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**2021 State Fall Games Important Information and Wishlist**

Special Olympics Georgia is excited for the return to sports training and competition for our athletes! This has been a long-awaited time, and we know how difficult it has been for everyone, especially the athletes, to have to be away from the playing field. With the COVID-19 pandemic still amongst us, and limitations/restrictions on vaccinations available, SOGA is implementing changes for the 2021 State Fall Games, to ensure safety for all participants as we welcome them back to in-person competition. The major change in 2021 is the events being offered. The State Fall Games ***will consist ONLY of*** individual sports events. Due to a number of concerns when it comes to safety, social distancing, sharing of equipment, etc., there will not be any team events this year. Please reference the Sports Events Overview below for information. This document and Wishlist is very important for all programs to review and discuss NOW with all your athletes, coaches, and family members, to be able to determine an accurate number per event you plan to register. SOGA cannot stress enough the importance of being as accurate as possible, so that we can prepare accordingly for the entire competition. SOGA understands this is earlier than usual, and the SOGA Return to Play doesn’t take effect until Friday, April 16, 2021. But we want programs to begin planning for Fall Games now, with the understanding of the changes to the event for 2021. **After reviewing this information and discussing within your program, we ask that all agencies submit their Wishlist *OR* inform SOGA that they will not be attending by Friday, May 7, 2021.**

**General Schedule Overview:**

The 2021 State Fall Games will be an overnight, two-day event. Agencies will arrive in Valdosta, Georgia on Friday, October 8th, to Freedom Park, where they will be able to check their agency in and confirm their housing assignments. Check-in will begin at 11 a.m. The only competition taking place on Friday will be Bocce Singles competition, which will begin at 1 p.m. There will be a box dinner provided that evening at Freedom Park and a welcome celebration, ending with a Fireworks show. All agencies will leave the park and head to their respective hotels for the night. Saturday, October 9th will be full of sports competition, in addition to a boxed lunch, and two Healthy Athlete Disciplines for athletes to enjoy! All sports events will begin at 7:30 a.m. and will conclude by the afternoon, with agency departures on Saturday from the competition venues. There will not be a formal awards ceremony, but athletes will receive their award at the conclusion of their event.

**Sports Events Overview:**

Like stated above, all events offered at the 2021 State Fall Games are individual events. Below is a breakdown:

**Athletics –** 50-meter Dash, 100-meter Dash, 200-meter Dash, 1500-meter run, 1500-meter walk, 3000-meter run, 3000-meter walk, 5000-meter run and 5000-meter walk. Athletes will be eligible to compete in a maximum of 2 events.

**Bocce Singles –** This is for individual athletes to compete against other individual athletes. This event has a cap of 440 athletes. If the Wishlist number exceeds 440 athletes, SOGA will quota agencies on Bocce registrations. Knowing this in advance, agencies should try to urge athletes to participate in one of the many other events taking place, as there is not a cap on the other events.

**Flag Football Individual Skills**

**Golf Individual Stroke Play –** 9-hole and 18-hole events offered.

**Soccer Individual Skills**

**Softball Individual Skills**

**Tennis Singles –** Level 3 short court singles and level 5 full court singles events offered.

**Lastly, all registered delegates will be required to sign and submit the Special Olympics COVID-19 Waiver to attend any in-person Special Olympics Georgia events. The local coordinator will be responsible for receiving the forms and keeping them on file and submitting to the State Office when needed for State Games Registration. The waiver can be found on pages 3 and 4.**

**Attn: David Crawford – Chief Sports & Program Officer**

**@ FAX: (404) 393-2929 or at** [**David.Crawford@specialolympicsga.org**](mailto:David.Crawford@specialolympicsga.org)

**Deadline: May 7, 2021**

**2021 State Fall Games Wishlist**

**October 8 & 9, 2021 – Valdosta, GA**

**The 2021 State Fall Games will only host individual sports events. There will not be any team events this year. In addition, due to COVID-19 and limited number of hotel rooms at Fall Games, SOGA may have to implement a quota if total pre-scratch numbers are too large. Please be as accurate as you can in filling out this wishlist, and especially when turning in final paperwork, which is due on 8/20/2021.**

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| **Area** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Agency Name** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Local Coordinator** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Address** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Cell Phone** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Email Address** | Click or tap here to enter text. |

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| **The 2021 Coach to Athlete Ratio is 1 Coach per 3 registered Athletes** |

**BOCCE SINGLES** (There is a cap of 440 Athletes for this event. If numbers exceed 440, SOGA will quota bocce)

Age Groups: 8 to 11: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 12 to 15: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 16 to 21: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 22 & Over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SOFTBALL SKILLS**

Age Groups: 8 to 11: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 12 to 15: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 16 to 21: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 22 & Over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SOCCER SKILLS**

Age Groups: 8 to 11: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 12 to 15: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 16 to 21: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 22 & Over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**FLAG FOOTBALL SKILLS**

Age Groups: 8 to 11: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 12 to 15: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 16 to 21: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 22 & Over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Athletics**

50 Meter Dash \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 100 Meter Dash \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 200 Meter Dash \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1500 Meter Run \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3000 Meter Run \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5000 Meter Run \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1500 Meter Walk \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3000 Meter Walk \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5000 Meter Walk \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**GOLF STROKE PLAY**

Level 4 Individual Stroke Play 9-holes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Level 5 Individual Stroke Play 18-holes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TENNIS SINGLES**

Level 3 Short Court Singles \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Level 5 Full Court Singles \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total: Athletes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coaches \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

**(“Agreement”) for**

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in Special Olympics sports training, competition or fundraising activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. Participation includes possible exposure to and illness from infectious and/or communicable diseases including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. While particular rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist; and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation as regards protection against infectious diseases. If, however, I observe and any unusual or significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS Special Olympics, Inc, Special Olympics *Georgia,* their officers, officials, agents, and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event (“RELEASEES”), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL ILLNESS, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**Special Olympics Georgia Participant Code of Conduct**

**I understand I could get Coronavirus through sports, training, competition and/or any group activity at Special Olympics. I am choosing to participate in sports, competition and/or other Special Olympics activities at my own risk. During the time these precautions are needed, I agree to the following to help keep me and my fellow participants safe:**

I confirm that I do not have symptoms of COVID-19 and have not been in contact with anyone that has tested positive for COVID-19 symptoms in past 14 days (cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell)

If I have COVID-19 symptoms, I will stay at home and NOT go to any activities until 14 days after all of my symptoms are over. If I am exposed to COVID-19 and have no symptoms, I can return 14 days after exposure.

If I get or have had COVID, I will not go to any in-person Special Olympics Georgia events until 14 days after my symptoms end. I will go to my doctor and get written clearance before returning to any sport or fitness activities.

I will have my temperature checked prior to leaving home to attend any training, competition and/or group activity.

I will have my temperature checked upon arrival to any training, competition and/or group activity. If a fever exists, I will immediately depart to go home, this will include anyone I traveled with to this competition.

Special Olympics Georgia provided me the education on Special Olympics rules for COVID-19 and who is at high risk.

I know that if I have a high-risk condition, I have more risk that I could get sick or die from COVID-19. If I have a high-risk condition, I should not go to Special Olympics Georgia events in person, until there is little or no Coronavirus in my community.

I will keep at least 6 feet from all participants at all times. This includes bathrooms, delegation sitting area during competition, picking up food or snacks, Olympic Town, and seating during Opening Ceremony. I will not engage in hugging, hand shaking, or high fives.

I will wear a mask at all times while at Special Olympics Georgia activities. I may or not have to wear it during active exercise, warm ups, or during competition.

I will wash my hands for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer before any activities. I will wash my hands any time I sneeze, cough, go to the bathroom or get my hands dirty.

I will avoid touching my face. I will cover my mouth when I cough or sneeze and immediately wash my hands after.

I will not share drinking bottles or towels with other people.

I understand that no spectators are allowed at any training, competition, or group activity.

I will only share equipment when instructed to. If equipment must be shared, I will only touch the equipment if it is disinfected first. If equipment must be shared, the appropriate cleaning supplies must be used to wipe down before the next athlete uses for competition or warmups.

I agree to contactless pickups. Special Olympics Georgia will provide certain materials, HOD packets, t-shirts, snacks, water, etc. and understand that there will be no direct contact in picking up these items.

I will only enter, leave, or move around the check-in and competition areas that my agency is assigned. I will continue practicing social distancing while in these areas.

I will abide by Special Olympics Georgia’s housing policy. Only the same gender will be allowed in each room. 1 person assigned to a dorm room. I will abide by the 10pm curfew.

I understand that if I do not follow all of these rules, I may not be allowed to participate in Special Olympics Georgia activities during this time.

I understand that any medical services needed for sickness or illness while participating at any Special Olympics Georgia event will not be covered by the Special Olympics Georgia insurance carrier, but instead will be covered by the insurance provider of the individual participant.

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IF FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

Name of Participant:    \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**FOR PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE (UNDER AGE 18 AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION)**

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian, with legal responsibility for this participant, have read and explained the provisions in this waiver/release to my child/ward including the risks of presence and participation and his/her personal responsibilities for adhering to the rules and regulations for protection against communicable diseases. Furthermore, my child/ward understands and accepts these risks and responsibilities. I for myself, my spouse, and child/ward do consent and agree to his/her release provided above for all the Releasees and myself, my spouse, and child/ward do release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees for any and all liabilities incident to my minor child’s/ward’s presence or participation in these activities as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE, to the fullest extent provided by law.

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent guardian/signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_