



January 6, 2017

Attention Special Olympics Georgia Programs,

At the 2017 Special Olympics Georgia State Summer Games, taking place on May 19-21 at Emory University in Atlanta, GA, the Athletics venue (Track & Field) will be modified due to repairs being made to the track. The repairs being made will not be completed until after the Summer Games dates. Therefore, we are cancelling all Athletics events except for the following listed below:

- Long Distance Running & Walking – 1 mile walk, 1 mile run, 3K Walk, 3K Run, 3K Unified Walk, 3K Unified Run, 5K Walk, 5K Run, 5K Unified Walk and 5K Unified Run.
- Shot Put
- Turbo Jav.
- Softball Throw (Level A)
- Tennis Ball Throw (Level A)
- 10 Meter Walk (Level A)
- 25 Meter Walk (Level A)
- 50 Meter Walk (Level A)

Agencies will have the option to register their athletes in one walking or running event, as well as a throw, for a maximum of two events. Examples – if an athlete is registered for the 1 Mile Run, their second event could be either the Shot Put or Turbo Jav. If an athlete is registered for a Level A Walking event, their second event could be either the Softball Throw or Tennis Ball Throw. Unified Partners are only eligible to compete in the Unified Walking or Running Event, not the Shot Put or Turbo Jav. The location for the modified Athletics venue for 2017 will be at Kaminsky Field on Emory University's campus, the same location as Flag Football and Soccer. It will begin on Saturday, May 20th at 8 a.m. After the conclusion of all Athletics events, Flag Football and Soccer competitions will begin.

While Special Olympics Georgia understands the disappointment agencies will have concerning this modified schedule, this can give athletes an opportunity to train and compete in a different Summer Games event that they haven't competed in before! We encourage agencies to work on and train their Athletics athletes whose event(s) are not being offered in 2017, in a new sport so that they can still come and enjoy the Summer Games weekend! The other sports you can choose from are: Aquatics, Flag Football, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Soccer, Table Tennis, Tennis and Volleyball.

If you have any questions concerning the 2017 State Summer Games modified Athletics venue, please contact Games Director David Crawford at david.crawford@specialolympicsga.org or 229.292.5143.