



Hi Everyone!

You are looking at the first edition of Special Olympics Shop Talk for Nevada! Shop Talk is our newsletter for Program Coordinators, Team Managers, Coaches, and Volunteers. This first edition contains information on the following:

- Volunteer General Orientation
- Upcoming Coach's Clinics
- Upcoming Statewide Competitions
- Nevada Coach of the Year Nominations
- Winter Games Overview
- Spring Sports Information
- Summer Games
- Northern Nevada Basketball Tournament
- World Games

Volunteer Orientation

We encourage all individuals to attend a General Orientation for interested volunteers and coaches. This meeting provides information about Special Olympics Nevada and an overview of Special Olympics worldwide. In addition, it is the **first step of the certification process for all volunteer coaches**. Within the next two years, it will be mandatory for all coaches to be certified. Certification helps with consistency in training and competitions.

If you or someone you know would like to host a general orientation in your area, call us at 877-417-2742. We will provide training materials and scheduling assistance.

Upcoming Coaches Clinics – Southern Nevada

Aquatics: Saturday, March 31 at Whitney Ranch Pool at 10 a.m.
To attend, RSVP to (702) 474-0690 ext. 202

Athletics: Saturday, April 21 at Las Vegas High School at 10 a.m.
To attend, RSVP to (702) 474-0690 ext. 202

Coaches Clinics - Northern Nevada

Are you certified? Are you willing to help other volunteer coaches to achieve this level? Please call Kim Gradisher at 877-417-2742.

Upcoming Competitions

Southern Nevada Basketball Competition:
Saturday, April 14 at the Henderson Multigenerational Center

CCSD Unified Track and Field Meet:
Thursday, May 3 – Friday, May 4 at Western HS

Northern Nevada Invitational (Carson City):
Friday, May 5 – Saturday, May 6

Summer Games:
Friday, May 18 – Sunday, May 20 at UNLV

**Volunteers are needed for all events!! Call (877) 417-2742 if you are interested!*

Coach of the Year Nominations

Special Olympics Nevada would like to recognize all the hard work and efforts of our coaches. Athletes, Program Coordinators, Volunteers, and Fellow Coaches will make the nominations. The top 5 nominees will be recognized with a certificate and the top nominee will receive a plaque. The Coach of the Year Award will be presented at the Special Olympics Nevada Governor's Mansion dinner in Carson City on June 2. (This award differs from the SONA Coach of the Year Award).

Selection Criteria:

- One who has made significant contributions to Special Olympics Nevada;
- One who demonstrates an overall commitment by being actively involved with Special Olympics Nevada;
- One who has gone above and beyond his/her assigned tasks/duties;
- One who exemplifies the Special Olympics spirit of skill, courage, sharing and joy.

How to Enter: Nomination forms will be e-mailed to Program Coordinators and Coaches soon.

Start thinking about who you would like to nominate!!

Winter Games Overview

Winter Games were held in Kirkwood, CA from March 13th-16th. All coaches who attended should have received the final results via e-mail by this point. (See the attachment with the results for Nevada athletes.)

Thank you to all the coaches who dedicated their time and energy to make this event special for the athletes! The event was a great success!

Spring Sports Information

Spring Sports are well under way and athletes are training hard for Summer Games! Check out the website (www.sonv.org) for the most updated training schedule.

If you have questions on rules or events, check out our national website (www.specialolympics.org).

Summer Games

Summer Games will take place at UNLV from May 18 – May 20, 2007. Competitions will take place on Saturday, May 19. As most of you know, Summer Games will consist of various Special Olympics competitions in the sports of Athletics, Aquatics, and Gymnastics. All Nevada teams are encouraged to participate!

Registration packets were mailed out to Program Coordinators and Head Coaches on Monday, March 26. Didn't get one? Call us quick because forms are due to the SONV office by Friday, April 27.

Northern Nevada Basketball Tournament

Teams traveled from Washoe, Carson City, and Fallon to compete in the Northern Nevada Basketball Championship in Lassen, CA on Saturday, March 24. Thanks to Carrie Nyman for organizing the event!

All teams did exceptionally well! Thank you to all the coaches and volunteers for allowing this event to be another great success! One team will be chosen to compete in the Spring Hoops Championship at UC Davis on Saturday, April 21.

World Games

Special Olympics World Games will take place in Shanghai, China from October 2-11, 2007.

Congratulations to the following athletes, coaches, and officials who were chosen for Team Nevada!

Joe Booze: Coach - Athletics

Bobbi Hoven: Official - Bowling

Debra Semon: Athlete - Bowling

Marge Wilkes: Coach - Bowling

Bruce Thompson: Athlete - Bowling

Colleen Stainbrook: Athlete – Athletics

