



**Special Olympics**  
Kansas

# Coach News Update

**Want to meet KC Royals catcher Salvador Perez? You can! Salvy will be at the SOKS headquarters in Mission on August 25. [Find out more!](#)**

In this issue of our monthly Coaches Newsletter you will find information about an upcoming [Flag Football Clinic](#), [2018 NIRSA Regional Flag Football Tournaments](#), [Article on Growth of Unified Sports](#), [Fit Families/Fit Friends Challenge](#), [Coaching Special Olympics Athletes Online Course](#), [Principles of Coaching Course](#) and more. There is lots of good and relevant information in this email so please take some time to look over all of it.

Coaches and Assistant Coaches play a unique and indispensable role in Special Olympics Kansas. They provide the sports skills and spirit that define a true athlete and serve as role models and character builders. Thank you for your service!

## WANT TO MEET KC ROYALS CATCHER SALVADOR PEREZ?

You can! Salvy will be at the SOKS headquarters in Mission on August 25

Who: All fans of the Royals and Salvador Perez!

When: Saturday, August 25 at 11 a.m.

Where: Special Olympics Kansas, 5280 Foxridge Drive, Mission, KS 66202

What: For each ticket purchased you get to meet Salvador Perez and receive an autographed 8x10 limited edition photo of Perez PLUS one photo taken with Perez.

This is a fundraiser for Special Olympics Kansas. All proceeds go to Special Olympics Kansas. No outside items will be autographed at this event.

BONUS: If you register by August 20th you will receive one entry per ticket for the Salvy Splash drawing. One lucky fan will get to experience a real Salvy Splash at the event!

[Order your tickets HERE](#)

## GROWTH OF UNIFIED SPORTS CONTINUES ACROSS COUNTRY

*Special Olympics Unified Sports is a climate changer – not in the global warming sense, but in the social weather patterns of a school. Educators recognize the complicated climate patterns of their student bodies all too well, many times bracing for the impact of the social segregation of students with physical and cognitive disabilities from students without disabilities. The ramifications on instructional time, classroom management and learning capacity is evident when the social climate of a school is unstable and overcast with self-imposed social segregation. [Read Full Article from National Federation of State High School Associations](#)*

We are actively working to expand the Unified Sports League across the entire state of Kansas!

Program start-up funds are available for new middle school and high school programs coming on-board in the 2018-19 school year.

Interested administrators, teachers, coaches or parents should contact Chris Burt at [burtc@ksso.org](mailto:burtc@ksso.org) or 913-236-9290 x107 about how you can get your school going.

[Click here for more information on Unified Sports](#)

## FLAG FOOTBALL CLINIC

Join Special Olympics Kansas for a Flag Football Coaches' Clinic! The clinic will cover how to get a flag football team started, rules, equipment, organization, strategy and a game demonstration. The clinic is geared towards coaches but athletes and families are welcome to join. Pre-register for a chance to win a flag football team set.

Date: August 29th

Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Location: Prairie Center Park, Field C, 555 N. Olathe View Road, Olathe, KS

Even if you don't think you're interested in starting a flag football team, we encourage each local program to send a coach or representative to find out more.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

## NIRSA FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS

Thanks to Special Olympics continued partnership with NIRSA, four host universities have extended offers for Special Olympics Unified and Traditional flag football teams to attend the NIRSA Regional hosted at their IM-REC campus facilities this fall. We are excited to be part of this event at Oklahoma State University (19-21 October) for the first time, and glad to be returning to the University of Florida (19-21 October), University of Maryland (9-11 November) and the University of Nebraska (2-4 November). Contact Chris Burt at [burtc@ksso.org](mailto:burtc@ksso.org) to get more information on these tournaments.

## KC SPORTS MEMORABILIA AUCTION

Join us October 20, 2018 at the Abdallah Shrine Temple, 5300 Metcalf Ave, Shawnee Mission, KS 66202

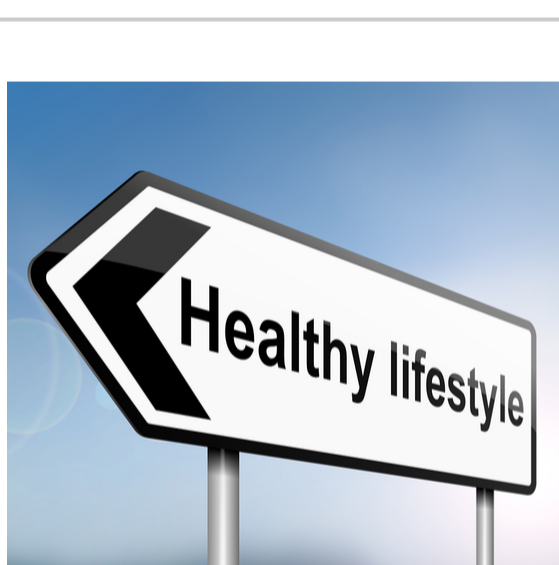
Hundreds of signed sports memorabilia up for auction including items like a Salvador Perez World Series Jersey, Rick Flair red boot, Bobby Knight folding chair, plus items from the NHL, MLB, NFL, KU and more!

[Click HERE](#) for more information.



## UPCOMING FIT FAMILIES/FIT FRIENDS CHALLENGE

Fit Families/Fit Friends is a 6-week fitness challenge for athletes and their supporters (family members or others) to get active and healthy together. Groups track their physical activity and nutrition in a weekly journal and submit their progress along the way. The challenge offers incentives as families/teams work towards a healthier lifestyle. Participants can repeat the challenge in efforts toward year round fitness.



Families who complete the challenge and all required documents will receive a team reward at the end of the 6 weeks!

Interested? [Complete this quick initial interest form!](#) [Please share with any families in your local program that may be interested.](#)

## COACHING SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES ONLINE COURSE

This course is a self-paced online course designed to be taken by individual coaches.

This course prepares Special Olympics coaches to use their sport-specific knowledge in coaching athletes with intellectual disabilities. The 24/7 convenience and low cost make it attractive to new coaches in preparation for their first Special Olympics coaching role. It also meets the Special Olympics standards and competencies for coach certification. For veteran Special Olympics coaches, this course serves as a reminder of the essentials sometimes forgotten after years of coaching. The course also satisfies the Special Olympics recertification or continuing education requirement. [Find Out More](#)

## PRINCIPLES OF COACHING COURSE

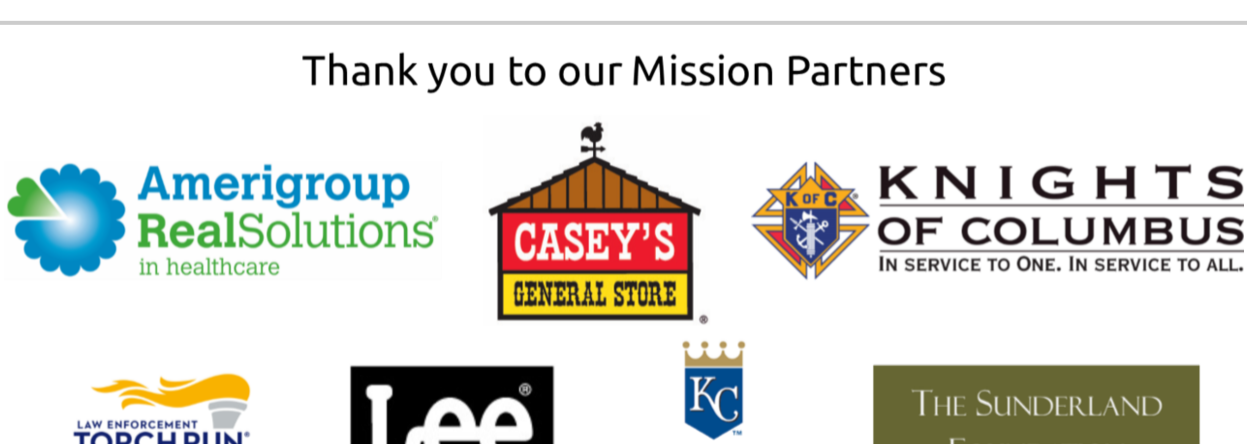
*"I am very glad I took the Special Olympics Coaching Course offered through West Virginia University. The course was very manageable and can be completed within a few short sessions. I learned a lot about planning a program, training season, and training session as well as effectively communicating with parents. I believe the course has made me a better coach and am excited to incorporate the information I learned into our programs. I recommend this course to anyone interested in coaching or volunteering in Special Olympics, or even for current coaches and volunteers who have been involved in Special Olympics for several years, like me. The information is invaluable and certainly will add to anyone's experience!" - Chad Hale, Coach for Hamilton County – Special Olympics Ohio*

The 2018 Fall semester is now open. [Register for the Principles of Coaching Course](#)

## Are you looking for volunteer coaches? We can help.

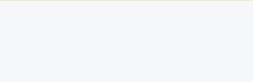
Please contact Chris Burt, Vice President of Health and Community Outreach, at [burtc@ksso.org](mailto:burtc@ksso.org) or 913-236-9290 x107.

## Thank you to our Mission Partners



Special Olympics Kansas 5280 Foxridge Drive, Mission, KS 66202 Tel 913 236 9290 Web [www.ksso.org](http://www.ksso.org)  
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