

# **2025 STATE SUMMER GAMES**



CLICK HERE TO WITNESS ALL THE FUN FROM THE 2025 #SOGASUMMERGAMES!







### **SAVE THE DATES**

# 2025 EVENTS & STATE GAMES

3/07 MEDFEST

5/16-18 STATE SUMMER GAMES

8/22 CLAY SHOOT FOR CHAMPIONS

9/17 DUCK PLUCK

10/17-18 STATE FALL GAMES

11/10 BOB BUSSE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Special Olympics
Georgia

## **COPS ON DONUT SHOPS**



Enjoy a sweet treat while supporting SOGA athletes!!!

Stop by your local Dunkin' Donuts on #NationalDonutDay, Friday, June 6th

from 6am-10am, to join in on the fun! Thank you to our

LETR officers and #GuardiansOfTheFlame! Click here to donate!

# **2025 STATE FALL GAMES**

October 17-18 - Valdosta, GA

Mission of Special Olympics Georgia
To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for 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 friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community

#### Sport/Activity & Location:

- Bocce Team Competition Freedom Park
- Golf Individual & Team Hole Play Quiet Pines at Moody AFB
- Softball Skills Freedom Park
- Softball Team Play Freedom Park
- Cycling Freedom Park
- Healthy Athletes Freedom Park
- Olympic Town Freedom Park
- Opening Ceremony Freedom Park

Opening Ceremony/Dance 7:30-9:30 pm, Friday, October 17th Location: Freedom Park

Who: 1200 Athletes, Coaches and Unified Partners - 500 Volunteers

For more info:

-Events

Santiago Arias , (770) 414-9390 ext. 1108 Santiago.Arias@specialolympicsga.org

-Become a Sponsor

Hadley Shore , (770) 414-9390 ext. 1105

Hadley.Shore@specialolympicsga.org

-To Volunteer Click <u>here</u>to sign up Leksi Whatley (770) 414-9390 Leksi.Whatley@specialolympicsga.org

THANK YOU TO OUR STACKIDE SPONSORS





# ADOPT A DUCK TO SUPPORT AN ATHLETE



### THANK YOU SUMMER GAMES SPONSORS





















Always Designing for People®

























Booz | Allen | Hamilton

Johnson&Johnson Innovative Medicine















Rivers Energy



**Dunn-Harris Healthcare Services** 







**Enterprise Mobility Foundation** 

Pet Suites of America

Georgia Power

Kauffman Foundation, Inc. Bennett Thrasher Foundation The Solstice Foundation

## **HEALTHY ATHLETES**



Special Olympics Georgia wants to bring Healthy Athletes to you!

If you would like to host Healthy Athletes screenings at your local competition, please contact Leksi Whatley, leksi.whatley@specialolympicsga.org

### **CLINICAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **Become a Clinical Director** for Health Promotion



#### What is Health Promotion?

Our Health Promotion discipline uses fun, interactive educational tools, motivational literature, and screenings to teach athletes about:

- Nutrition & bone health
- Physical activity
- Sun safety & hygiene

- Blood pressure & BMI
- Tobacco avoidance

We Need Certified Healthcare Professionals. SOGA is recruiting Clinical Directors with expertise in:

- Public health
- Nursing
- Health education
- Nutrition
- Other wellness-related fields

#### Why Join?

- · Make a lasting impact on the lives of Special Olympics athletes
- · Engage with a vibrant, passionate global network
- · Gain leadership experience and volunteer hours
- Be inspired by those you serve

#### As a Clinical Director, you will:

- · Lead and manage health screening events
- · Train and supervise volunteers
- Help shape health education initiatives
- Represent your profession in a global movement for inclusion

#### Contact us for more information:

- Leksi.Whatley@specialolympicsga.org
- 770-404-9390 ext. 1111
- https://www.specialolympicsga.org/



## **2025 SHOOT FOR CHAMPIONS**



### THE 30TH ANNUAL BOB BUSSE MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC



### **ATHLETE OF THE MONTH**

Deante is a natural leader who assists his classmates in warmup drills, exercises, and equipment management. Deante always has a positive attitude and models excellent behavior to his classmates. Before joining Special Olympics, Deante only followed basketball, but has grown to enjoy other sports and activities.

Soccer, bowling, track, and volleyball have grown in interest with Deante. Yoga is not a preferred activity for Deante, but he says that he always does his best, "because that's what Coach has planned for the day." Deante plans to continue with Special Olympics into his adult life through participation or volunteering.



DEANTE

#### **VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**



We are proud to recognize Ms. Elease Turner as our Volunteer of the Month! With over 16 years of dedicated service, Ms. Turner has been a cornerstone of our volunteer community. Her unwavering commitment has made a lasting impact—not only through her personal contributions, but also by expanding our reach. Ms. Turner played a pivotal role in bringing an entire agency on board, along with four passionate individuals who continue to uplift our mission of including others. Since retired, Ms. Turner continues to support SOGA by volunteering at the State Summer Games.

Her enthusiastic support of our Summer Games has been instrumental in creating memorable experiences for athletes and participants alike. Ms. Turner's passion, leadership, and generosity truly exemplify the spirit of volunteerism. We are deeply grateful for her many years of service and the incredible legacy she continues to build. Thank you, Ms. Turner!

### **SPONSORSHIP SPOTLIGHT**



SPECIAL OLYMPICS GEORGIA IS PROUD TO HIGHLIGHT YARDI SYSTEMS, INC. IN THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION TO PROVIDE YEAR-ROUND SPORTS TRAINING AND COMPETITION FOR ATHLETES WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES. YARDI HAS BEEN A DEDICATED PARTNER ACROSS MULTIPLE STATE EVENTS, INCLUDING THE FALL, SUMMER, AND WINTER GAMES. THEIR IMPACT IS FELT NOT ONLY THROUGH SPONSORSHIP BUT ALSO THROUGH THE ENTHUSIASTIC INVOLVEMENT OF THEIR EMPLOYEES, WHO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME TO HELP BRING OUR EVENTS TO LIFE.

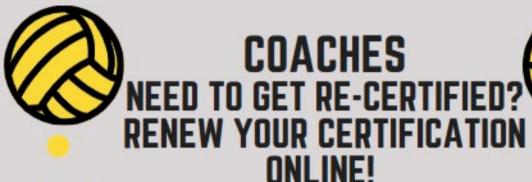
FROM SETTING UP VENUES TO CELEBRATING VICTORIES ALONGSIDE OUR ATHLETES, THE YARDI TEAM BRINGS ENERGY, COMPASSION, AND A DEEP COMMITMENT TO INCLUSION. THEIR PRESENCE AT OUR GAMES EMBODIES THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AND DEMONSTRATES WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A TRUE CHAMPION FOR OUR ATHLETES.

THANK YOU, YARDI SYSTEMS, INC., FOR STANDING WITH US AND HELPING TO MAKE EVERY MOMENT COUNT FOR OUR ATHLETES. WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!



https://www.yardi.com/

# CALLING COACHES AND UNIFIED PARTNERS





https://www.specialolympicsga.or g/become-an-athlete/coach/



ANY QUESTIONS EMAIL
LIZ.SMITH@SPECIALOLYMPICSGA.ORG

# CALLING ALL UNIFIED PARTNERS

Unified partners train and compete on the same team comprised of athletes with and without intellectual disabilities.

COME BE A PART OF INCLUSION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF A SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEAM PLEASE CONTACT US!

LIZ.SMITH@SPECIALOLYMPICSGA.ORG



### **SOGA PROMOTIONALS**



Thinking of selling or trading in that old car, boat or RV? Donate it instead! SOGA has partnered with CARS to turn your old vehicle, whether it's running or not, into much needed funds for our programs. CARS accepts most cars, trucks, trailers, boats, RV's, motorcycles, off road vehicles, heavy equipment, and most other motorized vehicles. CARS will make all the arrangements at no cost to you. They handle the title transfer requirements and will provide you with a written acknowledgement of your donation and tax deduction information. Click here for more information or to donate your vehicle. A helpful representative will contact you within 24 hours to schedule a pickup, or call CARS seven days a week at 1-844-404-SOGA (7642) to speak with a representative.

Thank you to agency treasurers for the hard work and timely financial submissions!





KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS® Kroger Community Rewards® makes supporting SOGA super easy...all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! Sign up with your 12 digit Kroger Plus Card number at Kroger Community Awards, and in the Community Rewards section, select Special Olympics Georgia (code SH080) as the organization you wish to support. Once you're enrolled, you'll earn rewards for SOGA every time you shop and use your Plus Card, and you'll keep earning rewards points for yourself! Enroll now for Kroger Community Awards (you must re-enroll each year to continue earning rewards for SOGA). If your Kroger Plus Card is not already registered online, you will need to create an account. If you already have an account, simply sign in, find the Community Rewards section, and select Special Olympics Georgia.

WEB SEARCHES Each time you conduct a search on www.GoodSearch.com, one penny goes to benefit Special Olympics Georgia. Make Good Search your home page by going to "tools" in your browser and then clicking on "internet options." Type www.GoodSearch.com in the space for home page. The first time you visit the site, type "Special Olympics Georgia in the box for "Who do you goodsearch for?"

#### SPREAD THE WORD

Please help us grow the family even more. Please forward this e-newsletter to your friends and family so they can sign up to also receive the monthly e-newsletter!

