Georgia's Champions

Special Olympics Georgia offers 26 sports for athletes ranging from age six and up! We also have 200+ local programs across the State of Georgia! We want to help you sign up your athlete today! If you are interested in registering an athlete with SOGA please email: David Crawford: david.crawford@specialolympicsga.org.

Special Olympics Georgia would like to thank the Atlanta Dream for hosting SOGA Night at one of their recent home games. The athletes had a blast! Make sure to stay tuned to our social media for more activities like this in the future!
Come join athletes, coaches, and unified partners in Cobb County and Bartow County as they compete in basketball, bowling, floor hockey, artistic gymnastics, and powerlifting! Click here for more information!

The St. Peter Chanel 5K is a chip timed, fun run/walk sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The proceeds from this event will go directly to Special Olympics Georgia to support the 26,620 athletes from across the state of Georgia! This race is a Peachtree Road Race qualifying event. Click here for more information!

Join Marlow’s Tavern, the Woodall and Sterling Culinary Management executive chef, CEO and co-founder John C. Metz for “The 19th Hole,” an after party for the 23rd Annual Golf Classic to benefit Special Olympics Georgia on Monday, Oct. 11 from 4-6 pm. This party is open to the general public and tickets are $30 which include beverages, food and a donation to Special Olympics Georgia. Click here to get your ticket!
Special Olympics Georgia is thrilled to host the 2021 State Fall Games on Friday, October 8th and Saturday October 9th at Freedom Park and other locations in Valdosta, Georgia. SOGA is excited to welcome all athletes, coaches, and essential volunteers. Athletes will be competing in multiple individual events including Athletics, Bocce, Flag Football Skills, Golf, Softball Skills and Soccer Skills. For more information about the event, please contact David Crawford at: david.crawford@specialolympicsga.org or (229)-292-5143.
Healthy Athletes

Join us on October 9th from 9:00-12:00 to visit Opening Eyes and Special Smiles to get free eye and dental exams from our clinicians and student volunteers.

Click Here to hear Lewis Gordon, Valdosta Athlete and SOGA intern talk about the importance of Healthy Athletes!

For More Information
Contact Skylar Lunsford at Skylar.Lunsford@SpecialOlympicsGA.org

at 2021 State Fall Games

THANK YOU ESSENTIAL VOLUNTEERS!

SOGA would like to thank all essential volunteers who are coming out to our 2021 State Fall Games. Without our wonderful volunteers, we would not be able to hold events such as these for our athletes.

"PROVIDING YEAR-ROUND SPORTS FOR ALL THOSE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES"
Athlete of the Month

Amber Hudson is superstar athlete with Cherokee County Special Olympics (CCSO). Amber has competed with CCSO in several sports including basketball, bowling, and track & field. However, bowling is her favorite sport and she has several medals to prove it. Amber’s work ethic, determination, etiquette and respect for her competitors truly exemplifies the Special Olympics Spirit. CCSO considers Amber as a crucial part of their delegation. Congratulations Amber for being selected as Special Olympics Georgia’s Athlete of the Month. You deserve this honor!

Volunteer of the Month

Ben Farist has been a valuable volunteer with Cherokee County Special Olympics (CCSO) for 5 years. Through effective community outreach, Ben has provided CCSO athletes with uniforms and equipment. Most notably Ben organizes several successful fundraisers including an annual golf tournament. In this role, Ben coordinates volunteer recruitment efforts, provides volunteer trainings, and supervises the work of golf tournament volunteers. This past summer Ben was able to raise over $11,000 dollars to support the CCSO due to his relationships with community members, local businesses, and other stakeholders. The CCSO is grateful to have selfless volunteers such as Ben Farist.
Dr. Karen Carter opened Augusta Developmental Specialists in May 2009 after having a clinic at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG) for nine years. Augusta Developmental Specialists strives to provide the best healthcare for children and adults with developmental disabilities. We provide developmental assessment and follow up care, care coordination, equipment assistance, prescription refills, wheelchair clinics, and patient advocacy services.

Kevin Enright and Dr. Karen Carter of Augusta Developmental Specialists have been volunteering and supporting Special Olympics Georgia (SOGA) for over 26 years! They can be seen at most if not all SOGA events with their agency the Augusta Stars and volunteering on the medical team at Games.

Kevin and Karen make a formidable team. They both have a long history of working with persons with disabilities. Their philosophies are the same; they prefer to focus on the person and on their abilities. They, along with their team, will advocate strongly for their patients.
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 essential 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
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.

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

SPREAD THE WORD

COVID-19 STATEMENT

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!