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**CONTACT:** Dan Wartelle, Special Olympics Washington

**PHONE:**  (206) 795-0965, dwartelle@sowa.org

**2016 SPECIAL OLYMPICS WASHINGTON WINTER GAMES**

**#RaiseYourGame for a NEW Special Olympics Washington!**

More than 1,500 Special Olympics athletes competing in Alpine, Basketball, Figure Skating, Nordic, Snowboarding and Speed Skating will represent Washington hometowns ranging from Bellingham to Vancouver and Seattle to Spokane at the 2016 Special Olympics Washington Winter Games in Wenatchee, East Wenatchee & Leavenworth, March 4-6.

Opening Ceremony will be held at the Town Toyota Center in Wenatchee on Friday, March 4 beginning at 7 p.m. and will feature Grand Marshal Brooklyn Holton, U.S. Olympic Bobsledder & Blue Thunder! All events are FREE and the general public is encouraged to attend.

**NEW for Winter Games 2016!!!**

* A THEME!  #RaiseYourGame
* Free pair of Brooks shoes to any adult who attends Opening Ceremonies from 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Arrive late, no worries grab a coupon.
* WIN Free Lift Tickets to Mission Ridge at Opening Ceremonies
* Free Health Screenings will be provided to new and existing athletes (athletes and Unified Partners) on Sunday at the Convention
* Alpine/Snowboarding Competition Viewing Area:  Includes a 30 ft. video screen of athletes participating on the Alpine hill, announcer and DJ (Saturday Only)
* Snowshoeing Demonstration Saturday 1:30 – 3pm in Leavenworth
* Grand Marshal:  Brooklyn Holton, US Olympic Bobsledder
* Victory Village @ Convention Center includes:
	+ Awards ceremony for Basketball, Speed/Figure Skating, Alpine, and Snowboarding competitions
	+ Expo:  New Sports Information, Athlete Leadership opportunities & Local Businesses
* Young Athletes Graduation @ Opening Ceremony at the Town Toyota Center
* “My First Sports Experience” prior to Opening Ceremonies at the Town Toyota Center
* Unified Pair as Winter Games Spokesmen and CO-OC Emcees
* Blue Thunder will be attending the Opening Ceremonies

**NEW…Download the App!!!**

Special Olympics Washington has launched a new APP for the 2016 Winter Games. This will be your one-stop spot for schedules, maps, results, photos and much, much more. The Special Olympics Washington Winter Games App, is available via the “Apple APP” store or Google Play. Search Special Olympics Washington and “Love it” on Facebook!

Athletes from across the state will converge on Wenatchee, to compete in four sports during the three-day event: Cross Country Skiing, Figure Skating, Speed Skating and Basketball. The 1,500 athletes will be supported by nearly 300 coaches and 700 volunteers.

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