games cannot keep pace with the dramatic increase in enrolment such as we have witnessed in Ontario. Special Olympics Ontario realizes that the majority of its athletes will access the full Special Olympics experience within their own communities.
- Special Olympics Ontario is therefore committed to the expansion and enhancement of competitive opportunities at the local level. We will provide these opportunities through "Hometown Games".

The past couple of years has seen a nice expansion of the Hometown Games program with events held in Toronto, Perth, Windsor, Oakville, Gravenhurst and a good many other communities. A stronger orientation program and a more refined volunteer support system are "major" goals for 2008-09.

Hometown Games are not an "entity" onto themselves and our programs can expect a closer working relationship between the SOO Sport Department and our Field Staff as this property expands into the future. If you have a company, organization or service club in your community who has the potential to become a Host or Sponsor please contact Diane Boumeester at [diane@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:diane@specialolympicsontario.com) or call direct at 905-331-9808, Voice mail 1-888-333-5515 ext 264.

## SPORT SERVICES

### COACHING UPDATE: Planning your Community Sport Coach Course

As you know, Special Olympics Ontario is starting to run the new one day coach training course called the National Coaching Certification Program Special Olympics Community Sport Coach Course.

The Special Olympics Community Sport Coach course is intended for coaches who are working with athletes with an intellectual disability who have just entered the sports system. Typically athletes with an intellectual disability come into Special Olympics program with no prior sport or movement skills. They have not developed the basic fundamental motor skills of running, jumping and throwing. They enter the sports system physically illiterate. Since most of the sports within Special Olympics are late specialization sports they need the basic fundamental skills of running, jumping and throwing to be able to seamlessly enter other sport programs and begin learning sport specific skills. Coaches at this level are working with athletes who are in the FUNdamental and Learning to Train stages of the Long Term Athlete Development Model and are learning the basic fundamental motor skills.

In order to run one of these one day courses a community will need to book a facility that has a classroom available for 9 hours (8am – 5pm) and have a gym available between 10am – 12pm and 1:30pm-3pm. They will also need to have an LCD projector and screen available. Right now dates available to run this course are limited as we are still training our Learning Facilitators in training. They, as well as the Master Learning Facilitator, need to be available, so please check with Doug Shirton, Chief Sports Services Officer to find out available dates.

For coaches planning on taking an NCCP Special Olympics coaching course, course dates are available on the SOO website.  
[www.specialolympicsontario.com](http://www.specialolympicsontario.com) → Athletes and Sport → NCCP Course Schedule

## COACHING CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS – effective September 1, 2008

	<b>Regional Qualifiers</b>		<b>Provincial Championships</b>	
	<b>Head Coach</b>	<b>All Other Coaching Staff</b>	<b>Head Coach</b>	<b>All Other Coaching Staff</b>
<b>Theory</b>	n/a		Level 1 Theory + Making Ethical Decisions Module (Trained) or Introduction to Competition; Part A (Must be 18 years of age or older); "Trained" in "Making Ethical Decisions"	
<b>Special Olympics Training</b>	Special Olympics Technical Level 1 + Practical  Special Olympics Community Sports Coach Course (Must be 16 years of age or older)	Special Olympics Technical Level 1  or  Past Figure Skater	Special Olympics Technical Level 1 + Practical  or  Special Olympics Competitive Sports Coach Course (Must be 18 years of age or older)	Special Olympics Technical Level 1  Special Olympics Community Sports Coach Course (Must be 18 years of age or older)
<b>Generic Sport Technical</b>	Figure Skating Technical 1 + Practical  Rhythmic Gymnastics - Gymnastics Ontario Risk Management Education Training	Past Figure Skater	Figure Skating Technical 1 + Practical  Rhythmic Gymnastics - Gymnastics Ontario Risk Management Education Training +  Rhythmic Gymnastics Tech 1	

### Figure Skating Invitations

The next dates for the Special Olympics Western Ontario Figure Skating Competition and the Eastern Ontario Figure Skating Competition are as follows:

Western Ontario Figure Skating Championship is on November 29, 2008 in Alliston. Please contact Janet Collins at [icollinsskating@rogers.com](mailto:icollinsskating@rogers.com) for more information

Easter Ontario Figure Skating Championships is on January 10, 2009 in Kempville. Please contact Gloria Brighten at [g.brighten@rogers.com](mailto:g.brighten@rogers.com) for more information.

## Ontario Sports Technical Advisory Team (OSTAT)

The Ontario Sports Technical Advisory Team (OSTAT) is made up of Special Olympics volunteers who act as the Technical Representative for their sport. They encourage and facilitate competition and development of their sport within Special Olympics Ontario. Their expertise is used to support Coaches, and serve as advisors at competitions; from the regional to provincial level; on all technical aspects of the competitions. They assist provincial organizing committees on scheduling, venue sites, rules and conditions of competition requirements as well as divisioning to ensure appropriate and equitable competition for their sport. They also assist in facilitating and advising on rule changes through correspondence with all province wide Coaches in their sport. They then submit rule change motions to Special Olympic Canada on behalf of Ontario. This is a very challenging position and Special Olympics Ontario would like to thank all the OSTAT for their effort and dedication.

### Ontario Sport Technical Advisory Team (OSTAT)

Alpine Skiing	Patty Federer	pfederer@county.simcoe.on.ca
Basketball	Paula Polley	polleyp@rogers.com
5-Pin Bowling	Jeremie Lacroix	jlacroix@vianet.ca
10-Pin Bowling	Rob McLean	rmclean48@cogeco.ca
Curling	Jane Larkworthy	jslarkwo@orc.ca
Figure Skating	Janet Collins	jcollinsskating@rogers.com
Floor Hockey	Dennis Bordin	dennis.bordin@hp.ca
Nordic Skiing	Gerry Perreault	glperreault@personainternet.com
Powerlifting	Doug Vair	fabprint@on.aibn.com
Rhythmic Gymnastics	Debbie Boycott	boycottd@hotmail.com
Snowshoeing	Deirdre Mitchell	dmitch@cogeco.ca
Soccer	Scott Boumeester	sboumeester@ceml.ca
Softball	Elaine Clouthier	metsclthr@nrtco.net
Speed Skating	Lorraine Roebuck	lroebuck@sympatico.ca
Swimming	Bill Strobe	wstrobe@cogeco.ca
Track & Field	John Roberts	roberts.jnc@personainternet.com
Provincial Referee-in-Chief	Anthony Scanlan	awscanlan@hotmail.com

Some members of the Ontario Sport Technical Advisory Team have been hard at work producing a newsletter to help keep you informed of what is happening in your sport. All of these are available on our website in the Resource page of the Athlete and Sports Section. Check out the latest issue of your sport.

[www.specialolympicsontario.com](http://www.specialolympicsontario.com) → Athletes and Sport → Resources

## Long-Term Athlete Development Model

The Long Term Athlete Development is an optimal development plan for everyone to participate in physical activity. It also ensures that individuals who wish to excel in their sport of choice get the optimal training, competition and recovery in each stage of their athletic development. The stages of training are based on an athlete's developmental age rather than chronological age and are designed to optimize development during critical periods of maturation and trainability. It also takes into account the physical, mental, emotional, and cognitive development of the participants.

Most sports in Special Olympics are late-development sports, which means that most athletes will not achieve their maximum potential until their mid-twenties. Athlete development is a long term process. A solid foundation of movement skills and fitness is important in order for athletes to reach their maximum potential. Physical literacy, the mastering of fundamental movement, and sports skills, are important when a child is young. Physical literacy is the foundation for being active, healthy and engaged in physical activity for life, and for achieving personal best performances at all levels of competition.

LTAD also contributes to health and life-long enjoyment of physical activity. It defines a clear pathway for Coaches and Athletes, of what they need to do and when they need to do it. LTAD will also help to address the issue of obesity in persons with an intellectual disability. They will develop life long wellness, through physical activity and sport.

The LTAD is based on current sport research. The LTAD document which was done by Special Olympics Canada lists 11 key factors developed from the research. The Special Olympics Canada LTAD document describes what they are and how they impact on sport programs for individuals with an intellectual disability. You can find this document on the Special Olympics Ontario website ([www.specialolympicsontario.com](http://www.specialolympicsontario.com)) in the resource section of the Sport and Athletes page.

## SCHOOL & YOUTH SERVICES

School programs are continuing to grow and develop throughout Ontario. We have school competitions happening all across the province. The development is very exciting! Many of the school based athletes are now attending Provincial, National, and International Games. We are now in the process of ensuring that these school athletes become aware of all of the sport programs available with SOO outside of school. This requires spreading the word to the athletes themselves, teachers, and parents of the athlete. We think one of the best ways to do this is to involve the community council in each city and community. Currently we have close to 7000 student-athletes registered with SOO, and we can only hope that this number continues to grow!!!

## TRANSITION COORDINATOR

The School Programs are a great way to introduce young athletes into SOO, once they graduate from school it is our goal to insure that these athletes then transition into the SOO Community Programs. In the past this has not occurred as much as we had hoped. A new Community Council position is being created in communities around Ontario which have a large number of student-athletes between the ages of 18 and 21, and are ready to graduate. This new position will be a member of the local community council and will insure that the student athletes in the schools are being transitioned into the local community programs. If you have any questions about this new position, please contact Allison Vigeant at the Provincial Office.

## VIRTUAL COMPETITIONS

Virtual Competitions are an opportunity for school athletes all over the province to compete in sport competition against other school athletes all over the province. It gives those athletes located in remote cities and towns the opportunity to compete without the cost of travel. Athletes will be able to complete the competition at their schools then post their results on-line. The athletes will then be able to compare their results against athletes of similar ability all over the province. This year SOO Virtual Competitions begin on October 6<sup>th</sup> and run until November 7<sup>th</sup> 2008. To check out the virtual competition website please visit [www.specialpartners.ca](http://www.specialpartners.ca) SCHOOL COMPETITIONS

It is the beginning of a new school year, which means we are in to a new year of competition for our school based athletes! The fall is a very busy time for competition. Athletes will be competing in bowling, soccer, cross country, and basketball. The athletes begin training in their schools at the beginning of the year to prepare for these competitions. Last year there were over 40 school competitions held all over the province. If you are interested in knowing the dates of the competitions in your area check out the SOO website, or go to [www.specialpartners.ca](http://www.specialpartners.ca) If you would like more information on SOO school programs please contact Allison Vigeant at the Provincial Office or at [allisonv@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:allisonv@specialolympicsontario.com)

## SCHOOL ATHLETES AND THE 2009 PROVINCIAL SUMMER GAMES

The Durham Games was a great way to involve and register student-athletes in the Durham Catholic and Durham Public school board. We hope to have the same success with the 2009 Summer Games in Windsor. We will be involving the schools in the Windsor area through fundraising events, hosting competitions for the student athletes, and raising awareness about Special Olympics in the schools, through presentations and having current SOO athletes go into the schools for speaking engagements. The schools in the Windsor area will also participate in our Adopt An Athlete program; schools will have the opportunity to “adopt” athletes competing at the summer Games and raise funds for the Games. As a lead up to the 2008 Durham Spring Games, over 600 student athletes from across Durham were invited to attend the Healthy Athlete Expo at Durham College, this program worked so well that we will also be hosting a Healthy Athlete program at the Windsor Games, and once again student-athletes from the Windsor area will be invited to attend, allowing them to access health care and learn more about Special Olympics Ontario.

## MARKETING AND FUNDRAISING

### TRUCK CONVOY

With over \$60,000 raised in support of the Law Enforcement Torch and Special Olympics Ontario we are proud to announce that this year's Convoy is scheduled for **Saturday, September 20, 2008** at the Paris Fairgrounds in Paris, Ontario. Truckers converge at the Paris Fairgrounds where they will begin their truck convoy throughout southwestern Ontario and end back at the fairground. The World's Largest Truck Convoy is a one-day celebration that helps raise money for Special Olympics. Truck enthusiasts unite behind a meaningful cause and to help spread the message of providing individuals with an intellectual disability sport training and competition year-round. The event day is a fun-filled day with performers and family entertainment so please come out and support! [www.sosoconvoy.com](http://www.sosoconvoy.com)

### BEAVER VALLEY 180 BIKE RIDE

The Beaver Valley 180 Bike Ride takes place **Friday, October 10th, 2008** beginning in Oakville, ON. The ride will move over 180 km throughout Southwestern Ontario and will touch many of the grass root supporters of the Special Olympics movement. The essence of the ride, “Athletes helping Athletes” will afford people with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to achieve their goals of competing in athletics. This year Special Olympics Ontario has been selected as the beneficiary.

The ride begins in Oakville at 7:00 am on Friday, October 10th from the Dearcroft Montessori School, Oakville and travel through the communities of Burlington, Waterdown, Carlisle, Fergus, Flesherton and finish at the Beaver Valley ski club. Police will escort riders to provide for their security and safety. For more information please visit the Beaver Valley 180 website [www.beavervalley180.org](http://www.beavervalley180.org) or email [bv180@beavervalley180.org](mailto:bv180@beavervalley180.org)

### OHL Big Ticket

With the upcoming 2008-09 OHL season upon us, the Law Enforcement Torch Run and the OHL are proud to continue their partnership that will bring together OHL teams and local Law Enforcement Agencies in a community effort that will raise funds and awareness for the 2009 Special Olympics Provincial Summer Games in Windsor. A portion of the funds raised will be returned to the local community. In addition to a highly credible event night, the Ontario Hockey League will be recognized as a Major Sponsor of the 2009 Special Olympics Provincial Summer Games in Windsor. For a schedule of game dates, please visit the Torch Run website: [www.ontario.torchrun.org](http://www.ontario.torchrun.org)

### TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS 50/50

With the success of the Toronto Maple Leafs 50/50 Draw from last season, SOO was fortunate to have been selected as one of two charities to benefit from the 2008/09 season. SOO is currently taking part in a series of 50/50 draws during selected home games. All game dates have been scheduled and will be underway as the season begins. We would like to thank all the volunteers and athletes from various communities across the Province for taking time from their busy schedules to sell 50/50 tickets with a portion of the proceeds generated directly supporting the local community/program.

## SOO "BE A FAN" MAGNETS

If you are a fan of sports that create unity and athletes who inspire, then you are a fan of Special Olympics.

If you respect determination and admire being brave in the attempt, you are a fan of Special Olympics

If you believe in dignity, acceptance and the human race, then you are already a fan of Special Olympics.

Everyone can be a fan of Special Olympics. Special Olympics is here to help you turn your interest into involvement.

Sport is a universal language that which unites people from all walks of life - on and off the field of competition. Through the power of sport, Special Olympics transforms the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and also fosters a community of acceptance and inclusion....all while having fun.

Compete, foster acceptance, build unity, coach an athlete, make a friend, encourage empowerment, donate time or money, commit to better the human race. These are all ways to be a fan.

Over the next year watch for our PSA (Public Service Announcements) and other information. Across, Canada and throughout North America Special Olympics will be using the BE A FAN theme. Feel free to contact the provincial office if you wish to use the logo and or require a copy of the PSA.

Special Olympics Ontario is proud to offer a new and exciting fundraising initiative, Special Olympics Ontario "Be a fan" Magnets. The fundraiser involves the selling of Be a fan Magnets. These magnets were customized for Special Olympics Ontario and can be used on automobiles (recommended for rear of auto only on a flat surface) or other metallic surfaces. Interested clubs or communities are invited to place an order for the Be a fan magnets from the Provincial Office. Participating communities can sell the magnets at a predetermined price. Magnets are available at a cost of \$0.55 each, (6" x 4") which includes taxes and shipping & handling.



The goal of the Be a Fan Magnet fundraiser is 2-fold:

1. Help create awareness for Special Olympics Ontario and the "Be a fan" Campaign currently ongoing through public services announcements on cable television.
2. Great fundraising opportunity for clubs or communities.

The Be a Fan campaign sends a powerful message that resonates with the general public, tapping into core values and attributes that everyone can appreciate – unity, acceptance, empowerment, dignity, courage, strength, pride, confidence and fun. The campaign will help connect people who are not already associated with the Special Olympics movement and introduce them to athletes, helping the public to realize "if you are a fan of sports that create unity, athletes who inspire, and connections that foster acceptance, then you are already a fan of Special Olympics." For more information about the Be a fan Campaign, please visit the Special Olympics International website.

For more information or to place an order, please contact Michael Chung at [michaelc@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:michaelc@specialolympicsontario.com)

## GAMING & LICENSING

Gaming and licensing (raffles, bingo's 50-50's) continues to be an on-going lucrative fundraiser for many communities across Ontario. Regulations and guidelines for gaming and licensing are governed by the Alcohol & Gaming Commission of Ontario, in conjunction with independent By-Laws written and operated by Cities and Municipalities across the province. When applying for a license for a raffle or to conduct a Bingo, it is important to remember that **your application MUST be signed by 2 directors of Special Olympics Ontario's Provincial Office**. Your application should be mailed or sent via courier to the Provincial Office and will be signed and returned to you in a timely fashion. Your application can take up to 10 business days to be processed by your local municipality. A variety of resources are now available on Special Olympics Ontario's web site to assist you with this process, i.e. application form, report form, a completed sample application form as well as the AGCO's guidelines. Should you require further assistance or have any questions or concerns, please contact a marketing team member at the Provincial Office they will be able to assist you with your enquiry.

## **STAPLES BUSINESS DEPOT – “GIVE A DOLLAR. SHARE A DREAM.”**

Beginning in November, STAPLES Business Depot will begin its ninth year hosting the “Give a Dollar. Share a Dream” fundraising campaign. As in the past, Special Olympics Ontario is asking local programs to participate in the campaign at STAPLES Business Depot store locations in their communities. Your participation will help to thank and motivate STAPLES customers to “Give A Dollar”.

In planning to support all stores in Ontario, we would like to suggest that store managers be contacted in October. SOO has budgeted \$250.00 per store to a maximum of \$3500 per community. Additionally if a store location and community program decide to organize a “special event” BBQ etc. 100% of the funds will be returned to the club/community. We are requesting that a photo, indicating the store location be sent to [paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com) to verify the visit.

The “Give A Dollar, Share Dream” promotion will run from November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at all participating STAPLES stores.

## **JOIN JYSK AND “BE A FAN” OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

Special Olympics Canada was pleased to partner with JYSK Canada on the inaugural “Be a Fan: Donate, Coach, Compete” campaign that ran from July 2 to 31, 2008 at the leading home furnishing retailer’s 36 locations across Canada.

JYSK customers were asked to donate to Special Olympics either in-store, or online at [www.jysk.ca](http://www.jysk.ca). All funds collected through the “Be a Fan” campaign supports local Special Olympics programs.

The athletes assisted in store staff and many stores held barbecues and other events that helped raise additional funds. Overall it was a great success.

The Ontario JYSK “Be a Fan” campaign raised over \$17,000.00. The JYSK “Be A Fan” National campaign raised over \$57,000.00.

## **THE BAY - “THE GIVING DAY” PROMOTION**

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS CLUBS/COMMUNITIES

SHOP ... SAVE ... EARN \$\$\$\$

Are you looking for an easy way to raise money for your club/community? The Bay is offering “The Giving Day” – a one day exclusive shopping event designed to help non-profit organizations raise much needed funds.

The concept is simple – The Giving Day will be held on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at Bay stores across Canada. Anyone with a ticket to The Giving Day will receive 15% off almost all items in the store! In addition, ticket holder will be treated to special entertainment, and will be automatically entered for a chance to win a \$2,500 pre-holiday makeover or one of five \$100 Hbc gift cards.

Clubs/Communities can order tickets for The Giving Day, FREE OF CHARGE, until October 10<sup>th</sup>. You can then sell these tickets to your family, friends, partners and supporters for \$5.00. Your club/community gets to keep 100% of each ticket sold. It’s that easy!

To order your tickets or for more information, like frequently asked questions, visit [www.thebay.com/givingday](http://www.thebay.com/givingday) or toll free at 1-888-772-7297 and speak with a customer service representative.

You will be asked to return a Sales Tracking Form and any unsold tickets to the Hbc Rewards desk at your local Bay store or the Hbc Foundation no later than Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Tracking Forms should be ordered at the same time as your tickets. Should they require proof of non-profit status, please let us know and we will arrange for the appropriate documentation to be forwarded to them.

For further information, please contact Pauline Carey at (416) 447-8326 Ext. 221 or toll free at 1-888-333-5515 Ext. 221 or via e-mail at: [paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com).

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS – 40 YEARS STRONG

Special Olympics in Canada will be celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009. There are a number of special events and activities in the works. More information will follow. Special Olympics Ontario has a limited quantity of labels that can be adhered to correspondence or other communications. Contact Pauline Carey if interested. [paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com)



## NOVEMBER IS SPECIAL OLYMPICS MONTH

The month of November has been designated as Special Olympics month across Canada. A number of events and promotions will take place; including STAPLES Give A Dollar Share A Dream and Special Olympics Day on TSN. Watch for more information.



***Special Olympics***  
*Canada*

# VOLUNTEER SERVICES AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

## YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

Special Olympics Canada continues to partner with Toyota Canada to present longstanding volunteers with their Years of Service Awards. The "Toyota Volunteer Recognition Program" sees our members receiving pins for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service. Twenty-year volunteers will also receive an Esquire wristwatch. Twenty-Five year recipients receive the traditional gift.

If you have any questions regarding Years of Service recipients in your community, please contact your District Developer. Years of Service Appeal Forms are available if anyone feels there has been a discrepancy in the number of years they have been involved in the organization.

### **Congratulations to the 25 year recipients for 2008:**

<b>June Ebbers</b>	<b>Dundas Alley Cats</b>
<b>John Raikes</b>	<b>Ottawa Gladiators</b>
<b>Debbie Rogers</b>	<b>Ottawa Sharpshooters</b>
<b>Lori Rodger</b>	<b>Atikokan Powerlifting Club</b>

## FAMILY NETWORK

The Family Network continues to develop into a dynamic body to help support families of new and existing Special Olympics athletes. While the list of regional contacts has grown, it would be desirable to have contacts in each community. The role of a Family Contact is as follows:

- Talk to the new families and offer advice and assistance on what it is like to have a family member in Special Olympics.
- Commit to the family support network for at least 2 years, and provide support for several hours per month.
- Make a connection with at least 10 families per year who are new to Special Olympics.
- Be a communication link to other families in your area.

The Family Network has dedicated space on the SOO website, including the current list of contacts and other resources including support documents and the newsletter. Check it out under the "Family and Friends" link from the homepage.

Family Network representatives will be on hand at the upcoming Healthy Athletes Expo, and will be busy interacting with family and other athlete support persons. If you are interested in getting involved or have any questions or concerns, please contact [families@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:families@specialolympicsontario.com) or 1-888-333-5515 x. 237.

# COMMUNITY OPERATIONS

## DATABASE

Special Olympics Ontario is pleased to introduce its volunteers to the use of the "new" database! In development for several years, this tool will now bring some of the registration right into the communities, so that Community Coordinators, Volunteer Coordinators, Registrars, Club Managers and/or Head Coaches can better manage their membership. These representatives can add or remove existing athletes and volunteers to their programs, update contact information, and print club rosters. New clubs, volunteers and athletes will continue to be processed through the Provincial Office. Farkhanda Shahid, the Membership Administrator looks forward to working with representatives in the community in this regard.

Since the new database is up and running, several community representatives from across the region are being trained on the database, to give SOO a sense of what would be required to implement training for all communities, and receive feedback on use of the database. At this point, District Developers will continue with the database training, with a goal of allowing each community the opportunity to use this tool. Meanwhile, Community Coordinators, registrars, and Head Coaches can continue to request pdf versions of the club verification reports from the District Developers, and work with the DDs to update their clubs.

**Section:** SPORT  
**Topic:** Regional Competitions  
**Effective Date:** July 24, 2008

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7000-08

Regional Competitions are open to all athletes within the Region training in the sport to be contested. Each Region is required to have a **minimum** of one competition per sport per year in which there are **two** or more active clubs of similar ability levels. If a region does not have 2 or more sport clubs of equitable abilities, then the Region and the club's Head Coach shall ensure that the athletes attend a Regional Competition in another Region.

Athletes are selected for Provincial Games from Regional Qualifying Competitions the year prior to the Games. During qualifying years, a seeding round must occur either on or before the regional competition (within 30 days prior to the regional). The team roster must remain the same for both the seeding round and the regional competition. Teams must attend both the seeding round and the regional to be eligible for selection to Provincial Games.

Due to the Provincial Office mandate to host at least one Regional Competition per sport per year, SOO will cover any reasonable shortfall of funds. The Competition Host must submit a budget to the Provincial Office two months prior for approval and submit actual figures once the competition is complete. SOO will not cover any shortfall over and above the original budget's deficit.

#### Hosting a Regional Competition

The Region shall host a Regional Coaches Meeting in the spring and fall prior to the sport season, for all Head Coaches in that season's sports. A schedule for the upcoming season will be set and a Regional Competition Host shall be determined from among the Head Coaches. Competitions are hosted by a Sport Club (Head Coach), under the guidance of the Regional Competition Manager who is responsible for ensuring that the organization and quality of the competition meets the standards of Special Olympics Ontario.

Every club shall receive registration information for the Regional Competition, including athletic clubs which train in those sports. Every registered athlete must be given the opportunity to participate in the annual Regional Competition, regardless of age or ability.

It is strongly recommended that all Regional Competitions are held in the final month of the season to allow athletes ample training time. Regional Competitions must use trained/qualified officials. All officials need to be certified by the sport governing body. All minor officials must be trained. Refer to the sport club manual and competition host manual for a list of officials needed for competition.

#### Athletes Absent from Regional Qualifying Competition

Athletes who are unable to attend the regional qualifying competition are ineligible to advance to Provincial Games. Athletes will have the opportunity to appeal by submitting an appeal application to the Provincial Standing Appeals Committee. The decision of the Appeals Committee will be final and no further appeals will be considered.

## Sport Technical

Regional Competitions shall be conducted in accordance with the official rules as established by SOO, and shall utilize the Divisioning process. The Region shall include all official SOO events within a sport and offer competitive ADAPT Sports events at the Regional Competition.

During qualifying years for Provincial Games, the Region shall submit the official results (game sheets/heat sheet format/generic sport result forms) from the Regional Qualifying Competition, to the Provincial office within one month of the event.

In order to be eligible to advance to a Provincial Games each athlete must meet the following criteria:

i) Athlete Registration

Each athlete must submit a completed Special Olympics Ontario athlete registration form.

ii) Age

The athlete must be 10 years of age or older as of the first day of competition.

iii) Club Registration

Each athlete must be registered with an accredited Special Olympics Ontario sport/athletic club in the specific sport he/she is competing in.

iv) Regional Competition

The athlete must participate in a Regional Qualifying Competition (exception, please see Two Player Pickup in policy 7000-18).

v) Training Time

The athlete must train within the sport for a minimum of 30 hours and three (3) months prior to the Regional Qualifying Competition, as well as the Provincial Games. To verify athlete eligibility, each athlete must appear on a Special Olympics Ontario athlete eligibility list by the Provincial Games Eligibility Deadline, which is December 1<sup>st</sup> for winter sports, by March 15<sup>th</sup> for spring sports and June 1<sup>st</sup> for summer sports.

Immediately following the Athlete Registration Deadline prior to the Regional Qualifying Competition and Provincial Games, a print out identifying all athletes registered in that sport within each region will be distributed to the Regional Competition Management Team (RCMT). Athletes' names must appear on this list in order to be eligible to advance and participate in the Provincial Games.

Athletes not registered within the 3 month deadline and whose names do not appear on the eligibility list are prohibited from participating in Provincial Games. RCMT representatives and club coaches are directed to consult the Athlete Eligibility lists during the Athlete Selection Process to confirm that athletes are eligible prior to informing athletes that they will be attending the Provincial Games.

A coach or administrative volunteer who informs an athlete that he/she will be attending a Provincial Games prior to consulting the Athlete Eligibility list will assume responsibility for that action.

5-Pin and 10-Pin Bowling

For 5-pin and 10-pin bowling, the athlete must have bowled the minimum of games (see S.O.O. rulebook) to be eligible for advancement to Provincial Games. The minimum number of games must be bowled prior to the attending regional qualifying competitions.

vi) Athlete Profile

The athlete must have an Athlete Profile completed.

vii) Down Syndrome Athletes

Athletes who have Down Syndrome and have not had an x-ray or neurological examination for Atlanto-axial instability are ineligible from participating in the sports/events of: butterfly stroke and diving starts in swimming, pentathlon, high jump, powerlifting, basketball, soccer, and alpine skiing. Those athletes who have tested positive in the above examinations are also ineligible in the preceding sports/events, unless the examining physician has notified the athlete's parents or guardians of the nature and extent of the individual's condition and, such athlete shall be allowed to participate in the activities listed only if the athlete submits written certification from two physicians combined with an acknowledgement of risks and signed by the adult athlete or his/her parent or guardian if the athlete is a minor.

viii) Athlete's Village

All athletes attending Provincial Games must stay in the designated Athlete's Village.

ix) Use of Support Workers for Provincial Games

Athletes who require a support worker for the purpose of medical reasons may submit a request to the provincial office three months prior to the Provincial Games. The provincial office has the authority to approve the use of support workers. Support workers will not be approved for reasons of behaviour, self care skills or social adaptations.

Athletes must be independent and able to function independently within the stated ratio. If the athlete cannot meet the criteria, that athlete is ineligible for endorsement for Provincial Games.

x) Athlete Code of Conduct

Athlete must be a member in good standing within their sport club and community. He/ she must be willing to adhere to the Athlete Code of Conduct and Athlete Rights and Responsibilities.



**Special Olympics Ontario**  
**18 Wynford Drive**  
**Suite #300**  
**Toronto, Ontario**  
**M3C 3S2**

**Phone: (416) 447-8326**

**Fax: (416) 447-6336**

[www.specialolympicsontario.com](http://www.specialolympicsontario.com)

<b>PROVINCIAL OFFICE</b>			
<b>NAME:</b>	<b>POSITION:</b>	<b>EXT.</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Ashe, Linda	Director of Organizational Development	V/Mail 237 239 - Office	<a href="mailto:lindaa@specialolympicsontario.com">lindaa@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Boumeester, Diane	Ontario Hometown Games Advisor	V/Mail 264	<a href="mailto:dianeb@specialolympicsontario.com">dianeb@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Carey, Pauline	Internal Communications Officer	0/221	<a href="mailto:paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com">paulinec@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Chung, Michael	Co-ordinator Special Events & Promotions	233	<a href="mailto:michaelc@specialolympicsontario.com">michaelc@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
E, Willie	Manager, Accounting & H.R. Services	223	<a href="mailto:williee@specialolympicsontario.com">williee@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Garrard, Basil		222	<a href="mailto:basilg@specialolympicsontario.com">basilg@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Goosen, Jennifer	Manager, Program Services	235	<a href="mailto:jenniferg@specialolympicsontario.com">jenniferg@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Iggulden, Eleonora	Donations Assistant	229	<a href="mailto:eleonorai@specialolympicsontario.com">eleonorai@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Kiriakis, Danielle	Special Projects Administrator	230	<a href="mailto:daniellek@specialolympicsontario.com">daniellek@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
MacDonell, Glenn	President & CEO	225	<a href="mailto:glennm@specialolympicsontario.com">glennm@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Miller, Lynn	Manager, Marketing Services	226	<a href="mailto:lynnm@specialolympicsontario.com">lynnm@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Mole, Gail (p/time)	Administrative Services Assistant	224	<a href="mailto:gailm@specialolympicsontario.com">gailm@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Noronha, James	Manager of Field Services	tbd	<a href="mailto:jamesn@specialolympicsontario.com">jamesn@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Rozario, Shyamol	Accounting Assistant	254	<a href="mailto:shyamolr@specialolympicsontario.com">shyamolr@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Shahid, Farkhanda	Membership Administrator	241	<a href="mailto:farkhandas@specialolympicsontario.com">farkhandas@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Doug Shirton	Chief Sport Services Officer	234	<a href="mailto:dougs@specialolympicsontario.com">dougs@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Vigeant, Allison	Chief School Services Officer	255	<a href="mailto:allisonv@specialolympicsontario.com">allisonv@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
<b>Field Staff</b>			
Jennifer Klaus	Region 1 & 2	V/Mail 244	<a href="mailto:region1and2@specialolympicsontario.com">region1and2@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Jeannie Skeggs	Region 3 & 5	V/Mail 262	<a href="mailto:region3and5@specialolympicsontario.com">region3and5@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Juli Prokopchuk Brattan	Region 4 & 6	V/Mail 246	<a href="mailto:region4and6@specialolympicsontario.com">region4and6@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Kathi Jones	Region 7 & 12	V/Mail 248	<a href="mailto:region7and12@specialolympicsontario.com">region7and12@specialolympicsontario.com</a>
Vacant	Northern Ontario Volunteer Developer – Regions 8, 9 & 10	V/Mail 250	
Vacant	Program Officer – Toronto	228	
Dia Sue-Wah-Sing	Toronto Sport & Competitions Developer	232	<a href="mailto:dias@specialolympicsontario.com">dias@specialolympicsontario.com</a>

Phone e-mail

Registered Charitable # 11906 8435 RR0001

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