



Welcome to the First Edition of the Special Olympics Kansas Coaches Newsletter! This bi-monthly newsletter will provide you, as coaches, with information and resources you need to be the best coach you can be for your athletes.

In this issue, find information about National Volunteer Week, the new [Coaches Training System](#), [Coaches Training Schools](#), [Spring Sports Resources](#), [2018 Healthy Athlete Screenings](#), [Summer Games Headquarters Hotel](#) and a [Flag Football opportunity](#).

2018 NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IS APRIL 15 – 21

Volunteers are essential to the success of Special Olympics Kansas. We owe so much to the hundreds of coaches across Kansas who find the time to make the world a better place. Thank you to all volunteer coaches who have been a part of Special Olympics Kansas!



We try to recognize our volunteer's passion and commitment each day, but we think it's important for us to take this week to let them know how much they are the backbone of Special Olympics!

It is an honor to recognize outstanding service to our organization, and these winners represent the best of the best. They have made a significant difference in the lives of our athletes, in our programming, and in our mission. SOKS is proud to recognize their accomplishments. [See Past Winners and Find Out How You can Nominate Someone](#)

COACH TRAINING SYSTEM

Special Olympics Kansas is constantly looking to improve our policies and procedures to better serve our constituents. We have listened to the concerns and questions posed by our Local Programs, coaches and athletes regarding the coaches training policy. To that end, we have revised what we are now calling the Coach Training System to make it more flexible, accessible and sustainable given the realities of our organization. [View Policy Information](#)

[Summer Games](#) is just around the corner. Make sure all of your coaches, in any capacity that will be working with athletes on the field, court or pool have Class A, Protective Behaviors and Concussion Training Completed.

COACHES TRAINING SCHOOLS

We will use this newsletter to let you know about upcoming Coaches Training Schools. [Visit the Coaching Section](#) of our website to see all of the latest information on upcoming opportunities. Also, on that page you will find Online Courses that can go towards your certification and others that we feel are useful to you as a Special Olympics coach.



SPRING SPORTS RESOURCES

- [Athletics](#)
- [Swimming](#)
- [Tennis](#)
- [Cycling](#)

2018 HEALTHY ATHLETE SCREENINGS SCHEDULE

Health Promotion Screening

- Metro Regional Track and Field / Blue Valley Northwest High School (13260 Switzer Road, Overland Park, KS)
- Saturday, April 28th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- [Download Flyer](#)

Summer Games Screenings

- Friday, June 1: Special Smiles – Wichita NW High School, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 2: Opening Eyes, Healthy Hearing & Health Promotion – Maize South High School, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- [Download Flyer](#)

Important Note: Athletes do not need to be competing in the competition or even be a current SOKS athlete to take advantage of having their health screened. They just need to make sure they have the [consent form](#) filled out.

Summer Games Headquarters Hotel

A block of rooms has been reserved at a special negotiated group rate at a brand new hotel for Summer Games from May 31, 2018 - June 3, 2018. The special room rate will be available until May 3rd or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first.

Group Name: Kansas Special Olympics
Group Code: KSO
Check-in: 31-MAY-2018
Check-out: 03-JUN-2018
Hotel Name: Hampton Inn Wichita Northwest
Hotel Address: 10047 W 29th Street North, Wichita, Kansas 67205
Phone Number: 3169256600

[Click Here to Book Online](#)

Flag Football Invitational

Special Olympics Kansas is gauging the interest of teams in participating in a Flag Football Invitational in Kansas City this fall, sometime between State Softball and State Soccer.

Interested teams should contact Tim Rehder at rehdert@kssso.org to express interest and get more information. It is our goal as an organization to incorporate regional and state flag football competitions into the sports calendar in the future and this would be the first step towards that goal.

Powerlifting Belts

As a reminder, athletes must wear belts for deadlift and squat. The belts can not have additional padding.

Questions? Comments?

Please contact Chris Burt, Vice President of Health and Community Outreach, at burtc@kssso.org or 913-236-9290 x107.

