

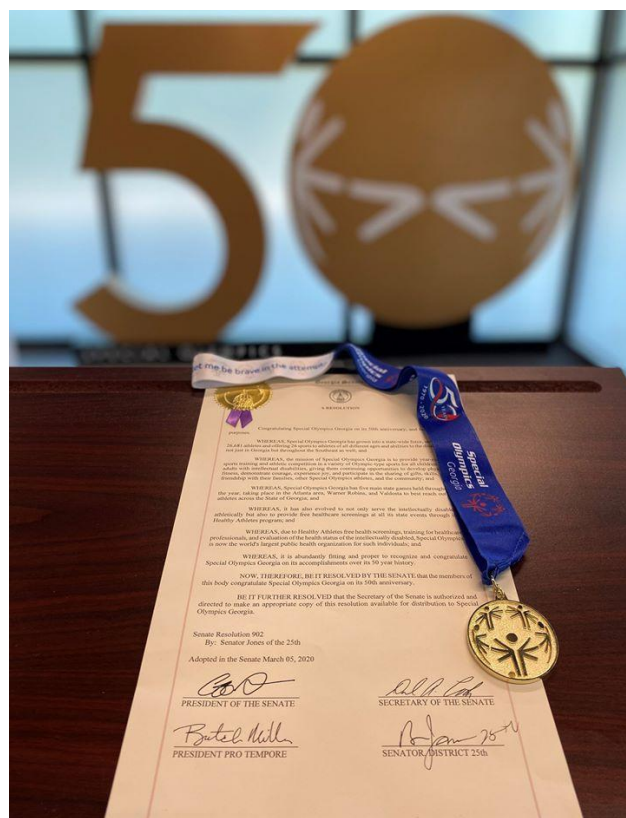
# GEORGIA'S CHAMPIONS



## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SOGA!

Thank you to the Georgia State Senate for recognizing our 50th Anniversary. It is our mission to continue serving the 26,620 Special Olympics Georgia athletes for 50 more years.

We also want to wish you and your family a Happy Labor Day! Thank you for being a part of the SOGA family.



# SOGA EVENTS

## COPS ON DONUT SHOPS

Join us for our 5th Annual Cops on Donut Shops event for Special Olympics Georgia athletes on National Coffee Day, Tuesday, September 29th, 2020 from 5 a.m. to 11 a.m. at participating Dunkin' locations! This event will benefit 26,620

Special Olympics athletes across the state of Georgia! Come by Dunkin' and enjoy a free medium hot or iced coffee with any purchase to celebrate National Coffee Day! #NationalCoffeeDay #SOGANCD

For more information about the event, please contact Kaitlin Henderson.



Come take a shot at raising money for 26,620 Special Olympics Georgia athletes! Sign up today to join us and Georgia Natural Gas at the 7th Annual Shoot for Champions benefiting our athletes. On Friday, November 20th over 75 shooters will take on the sporting clays course at Garland Mountain in the little mountain town, Waleska, GA. Dust off your shot guns and support Special Olympics Georgia! If you are interested in becoming a participant or sponsor, please contact Keegan Flanigan at 770-414-9390 ext. 1111





Take a swing for our Special Olympics Georgia athletes. Sign up to sponsor or play in our 25th Annual Bob Busse Memorial Golf Classic on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at the beautiful Ansley Golf Club at Settindown in Roswell, GA. Enjoy a great day on the golf course with your favorite team mates and 120 other golfers to help raise money for our 26,620 athletes. If you are interested in putting in a foursome or sponsoring, please contact Keegan Flanigan at 770-414-9390 ext. 1111



Attention all Athletes!  
Come join us at our Special Olympics Georgia office on Friday, October 30th from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. for our annual MedFest! Attendance is free! Don't miss out on health and dental screenings from Special Smiles. Plus, games and a free lunch! Contact Thomas Ritch for more information or to register. 770-414-9390 ext. 1121

## **SILENT AUCTION**

Silent Auction items are needed. If you are interested in donating please contact Keegan Flanigan at 770-414-9390 ext. 1111

# MARLOW'S TAVERN AND STERLING CULINARY GOLF CLASSIC

We are excited to announce the 22nd Annual Marlow's Tavern and Sterling Culinary Golf Classic on Thursday, October 15 at the Country Club of Roswell. We are so thankful and excited that we are able to have the tournament this year. With your generous support and involvement in this year's tournament, you will give hope to 26,620 athletes across Georgia who compete in over 600 local games, meets, and tournaments along with five annual statewide games and competitions. We hope that once again, you will join us for what promises to be a historic event and hopefully another record setting year!

For more information, contact Kaitlin Henderson at 770-414-9390 ext. 1113. Thank you Marlow's Tavern and past and current sponsors, for your generous support over the years!

[Click here for Available Sponsorships and Registration Form](#)



## THANK YOU SCOTT CRAIN

It is with a heavy heart that we had to say goodbye to a longtime friend, Scott Crain. Scott has been involved with Special Olympics Georgia for many years and had a real passion for helping the athletes. Scott led the Hall County program for several years and will be dearly missed by many. Thank you Scott for your years of dedicated service to Special Olympics Georgia.





# ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

**AKEEM COBOURNE | COLQUITT COUNTY**



This is Akeem Cobourne. Akeem is fun-loving, helpful, and always respectful to his teammates, coaches, and competitors. He has competed in team basketball skills, bocce, track and field, and skiing. Akeem is a Colquitt County Packer point-of-pride!

# VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

**MRS. JESSICA HANCOCK | COLQUITT COUNTY**

This is Mrs. Jessica Hancock. She has been volunteering at our local Special Olympics for several years and even travels with our athletes for state competitions.

She is always willing to lend a hand and help any way she can. She loves Special Olympics and our wonderful athletes!



# SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



Marlow's Tavern and Sterling Culinary Management continue to generously support Special Olympics Georgia year-round through the annual Golf Classic and Tavern/Café fundraising efforts. John C. Metz, co-founder and executive chef of Marlow's Tavern and Sterling Culinary Management, has been a true friend and supporter of Special Olympics Georgia for 22 years.

In 2019, Marlow's Tavern/Sterling raised \$111,000 through the annual golf tournament and a Tavern fundraiser. To date, John and the Marlow's Tavern/Sterling family have raised close to \$1.4 Million for Special Olympics Georgia athletes, and we're very excited to see this reach new heights in 2020!

"I am thrilled with what we have raised for Special Olympics Georgia athletes. We are proud to give back to this organization that does so much for Georgia's community," said John. "Our partnership with SOGA is something I consider to be one of our company's greatest achievements, and the fact that we have been able to break our own record year-after-year is incredibly rewarding to me and our entire team. We look forward to continuing this partnership long into the future."

For 22 years, Sterling has delivered world-class on-site cafes, catering, and refreshment to corporations, their employees and their guests. In 2014 and 2015, Sterling was named one of the top food service companies by Food Management magazine. In 2015, Marlow's Tavern received the Georgia Restaurant Neighbor Award and was selected for the Top 100 Restaurants in Atlanta by Jezebel Magazine. Find your neighborhood Marlow's Tavern location at [www.marlowstavern.com](http://www.marlowstavern.com).

Thank you John, Marlow's Tavern and the Sterling partners, management, employees, and supporters for Being A Fan of Special Olympics Georgia and Bringing Out The Champion In Everyone!





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS



## GEORGIA



*proudly presents the*

## 2020 STATE FALL GAMES!

At Freedom Park in Valdosta October 9th-10th



### To Volunteer

Contact Courtney Payne at  
[courtney.payne@specialolympicsga.org](mailto:courtney.payne@specialolympicsga.org)  
or 229-712-9973



### Thank you to our Sponsors!



Arrow Screen Printing Appalachean Tech Services Carl G. Fulp III, P.C. Colquitt Electric Corporation  
Community Foundation of Central Georgia Culbreth Stout & Associates Ella's Top Corral Flint Energies Golden Key Realty  
Lions Club Valdosta Simmons & Harrell, P.C. Southeastern Credit Union Southwest Georgia Bank A Division of The First, A.N.B.A.  
Synovus Bank Valdosta Thacker Dermatology Tony Bass Collision Warner Robins Civitan Club Watson's Pools & Patios

**Special  
Olympics  
Georgia**



Thanks and appreciates  
the support of the 2020  
Honorary Board of Directors

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[www.specialolympicsga.org](http://www.specialolympicsga.org)





**2020 Special Olympics Georgia Horse Show**  
**Presented By:**

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*Coca-Cola*

**The Clare Family**



**CSX Beyond Our Rails Foundation | Inwood Holdings | The Pritchett Family | Sweet Butts BBQ**  
**Appalachian Tech Services | Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center | Roper & Sons Anything Crane**

Special Olympics Georgia has come to the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 State Horse Show scheduled for October 9th and 10th at the Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center in Gainesville, Georgia. SOGA would like to thank ALL the Agencies and Volunteers and Sponsors for their support, patience and understanding during these challenging times. SOGA is continuing to work on return to play activities and programming for the remainder of this year, so that Athletes from around the State will be able to safely get back into doing what they love.

# CHAMPIONS CORNER

**Special  
Olympics**  
Georgia



Special Olympics  
**Unified Champion  
Schools®**

**Young Athletes  
Locations**  
**10**

**K-12  
Schools**  
**20**

**SO College  
Clubs**  
**11**

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools® is a program for schools Pre-K through university that promotes meaningful social inclusion by bringing together students with and without intellectual disabilities to create accepting school environments, utilizing three interconnected components: Special Olympics Unified Sports®, inclusive youth leadership, and whole school engagement.



To find a Unified Champion  
School Program  
near you click here!



## FREE INCLUSIVE WORKOUTS

Did you know we have a partnership with Anytime Fitness? Through our partnership, you can access weekly inclusive workouts airing live every Wednesday at 1 p.m. ET on [Anytime Fitness's Facebook Page](#). Make sure to stay connected with our social media to learn more about Anytime Fitness and their inclusive workouts that you can access from home.



**COACH  
CARE  
CONNECT**

**VIRTUAL WORKOUTS**

Anytime Fitness in partnership with **Special Olympics**



# GET INVOLVED WITH SOGA



**Interested in joining the SOGA community? Here are all the ways you can get involved:**

## **Interested in becoming a SOGA Coach?**

Visit the SOGA website for general quizzes & resources on Coaching Special Olympics Athletes, Principles in Coaching, & Autism Spectrum Disorder

Visit our Learning Portal to get educated and certified in Unified Sports & Concussion Training  
Coach's Code of Conduct  
Online Recertifications

For Information on Coaches Clinics & Initial Sport Certification contact Liz Smith

## **Interested in becoming a SOGA volunteer?**

Volunteer & Unified Partner Profile Form

Click here to learn about SOGA's volunteer screening policy.

Protective Behaviors Quiz

Background Screen

**Sign up online for all Volunteer Opportunities**



**If you have any questions about volunteering please contact**  
**Courtney Payne or Hannah Creasey.**



# UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*Volunteers Needed!*

**OCTOBER 9&10**

## **Fall Games**

- Valdosta, GA
- Freedom Park

### **Shifts Available:**

- Friday  
**4pm-8pm**
- Saturday  
**8am-1:30pm**

**Please note time changes!**

Applications can be found at:  
<http://sogeorgia.vsyshost.com/>

**Special Olympics**  
Georgia



If you are interested in Volunteering for Fall Games in Valdosta Georgia please contact Courtney Payne.

## Resources to help in the Crisis

LEARN MORE

### eLearning Course

With the help of athletes and Program Staff, we have developed a 30-minute eLearning course for our Special Olympics community about COVID-19. This course is designed to cover the basic information about the coronavirus (COVID-19) including: what is the coronavirus, what are the symptoms, how does it spread, and how you can protect yourself. We encourage the entire Special Olympics community to complete this module at [learn.specialolympics.org](https://learn.specialolympics.org) Please see [instructions](#) for accessing this course.

### Young Athletes

Family Flash Cards. Fun and engaging flashcards featuring each of the individual activities and at home equipment modifications for families to use at home to run Young Athletes.

Young Athletes At Home. Guide for families and caregivers on how to run Young Athletes activities at home.

Young Athletes Videos. Videos demonstrating the individual Young Athletes activities.

Healthy Play at Home. Poster for families to track the various healthy behaviors they do at home.

Tips for talking to children about COVID-19 from [CDC](#) and [UNICEF](#).

### Fitness

#### Fit 5 Resources Series

Staying Fit at Home: simple week-long calendar that athletes can follow to stay fit. Week-long calendar can be repeated as needed. Athletes can sign up on the link in the resource to receive newsletter with content from Health Messengers to for tips and ideas on how to stay active.

School of Strength: Launched in March 2020 across the Special Olympics movement, School of Strength is an interactive online platform that encourages athletes to participate in a fun and engaging training program that they can do in the comfort of their own homes. Developed in partnership with WWE superstar Becky Lynch, this series of videos, a fitness tracker, a coach's playbook and a caregiver toolkit all contribute to helping athletes focus on nutrition and fitness and getting the most out of their workouts.

### eLearning for Coaches

The [online learning portal](#) has a number of free eLearning courses, now available for coaches, which are now available in a number of languages. In addition, you will find guidance created specifically for [coaches](#) to assist them during the COVID-19 crisis, including how to conduct virtual training sessions and how to activate with your athletes when you do not have access to technology. As more resources around virtual games become available, including best practices and tips, they will be made available on [resources.specialolympics.org](https://resources.specialolympics.org).

### Virtual Games

Visit the [Virtual Games](#) section of [resources.specialolympics.org](https://resources.specialolympics.org) to learn how virtual games are being offered in different programs.

# SOGA PROMOS



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.



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. Questions or problems, contact [Thomas Ritch](#) 770-414-9390 ext. 1121

Did you know that every time you shop at Amazon you can support SOGA athletes? Thanks to the AmazonSmile program, 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases will be donated to SOGA. Instead of going to Amazon's main home page, go to AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon that you know - same products, same prices, same service. If you click the link above, Special Olympics Georgia automatically will be selected as your charity. Now, every time you make a purchase from Amazon through smile.amazon.com you'll be supporting SOGA athletes! [Click here to start shopping.](#)

## 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!

