

State Conference 2018

Special
Olympics
Indiana



Saturday, October 27
Horizon Convention Center, Muncie

Special Olympics Indiana is excited to present our annual State Conference. This year we will focus on several key issues that are the pillars of the Special Olympics movement. As we work together to tackle these issues, we recognize the need to keep focus on our athletes and their opportunities to grow, learn, and reach their maximum potential. We will continue to emphasize our athletes' health and fitness, discuss sports and activities to serve all our athletes, learn new ways to engage our volunteers, partners, or athletes, and strengthen the skills of our leadership.

Please take this opportunity to make some new friends from around the state that you can contact to ask questions, share ideas, and generally use as resources in your Special Olympics roles.

SCHEDULE AND SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

REGISTRATION

Registration fees cover all sessions, conference materials, luncheon and a participant gift. No breakfast is included. Registration forms and fees are due in-house by **Monday, October 1.**

Conference Fee:	\$50.00 <i>includes Friday Pre-Conference, Trivia/Game Night, (2 Free drink tickets) Heavy H'ordeuvres and Saturday Conference, session materials, and Luncheon</i>
Friday ONLY:	\$20.00 <i>includes Friday Erskine Green Tours only</i>
SOSO Award Winner Package:	FREE, Award Winner is free, Family Awards get four entries for free
Meal only for guest:	\$30.00 Lunch cost for any guest of an Area award winner

HOUSING

A room block is reserved at the Courtyard Muncie at Horizon Convention Center. The room rate is \$114 plus tax/fees.

Courtyard Muncie
601 S High Street
Muncie, IN 47305

To make a Hotel Reservation in this room block, visit www.soindiana.org/state-conference and access the link.

Attendees are responsible for contacting the hotel directly to make reservations. Deadline to reserve a room is 5 PM on September 27. Act fast! Requests received after September 27 are subject to rate and space availability. If you have accessibility needs, please inform them when you call.

CONFIRMATIONS

Confirmation including a map and final details will be emailed to all registrants prior to the conference. In the meantime, if you have questions or concerns please contact Kevin Aders via email (kaders@soindiana.org) or phone (800-742-0612 ext. 235). *You are responsible for retaining a copy of your registration.*

CANCELLATIONS

Conference cancellations received before the deadline will receive a full refund; no refunds will be given after October 1.

Friday, October 26

2:00 pm

Conference Attendee Check-in Opens

(Courtyard Hotel Lobby)

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Opening Doors Through Opportunity

Special Olympics Indiana and the Erskine Green Training Institute (EGTI) are teaming up to open doors to opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Staff from the EGTI will explain the institute's purpose and mission and provide an overview of the various vocational training programs it offers, while SOIN staff will discuss the ways in which Special Olympics is tackling similar issues and working to improve the quality of life for people with intellectual disabilities, both on and off the playing field. This special opening session includes a guided tour of the EGTI, housed within the Courtyard Marriott Hotel.

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Trivia/Game Night *(Special Guest: Craig Tornquist)*

Join your hosts and your colleagues from across the state for an evening of games and socializing in advance of the 2018 Indiana State Conference. Don't miss a trivia competition hosted by comedian Craig Tornquist. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be available (2 free drink tickets per guest).

Saturday, October 27

8:00 am

Conference Attendee Check-in Opens

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Impact of Sports in Indiana

(Opening Plenary Session)

Presenter: Bill Benner

Hear from former SOIN board member Bill Benner about the impact of sports in Indiana. Benner is concluding an impressive career spanning five decades, including 33 years as a sportswriter and columnist at The Indianapolis Star, followed by executive positions with Indiana Sports Corp, Visit Indy, the Horizon League, and most recently, Pacers Sports & Entertainment. Benner was inducted into the Indiana Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association Hall of Fame in 2017.

10:10 am - 11:10 am

Coaches Training: Soccer

Presenters:

These training sessions will provide essential resources to our coaches enabling them to teach and improve the ability of our athletes while making the sport fun and exciting. Topics will include how to run a practice, teaching fundamentals, strategy for competition, and more. Learning will be facilitated through participation as well as group discussion, so please dress in active wear. Soccer will take place on-site.

When Good Fans go Bad

Presenter: Buzz Lail

Sportsmanship for everyone. The who, what, when, where and how of the Code of Conduct process, and your ideas on preventing disruptive behaviors. Join us for an interactive workshop centered on preventing disruptive and disrespectful behavior while promoting the ideals of mutual respect and inclusion.

SO Simplified: E-Forms

Presenter: Cathy Elzinga

This session will include a review of the organization's form application processes. A teaching moment to prepare you for those looming deadlines that come around every year.

Fishing In The Right Spots

Presenter: Julie Burkholder

The difference between an average county or area program and an outstanding one is simple: great volunteers. Finding the right people can be challenging, but knowing where to look is always a good place to start. Don't miss this group discussion of successful strategies for volunteer recruitment and retention.

Think Bigger: Building Bridges To The Future With the LETR

Presenter: Stephanie Manner

They serve dinner at Special Olympics holiday parties, and serve as referees at the state basketball tournament. They run through the streets of your town to raise money and awareness, and give selflessly of their time and energy to help us run our events. They hand out medals, provide security, and work tirelessly to serve and protect all 16,000 Special Olympics athletes across Indiana...but who are these members of our SOIN family??? Brendan, father of a son with autism; Tommy, a 20+ year supporter and member of Team Indiana; Jacque, host of Summer Games; Josh, Summer Games manager and multi event coordinator. These and hundreds more across Indiana are impacting the athletes in your program EVERY DAY! Come find out how you can invite more officers into the Special Olympics Indiana family and how their dedication can impact your program even more!

Pathways To Athlete Leadership

Presenter: Elesia Yoon

Are you curious about how to become an athlete leader? Do you have athletes in your county that would make great leaders? Did you know that being an athlete leader does not mean you have to give a speech? Come learn about Athlete Input Councils, ALPs University, and how to get involved. Participate in a panel discussion with some of Indiana's athlete leaders who will share their leadership experiences and answer your questions. Added bonus for athlete attendees: this session will prepare you to participate in the afternoon Athlete Input Council session.

Walking, Movbands, And Health....oh My!

Presenter: Abbie Ivaldi

Have you joined a Unified Fitness Club yet? There are now more than 40 of these clubs across the state, bringing together people with and without intellectual disabilities for regular exercise—and this program is growing fast! Whether you belong to a club already or are looking to get involved, come and learn everything you need to know about how we're helping athletes take control of their health and fitness year-round.

Show Me The Money!

(Treasurer Training)

Presenter: Karen Kennelly, Maureen Rumer

Have you become a treasurer in the last 2 years? Join our CFO and our Accounting Manager for some hands-on training and Q and A to help better your skills and understanding of the accounting process.

Strategic Planning

(SOIN State Board of Directors only)

Presenter: Dr. Nathan Schaumleffel

Indiana State University professor Dr. Nathan Schaumleffel will be leading sessions with different groups throughout the day. These sessions will be focused on developing Special Olympics Indiana's next Strategic Plan and laying out the future of the organization for the next 3-5 years.

11:15 am - 1:15 pm

Recognition Luncheon

Speakers: Anastasia Helmich

Take a break from the classroom and help us recognize some outstanding people as we present the 2018 Spirit of Special Olympics Indiana Awards! Following lunch and the presentation of awards, SOIN President & CEO Jeff Mohler will have a few words to share.

1:20 pm - 2:20 pm

Coaches Training: Basketball

Presenter:

These training sessions will provide essential resources to our coaches enabling them to teach and improve the ability of our athletes while making the sport fun and exciting. Topics will include how to run a practice, teaching fundamentals, strategy for competition, and more. Learning will be facilitated through participation as well as group discussion, so please dress in active wear. Basketball will take place at the YMCA across the street from the conference center.

Coaches Training: Swimming

Presenter:

These training sessions will provide essential resources to our coaches enabling them to teach and improve the ability of our athletes while making the sport fun and exciting. Topics will include how to run a practice, teaching fundamentals, strategy for competition, and more. Learning will be facilitated through participation as well as group discussion, so please dress in active wear. Swimming will take place at the YMCA across the street from the conference center

So Many People, So Little Time

(10 Keys to VMS)

Presenter: Kevin Aders

A refresher on the ins and outs of the Volunteer Management System (VMS). We will go over the basics, but also spend time on some upgraded features and truly learn how to use the system to improve communications among staff and volunteers.

Improving the Special Olympics Indiana Website

(Invitation Only)

Presenter: Nathan Barnes

Select athlete and volunteer leaders are invited to join SOIN staff in analyzing the organization's current website and developing recommendations for improving the site's overall usability and accessibility.

Think Bigger: Building Bridges To The Future With LETR

Presenters: Stephanie Manner

They serve dinner at Special Olympics holiday parties, and serve as referees at the state basketball tournament. They run through the streets of your town to raise money and awareness, and give selflessly of their time and energy to help us run our events. They hand out medals, provide security, and work tirelessly to serve and protect all 16,000 Special Olympics athletes across Indiana...but who are these members of our SOIN family??? Brendan, father of a son with autism; Tommy, a 20+ year supporter and member of Team Indiana; Jacque, host of Summer Games; Josh, Summer Games manager and multi event coordinator. These and hundreds more across Indiana are impacting the athletes in your program EVERY DAY! Come find out how you can invite more officers into the Special Olympics Indiana family and how their dedication can impact your program even more!

Navigating the waters of Health Insurance and Medicaid

Presenters: Susan Jo Thomas (Covering Kids and Families)

Navigating the waters of health insurance and Medicaid is difficult. Join Susan Jo Thomas, Executive Director of Covering Kids and Families of Indiana, for an overview of the Indiana Health Coverage Programs. In this session, we will *steer* through Medicaid, Marketplace and other *waves* of health coverage while offering a *compass* and *life jackets* for the journey.

You Have Your Box of Legos, Now What?

Presenters: Abbie Ivaldi, Mike Baker

Ready to build a Unified Fitness Club? How will you do it? At this session you will learn how to become a Director for a club. We will discuss strategies for how to communicate with your club, how to track your club's progress, and how to motivate members to be healthy and keep moving!

Building Your Program for Athlete Leadership

Presenter: Tracy Mortensen

Area and County Programs that seek to use athletes in leadership roles (coaches, volunteers, management team members, speakers, etc.) are required to have somebody from your program certified by the State Office. Attend this session to learn the various roles available for Athlete Leaders and expectations of Athlete Leadership Program volunteers while exploring some creative ways to put athletes leaders to work. Successfully meet the certification requirements by participating in this session.

Strategic Planning

(County Coordinators & Area Directors)

Presenter: Dr. Nathan Schaumleffel

Indiana State University professor Dr. Nathan Schaumleffel will be leading sessions with different groups throughout the day. These sessions will be focused on developing Special Olympics Indiana's next Strategic Plan and laying out the future of the organization for the next 3-5 years.

2:25 pm - 3:15 pm

Your Dependent, Your History, Your Legacy

(Plenary Session)

Presenter: Gordon Homes (Mass Mutual)

With changes to home and community-based Medicaid Waivers and the direction of government benefits unclear, it has become critically important for families to plan for the future of their dependent with special needs. This workshop covers: wills; special needs trusts and guardianship; and financial issues, such as special needs trust funding, ABLE accounts, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, and letters of intent.

3:20 pm - 4:20 pm

Athlete Input Council

(Invitation Only)

Presenter: Brian Glick

Athlete leaders will meet to lay the groundwork for a new Indiana Athlete Input Council. They will have their turn to discuss and give their ideas for the Strategic Plan with Indiana State professor Dr. Nathan Schaumleffel.

Your Dependent with Special Needs . . . Making their Future More Secure

(Families Roundtable)

Presenter: Gordon Homes (Mass Mutual)

A follow-up to the midday plenary session, featuring a continued discussion led by Gordon Homes of Mass Mutual. With changes to Home and Community-Based Medicaid Waivers and the direction of government benefits unclear, it has become critically important for families to plan for the future of their dependent with special needs. This workshop covers: wills; special needs trusts and guardianship; and financial issues, such as special needs trust funding, ABLE accounts, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, and letters of intent.

Regional Round Tables

Presenters: Buzz Lail (Northwest), Julie Burkholder (Northeast), State Staff (Central), Francie Smith (South)

Don't miss this opportunity to sit down with leaders from your part of the state to exchange ideas and discuss practical ways to improve the athlete experience for the people you serve.

Area Round Tables

Presenters:

Don't miss this opportunity to sit down with leaders from around the State that share the same responsibilities to exchange ideas and discuss practical ways to improve the athlete experience for the people you serve.

4:25 pm - 5:00 pm

Celebrating 50 Years and our Future, SOIN Athletes

(Plenary Session)

Presenter:

Join us as we take a look back at the history of Special Olympics Indiana in advance of our 50th anniversary in 2019, featuring stories by the athletes and volunteers who have been a part of the movement so far. Then, let's find out where our athletes plan to lead us in the next 50 years.