



SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46 SPECIAL OLYMPICS



SPECIAL OLYMPICS INFORMATION SHEET

Special Olympics is the largest sport organizations for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics serves over 3 million athletes in over 175 countries. District U46 is the proud home of our own Special Olympics team the "U-46 Bluestars". The Bluestars team is for athlete's ages 8-22 years of age.

Important information to note:

1. All athletes must have original doctor signed medical application on file. Med forms are good for 2 years. Special Olympics requires this form and without it athletes can not attend practice or games. **Deadline for forms is first day of practice.**
2. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from all practices and games. Coaches do not transport athletes.
3. Bluestars follow U-46 policy regarding participation in after school activities if the student is involved in disciplinary actions at school, and follow closings for weather related district cancellations.

SPORTS WE OFFER:

Basketball: Last year we had 3 basketball teams, 2 high school level teams and 1 junior level team (elementary and middle school ages). Practices are held on Thursdays at Gifford Street Gym (355 E Chicago St, Elgin) from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. Practices start approximately the last week in October and run until mid- January. All teams play 3 practice games (times and locations to be determined). Athletes are issued basketball uniform for the season but it must be returned at the end of the season or you will pay a fee. State games are mid-March if we qualify.

Track and Field: Athletes train and compete individually in running and throwing events. Practices are also at Gifford Street gym. All students practice from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. New athletes receive their very own Bluestars shirt! Practices start in February and run until April with Spring Games in Naperville. Athletes who win Gold at Spring Games qualify for Summer Games in June.

Bowling: Bowling is for middle school athletes and older. Practices start in April and run through May at Bowlway Lanes in Elgin. Practices are Wednesdays from 4:00pm to 5:00pm. Regional games are usually the first week in June. There is a small fee for bowling to cover lane costs.

Swimming: We will try to have a team again this year. It will depend on pool availability. If we are able to offer swimming, returning swimmers will keep their spots. I am seeing how many lanes I can get! VERY small to make it work. Swimming will be offered to ages 8-22 BUT your student **MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM ONE LAP**, in the pool and be able to put their face underwater. We are sorry, but we cannot get this program running with those learning to swim at this time. We are still working on lifeguards and times but please let Coach Lindsey know if your student would be interested in trying out. We will have to limit our team to no more than 8 athletes at this time. Swimming would be January through March.

A registration form and medical application is provided. If interested, please complete both and return them to your child's teacher to be forwarded to Lindsey Reynolds at Huff School **by September 20th**. Because we need the original doctor signed medical form (no copies or faxes) please send registration form in by deadline and, if needed, bring medical form to first practice. This will allow us to get a more accurate count of athletes (especially for basketball). I must have medical form by the start of practice.

We try to email deadlines, reminders and information to parents if an email address is provided. Having your email is **EXTREMELY HELPFUL!**

For additional information or questions please feel free to email Coach Lindsey at lindseyreynolds@u-46.org

RETURN BY SEPTEMBER 20th!!!!!!!!!!!!