



Special Olympics
Ohio
Wood County

What is Special Olympics?

Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Athletes are given opportunities to improve their physical fitness, show their talents, demonstrate courage and see themselves for their abilities through training and competition.

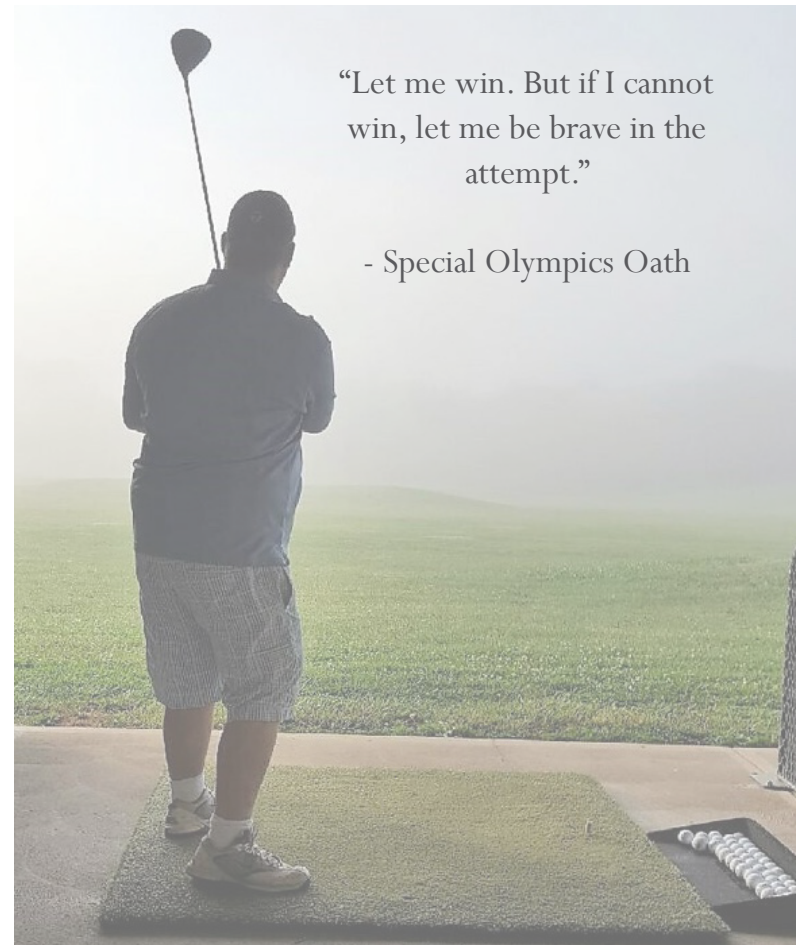
Just like high school sports, athletes regularly train and teams have practices at least two times per week.

Games or events are scheduled throughout each sport season with other programs.

Game and event officials are certified in their sport. Athletes can advance to area, sectional, and state competition. Certified officials are utilized.

What are the benefits of Special Olympics?

- Participation in sports goes beyond the experiences of training and competing. It gives individuals the chance to increase fitness and well-being, self-esteem and self-confidence, and expand their circle of friends in the community.
- Athletes gain confidence when they learn a new skill or travel and interact with athletes and volunteers. These experiences improve their social relationships, social skills, and help them see the abilities and talents they possess.
- Athletes learn that they are a key part of their community as good neighbors, valuable employees, and involved citizens.








“Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.”

- Special Olympics Oath

What sports are offered?

Wood County athletes can participate in one or more of the following sports:

-  Basketball
-  Bocce
-  Bowling
-  Golf
-  Flag Football

-  Softball
-  Swimming
-  Track & Field
-  Volleyball



About our athletes

More than 450 individuals are active in the program throughout Wood County. Athletes are eligible at age 8. There is no age limit beyond that and individuals can compete for life.

Competition is based upon age, gender, and ability. They develop confidence and are empowered by their accomplishments. They are able to experience joy through participation and sharing of gifts, skills, and gainful friendships with other athletes, volunteers and the community.

How can I get involved?

Special Olympics is a program of Wood Lane - The Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Contact a member of the Special Olympics staff at:

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WOOD LANE