

Special Olympics Washington



East Region - Area Leaders

October 25, 2024

Tim's Upcoming Schedule & Travel Sunday, October 27 * Flag Football * Tri-Cities

Send me pictures of Gymnastics, Volleyball, Flag Football, and Bowling. I would love to include them in future Leader Memos.

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL RECORDING – Thanks to those that were able to join the meeting earlier this week. For those unable to participate, here is the recording.

[Eastside Virtual Listening Tour Recording](#)

WINTER SEASON CHRIS PRATT

- The Chris Pratt Sustainability Fund exists to provide financial support to programs and teams starting a new sport or in need of 'one-time-only' or non-regular expenses.
- Apply [here](#)
- Deadline to Apply: Monday, November 4, 2024
- Awards Announced: Monday, November 11, 2024

WINTER SEASON REGISTRATION - Step 1 – **Intent to Participate** – The Intent to Participate is what you will fill out prior to the season starting to let us know you will be participating, this is mandatory. The deadline for Winter Season is October 29th, click [here](#) to fill it out.

WINTER SEASON UPDATES

- Please expect winter season registration details and portal updates during the Statewide Monthly Leaders Call scheduled for Tuesday, Oct 29 at 6PM – we hope you can join us/meeting will also be recorded!
- Please also note that we will be reaching out directly to Program Coordinators and Coaches within the next week to right size permissions in the portal based on previous season feedback.
- In the meantime:
 - Please do let us know your program will be joining us this upcoming season by completing the Program Intent to Participate form by midnight on Tuesday, Oct 29: <https://bit.ly/SOWA-Reg>
 - Update athlete and volunteer credentials here: <https://portals.specialolympics.org/> - if you are experiencing challenges, please reach out to portalsupport@sowa.org or Lindsey Cornish (lcornish@sowa.org).
 - More resources for athletes, circles of care, etc. around portal navigation coming soon!

COACH MEETINGS (Registration Required – click “HERE” to reg.)

Bowling Regional in Tri Cities (**ALL Areas**) – Register by clicking [HERE](#)

Date Changed to Oct 28 @ 5:30PM:

UPDATED EAST REGION CALENDAR

- October 27 Flag Football Regionals (Tri-Cities)
- October 28 NOTE DATE CHANGE * 5:30 pm * Coach Meeting for Bowling Regionals
- October 29 [Intent to Participate](#) Due for Winter Sports
- November 2 Volleyball Regionals (Tri-Cities)
- November 3 Bowling Regional (Tri-Cities)
- November 18 Winter Practice Start Date
- February 2 Basketball Regionals in Sunnyside
- February 8 Basketball Regionals in Pullman
- February 28–March 2 State Games - Wenatchee

The East Region Web Site is your most up to date source for Competition information.

<https://specialolympicswashington.org/east-region-sports/>

EMPHASIS on ATHLETE SUPERVISION at OVERNIGHT EVENTS: At Spring State Games, we experienced higher than normal incidents of Athletes getting lost on the PLU campus, and being under supervised in the Dorms and at the Dance. The safety of our Athletes is the #1 priority. In the near future, we will be putting together supervision guidelines for our Coaches & Chaperones.

EMPHASIS ON ELIMINATING TRASH TALKING: We expect all those associated with Special Olympics to be respectful to each other. We need to get rid of negative statements or actions between opposing players and coaches – **ON and OFF the field**. This includes taunting, baiting, berating opponents, trash-talking, or actions which ridicule, threaten, or cause embarrassment to them. Coaches & Program Coordinators – Please address this with your teams. Repeat offenders will be subject to sanctions listed in the Special Olympics Code of Conduct.

EMPHASIS ON LESS CONTACT IN SPORTS: Thanks for your efforts with this initiative. At Soccer Regional & State Competitions, we observed far less contact than in previous seasons. We still have a ways to go, but are making solid progress.

EAST REGION CHALLENGE ... let's build a wheelchair!

Danielle Cares for Chairs collects plastic bread tabs to make wheelchairs ... ok, they recycle the tabs to make money for wheelchairs. The Whitman County Cougars Special Olympics Team is collecting for this foundation, and we need your help!!

ATHLETES – we challenge you to collect as many tabs as you can, and you can win a T-shirt!

- Each athlete who collects 100 tabs earns a T-shirt!
- Deadline is the 2025 Spring Regionals in Cheney, WA
- You do not have to attend the Games; your tabs can be brought by a coach or fellow athlete.
- The form below must be inside a zip lock bag(s) with your tabs so we can award your prize.
- Tim Toon, East Region Program Manager, will be awarding the T-shirts. Athletes who collect 500 or more tabs will receive an even bigger prize ... but that's something Tim needs to figure out before Spring Season!!



100 of these cool little plastic tabs = one of these cool little t-shirts (designs vary according to stock & sizes on hand)

Helpful hint – 100 tabs weighs @ 1.3 ounces, so we will award T-shirts according to weight since we will not be able to count every bag at the Regional Tournament. So, 500 tabs will weigh 6.5 ounces.

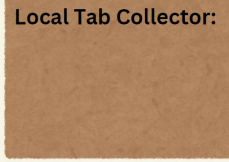
Bread Tab Collection!

Help Special Olympics Washington collect bread tabs to fund for a wheelchair! Please contact Lauren or Deb with any questions!

Lauren.wille@wsu.edu & whitcospecialo@gmail.com



Local Tab Collector:



Tracy & Megan Gaines * Walla Walla Special Olympics



Walla Walla highlights area resources for Disability Employment Awareness Month

As I receive pictures from other Programs, I will share in these Leader Memos.

Tri-Cities Bowling Teams





WSU – Spokane Unified & Spokane Pacers

