



Participating in Olathe Special Olympics

- 1) Sports offered:
 - a. Winter: Skiing, Basketball
 - b. Spring: Track, Tennis, Soccer, Fishing, Bocce
 - c. Summer: Aquatics, Bowling
 - d. Fall: Golf, Softball, Cornhole

- 2) Overview of Sport Format
 - a. Each sport has 6-8 practices.
 - b. Team sports such as basketball, softball, soccer, volleyball will have a skills assessment that is essential to attend. We review key skills and assess the athletes on a numerical scale set by Special Olympics to place athletes on teams. Other factors on team placement include age and coach ability.
 - c. Each sport has a metro tournament against teams in the metro area and a state tournament against teams in in Kansas.
 - d. Metro tournaments are at no additional cost once registered for the sport.
 - e. State tournaments require an additional registration with a fee.
 - a. Some state tournaments have multiple sports associated with it; registration is the same whether they do one sport or more.
 - b. State Tournament Locations:
 - Skiing/Snowshoe (i.e. Winter Games): Weston, MO
 - Basketball, Tennis, Track, Cycling, Softball, Golf: Maize, KS
 - Swimming: Topeka, KS
 - Bowling, Soccer: Olathe, KS
 - Volleyball: Kansas City, KS

- 3) Transportation:
 - a. Sport registration with transportation includes transportation from home to practices and back but does not include transportation to tournaments.
 - b. Athletes must reside in Olathe to have transportation to and from practices.
 - c. Those who have practice with transportation must notify offices if going to miss practice or not need a ride for one night. Failure to notify offices can lead to termination of bus privileges.
 - d. There is no support staff on bus.
 - e. Transportation to and from tournaments is available for most sports but meet from a designated location such as Olathe Community Center and does require an additional registration.

- 4) Sport Registration
 - a. Registrations are taken via Olathe Parks and Recreation
 - b. Fee must be paid at time of registration. Each sport has a nominal fee that is the fee per season. There is no prorating of fees if starting late, ending early, or for missed practices including those for inclement weather.
 - c. Scholarships can be applied for via Olathe Parks and Recreation.
 - d. Current Medical Release/Physical must be on file with Olathe Parks and Recreation before
 - e. Watch registration deadlines: deadlines are generally one week prior to start of sport.

- 5) Code of Conduct: Athletes follow the code of conduct set forth by Special Olympics Kansas and can be found at SOKS.org.

- 6) Uniforms & Warm-ups: a. Athletes will one receive a uniform, shirt and shorts, at a minimal cost. If uniform is lost or a new size is needed, one may be purchased at cost.

Getting Started with Olathe Special Olympics:

1. Complete the athlete new enrollment kit and Special Olympics Medical Release/Physical available at soks.org/get-involved/athletes/. Email eapreston@olatheks.org for more information.
2. Register for your sport via Olathe Parks and Recreation. Deadlines usually one week prior to sport start.
 - a. Call 913-971-8563
 - b. Online: OlatheKS.gov/ParksRec