

2017 HWDSB Special Olympics Event

BElieve in **YOU**rself

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/specialolympics/>

Elementary Schools

Wednesday, May 17th, 2017 at Saltfleet District High School (9:30am to 1:30pm)

(Rain Date is Thursday, May 18th)

Secondary Schools

Tuesday, June 6th, 2017 at Mohawk College (9:30 am to 1:30pm)

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/specialolympics/>

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017 @ 12:00 PM

ONLINE ENTRY FORM: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/specialolympics/>

ABOUT HWDSB SPECIAL OLYMPICS

In 2017, this will be the **12th annual** HWDSB Special Olympics event and our two-day format split between elementary and secondary students continues to be a huge success!

Elementary schools will continue at Saltfleet District High School with an event planned for **Wednesday, May 17, 2017** (rain date Thursday, May 18th). Secondary schools are invited to our sixth annual event at Mohawk College on **Tuesday June 6th**.

The following package will help assist your staff in preparing and registering your students for this event.

Included Information

- Registration Process (Steps 1 to 4)
- Event Information
- Special Olympics Student-Athlete Registration Form (New Students Only)
- Special Olympics Educator Registration Form
- HWDSB Special Olympics Checklist
- Memo regarding transportation reimbursement

Remember to visit the event website for more information: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/specialolympics/>

REGISTRATION PROCESS

STEP 1: School Registration (Online)

Schools should register their school and event participants (students) online by visiting www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/specialolympics.

Please fill out the registration form online - note HWDSB Athletics MUST receive this online form to ensure you have registered into this event. You will receive an email confirmation and information will be communicated to you prior to the event to ensure you have been included..

Athletics will maintain a list of confirmed schools on the website (www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/specialolympics) which will indicate that your school information has been captured and you are registered as part of the event.

If you do not receive confirmation please contact HWDSB Athletics.

Registration deadline is Friday, May 5th, 2017 @ 12:00pm

Log on to www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/specialolympics to register your athletes into this event.

NOTE: It is critical for organizing purposes that we have accurate numbers and names from each school by May 5, 2017.

FIRM) The event is an enormous undertaking for staff who volunteer above and beyond their regular duties to make this happen. Please support their efforts by having your paperwork completed and submitted by the deadline).

All communication for this event will be delivered via the event website as well as through the main contact submitted via the online School Registration Form.

STEP 2: Transportation Arrangements

Transportation for students is to be arranged by the individual school. For some of your students there will likely be a cost for arranging specialized transportation. You will find a memo following this package with instructions explaining how you can apply for funding to cover the cost of this transportation. **Schools are encouraged to share buses with nearby schools whenever possible to help with cost saving.**

STEP 3: HWDSB Trip Forms

Each school is responsible for completing and having students/families sign the Board's standard trip forms. These forms **DO NOT** need to be submitted to HWDSB Athletics. These forms should be kept on file at the school and accompany staff who attend the event with your students.

STEP 4: Special Olympics - Student-Athlete Registration

Since this is a joint event, Special Olympics Ontario will require an additional information package to be completed by schools and students. If your school has participated in the Special Olympic event in the past – your Club Summary package is available following this secure link: <https://goo.gl/rgr1te> (or in the Athletics area on my.hwdsb.on.ca)

Please review the Club Summary package. If an athlete is participating again this year please check off the "still active" box. **This student DOES NOT NEED A SPECIAL OLYMPIC REGISTRATION FORM.** If a student is on your summary but is not participating – please cross their name out on your Club Summary package.

Any student not on the Club Summary Form but who would like to participate will need to complete a Special Olympics Student-Athlete Registration form.

Please submit the following forms: a) completed Club Summary package b) completed Special Olympics Ontario Student-Athlete Registration Form (new students only); and c) completed Educator Registration Form (new teachers or assistants only).

Forms can be sent directly to Special Olympics Ontario, attention to **Kirsten Bobbie** at: **Mail:** 65 Overlea Blvd Suite 200, Toronto ON, M4H 1P1; **Email:** kirstenb@specialolympicsontario.com or by **Fax:** 416 447 6336

Note: These forms **DO NOT** need to be submitted to HWDSB Athletics; only to Special Olympics Ontario.

EVENT INFORMATION

Who Can Participate

At HWDSB **all** students with special needs are welcome to attend the events if the teaching staff (who work with the student) believe they would benefit.

The focus of this event is on friendly competition and companionship. An event of this nature provides the opportunity for students with a disability to set goals, develop skills and enhance physical development. By motivating students at a young age they will have continued involvement in sport and physical activity as teenagers and as adults which can contribute to long-term health and well-being.

All students with an intellectual disability who are currently enrolled in special education classes or integrated into school classrooms are invited to participate in this event. This meet is for elementary and high school students and BEGINNERS ARE WELCOME. All spectators are welcome.

Students with an intellectual disability in a wheelchair ARE able to participate. All ages are welcome.

Student Support

Since this event is for students with special needs, the school will need to ensure that support from staff, volunteers and parents/guardians is utilized, especially for any students that require the use of a wheelchair.

Event Medical Support (EMS) has been arranged and will be on site during the event.

Mohawk and Saltfleet Secondary School have wheelchair-accessible washroom facilities, and space inside will be made available in case the weather is warm or cool and students may need to be inside for a break.

The weather for our event can be very challenging some years. Please ensure that each student is prepared for this outdoor event with items such as water, appropriate clothing, sunscreen, hats, snacks and lunch.

School Colours

Since this opportunity is unique for students with special needs, who may not normally participate in the traditional school sporting events, it would be nice if they were outfitted with a school jersey or school colours.

Students are encouraged to bring school signs or banners for school recognition/spirit purposes.

Arrival/Departure

Students and staff are asked to arrive at 9:30 a.m. sharp in the gym at Saltfleet Secondary School and the drop off at Mohawk College on Fennell near the new buildings (more details in May)

There will be an official opening ceremony to kick off the event at 9:45 a.m. with our friends from the Police department.

The event will conclude at approximately 1:30 p.m. with the closing ceremony. Students and staff should be heading back to their home school no later than 2:00 p.m.

We are extremely excited to be able to join with Special Olympics Ontario, Law Enforcement Torch Run and Mohawk College to provide such a wonderful opportunity for our students with special needs. We are very hopeful that schools, students and parents/guardians will be able to take part and we truly believe that the students will benefit from this wonderful opportunity.

Photographs

Photographs will be taken by students, HWDSB staff, parents and media throughout the day. Please make sure that the appropriate HWDSB consent to photograph forms for your students are up-to-date. **(Please do NOT send these with your registration package).**

Students who are not to be photographed should wear a no photo sticker. Stickers will be available at the registration desk and it is the school's responsibility to determine who requires a sticker. Staff are asked to remind any photographers that they encounter on the day of the event not to take photos of your students who are wearing no photo stickers.

Student Lunches

Each athlete is required to **BRING THEIR OWN LUNCH**, along with **bottled water**. Water will also be provided on the day of the event.

Sample Morning Events

Below is a sample of the types of events in which students may encounter in the morning.

Soccer Shoot Out	50-m Race	Tire Roll	Lacrosse
Bean Bag Toss	Baton Obstacle	Softball Shot-Put	Javelin Noodle Toss
Mini-Putt	1st Aid/Ladder Golf	Football Throw	Gymnastic Ribbons
Bocce Ball	Basketball Throw	Bowling	Rugby Pass Relay
Standing Long Jump	Limbo Line	Running Long Jump	Hockey Shoot-Out

Afternoon Events

Elementary Schools: Due to large number of participants races will occur only if time permits: *50m Wheelchair Assisted, 50m Motorized, 100m Junior, 100m Intermediate, 100m Senior*

Secondary Schools: *Closing Ceremonies Event*

Special Olympics Ontario

HWDSB is very happy to partner with Special Olympics Ontario for this great annual event. Special Olympics Ontario is dedicated to enriching the lives of individuals with a disability through sport. They do this by providing sport training and competition opportunities all around the Province, both in schools and in the community. They are currently over 17,000 athletes registered with Special Olympics Ontario.

To find out more about the programs they offer both inside and outside of school, please contact Kristen Bobbie at 1-888-333-5515 Ext. 247 or email: kirstenb@specialolympicsontario.com

HWDSB Event Partners

