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## Competition Promotes Inclusion at the Special Olympics Georgia State Indoor Winter Games and Southeast Powerlifting Competition

(Atlanta, January 8, 2018) – Special Olympics Georgia is proud to present the 2018 State Indoor Winter Games and Southeast Powerlifting Competition, held through Sunday, January 14 at various locations across Cobb and Bartow Counties.

Athletes from Georgia will come together for some friendly competition in basketball, bowling, floor hockey, gymnastics and powerlifting. The organization's athletes participating in powerlifting will then be joined by athletes from Special Olympics Alabama, Special Olympics Florida, Special Olympics North Carolina, and Special Olympics South Carolina to compete in a variety of powerlifting events.

"It is important to our organization to provide an arena where Special Olympics athletes, not only from Georgia, but from all states competing can experience the thrill of athletic competition and achieving their lifelong dreams, all while feeling and knowing they are part of a community that supports and encourages them," commented Georgia Milton-Sheats, CEO of Special Olympics Georgia.

The Games' Opening Ceremony will take place on Friday, Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Cobb County Civic Center. Area radio personality Moby will return as the Master of Ceremonies, while the Grand Marshal will be Jill jameson, Director of Volleyball Operations at Georgia Tech.

Competitions will take place throughout day on Friday and Saturday at various locations. Should any events be postponed or delayed, competition will take place on Sunday. The venues include: Cobb Gymnastics Center (gymnastics), Salvation Army (floor hockey), Lakepoint Sports Complex (traditional team basketball, unified team basketball, 3-on-3 basketball, basketball team skills), Fair Oaks Community Center (basketball individual skills), Brunswick Zone Austell and Bowlero Marietta (bowling) and Cobb County Civic Center (powerlifting).

(Editor's note: Media can contact Meghan Daves at (864) 680-7670 for assistance during State Indoor Winter Games.)

## **About Special Olympics Georgia**

SOGA provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for 27,115 children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendships with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.specialolympicsga.org">www.specialolympicsga.org</a>.