



2026 Handbook



2026 State Summer Games - Utica, NY

Event sport schedule to follow closer to the event



Friday, June 5

1:00 – 5:00 pm	Delegation Check-In	Utica University, Strebel Student Center
4:30 – 6:45 pm	Performance Stations	Utica University, Clark Center parking lot
5:00 – 7:30 pm	Dinner for All Athletes/Coaches	Utica University, Strebel Center, Dining Hall
6:30 – 7:30 pm	Honored Guest	Utica University, Thurston Hall
6:00 – 6:30 pm	Head of Delegation Meeting	Utica University, Strebel Student Center
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Opening Ceremonies	Utica University, Gaetano Stadium
10:00 pm	Curfew	Utica University, Residence Halls

Saturday, June 6

6:00 – 9:00 am	Breakfast for All Athletes/Coaches	Campus Center, Strebel Center, Dining Hall
8:00 – 5:00 pm	Competition	Venue Sites
	Athletics	Utica University, Casamento Field
	Basketball	Utica University, Hutton Dome
	Basketball Skills	Utica University, Clark Center
	Powerlifting	Adirondack Bank Center
	Swimming	Hamilton College, Pool
	Tennis	City of Utica, Parkway Rec Tennis Center
	Volleyball Team	Mohawk Valley Community College
10:30 – 11:30 pm	Boxed Lunch Distribution	All Event Venues
4:30 – 8:30 pm	Victory Celebration	Utica University
4:30 – 6:45 pm	Victory Dinner	Utica University, Strebel Center, Dining Hall
5:30 – 8:30 pm	Healthy Athletes	Utica University, Hutton Dome
7:00 – 8:30 pm	Victory Dance	Utica University, Hutton Dome
10:00 pm	Curfew	Utica University, Residence Halls

Sunday, June 7

6:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast for All Athletes/Coaches	Utica University, Strebel Center, Dining Hall
7:00 – 11:00am	Housing Check-out	Utica University, Strebel Student Center

Sports Offered:

Athletics: Utica University, Casamento Field, 1600 Burrstone Road Utica, NY 13502
 Basketball Team: Utica University, Hutton Dome, 1600 Burrstone Road Utica, NY 13502
 Basketball Skills: Utica University, Clark Center, 1600 Burrstone Road Utica, NY 13502
 Powerlifting: Adirondack Bank Center, 400 Oriskany St W, Utica, NY 13502
 Swimming: Hamilton College Pool, 198 College Hill Rd, Clinton, NY 13323
 Tennis: Parkway Rec, Utica Tennis Center, 210 Memorial Pkwy, Utica, NY 13501
 Volleyball: Mohawk Valley Community College, 1101 Sherman Dr, Utica, NY 13501

Control Center: Utica University, Wilcox Center

Opening Ceremonies & Performance Stations: Utica University, Gaetano Stadium

Victory Dance & Healthy Athletes: Utica University, Hutton Dome

Athletics Competition Schedule

Schedule subject to change



Venue: Utica University,
Casamento Field
1600 Burrstone Road
Utica, NY 13502

Sport Director: Harry King

Final Schedule	
Time	Event
6:00 AM	Facility Open
6:30 AM	Sport Director Arrival
	Venue Captain Arrival
7:15 AM	Volunteer Check-In Crew Arrival
7:30 AM	Athlete Arrival
8:00 AM-3:30PM	Volunteer Time (main shift)
8:00 AM	Coaches Meeting
8:30 AM	Competition begins
8:30 AM-3:30 PM	Awards Volunteer Time
11 AM-1 PM	Lunch
12:30 PM-4:30 PM	Afternoon & Breakdown Volunteer Time
4:30 PM	Departure

Weather plans are as follows:

The events will take place as scheduled so, athletes and coaches should be prepared to compete in the rain. The safety and conditions of the facilities and environment will be closely monitored by our leadership team. If conditions become unsafe events will need to be postponed or cancelled.

Basketball Team Competition Schedule

Schedule subject to change



Venue: Utica University
Hutton Dome
1600 Burrstone Road
Utica, NY 13502

Sport Director: Nancy Logan

Final Schedule	
Time	Event
7:00 AM	Facility Open
7:30 AM	Sport Director Arrival
	Venue Captain Arrival
8:30 AM	Athlete Arrival
8:30 AM	Pairing Games Volunteers Time
9:00 AM	Pairing Games Begin
9:30AM	Volunteer Arrival
Immediately after pairing games	Coaches Meeting
After Pairing Games	Officials Meeting
After Officials Meeting	Competition begins
10:30am-1pm	Lunches available
3:00 PM	Awards Begin as Divisions finish
4:00 PM	Departure

Basketball Skills Competition Schedule

Schedule subject to change



Venue: Utica University
Clark Center
1600 Burrstone Road
Utica, NY 13502

Sport Director: Jeff Wernick

Final Schedule	
Time	Event
8:00 AM	Venue Captain, Sport Director Arrival
8:30 AM	Volunteer Arrival
9:00 AM	Athlete Arrival
9:30 AM	Coaches Meeting
10:00AM	Prelims
11:30 AM	Lunch
12:30 PM	Finals
2:00 PM	Awards

Powerlifting Competition Schedule

Schedule subject to change



Venue: Adirondack Bank Center, AUD
400 Oriskany St W
Utica, NY 13502

Sport Director: Jan Daurio

Final Schedule	
Time	Event
6:00 AM	Facility Open
6:30 AM	Sport Director Arrival Venue Captain Arrival
7:00 AM	Athlete Arrival - Weigh-ins, Clothing Check/ Equipment Check
7:30 AM	Volunteers Arrival
8:00 AM	Athlete Warm up
8:30 AM	Coaches Meeting
9:00 AM	Competition Begins w/ Squat
	Bench
	Dead Lift
	Awards
2:30 PM-5:00 PM	Afternoon & Breakdown Volunteers
4:30PM	Departure

Notes from Venue:

- 2 bench platforms on rink level
- Awards on rink level
- Lunch on stage area

Swimming Competition Schedule

Schedule subject to change



Venue: Hamilton College Pool
198 College Hill Rd
Clinton, NY 13323

Sport Director: John Geissinger

Final Schedule	
Time	Event
6:15 AM	Access to Facility
6:45 AM	Sport Director, Venue Captain, Volunteer Check-In Arrival
7:15 AM	Volunteer Arrival
7:45 AM	Athlete Arrival
8:00 AM	Coaches Meeting & warm up
8:30 AM	Competition Begins
11AM-2PM	Lunch
4:00PM	Competition Ends

Notes from Venue:

- Follow 'red brick road' from drop off loop to pool area
- Bag drop Alumni gym 2nd floor
- Shoes & clothing must be worn outside of pool area
- Lunch distribution and seating 2nd floor
- Accessible lunch area in main lobby

Tennis Competition Schedule

Schedule subject to change



Venue: Parkway Rec, Utica Tennis Center
210 Memorial Pkwy
Utica, NY 13501

Sport Director: J.P. Perez Rios

Final Schedule	
Time	Event
7:00 AM	Gates open
7:30AM	Sport Director, Venue Captain, Volunteer Check-In Arrival
8:00 AM	Volunteer Arrival
8:30 AM	Athlete Arrival and on-court pairing warm up
9:00 AM	Coaches Meeting
9:15 AM	Singles Tournament
10:30am-1pm	Lunch available
2:30 PM	Awards
3:00 PM	Departure

Weather plans are as follows:

- Plan A: stay with the current schedule at the Parkway Rec, Utica Tennis Center outdoor facility.
- Plan B: depending on morning weather, begin play at Parkway Rec, and IF rain moves in later in the day, transition indoors to Mohawk Valley Community College, Athletics and Jorgensen Center, 1101 Sherman Dr, Utica, NY 13501 — the same venue as volleyball.

Volleyball Competition Schedule

Schedule subject to change



Venue: Mohawk Valley Community College
1101 Sherman Dr
Utica, NY 13501

Sport Director: Larry Johnson

Final Schedule	
Time	Event
7:00 AM	Facility Open
7:00 AM	Volunteer Check-In Arrival
7:15 AM	Sport Director & Venue Captain Arrival
7:30 AM	Volunteer Arrival
8:00 AM	Athlete Arrival
8:15 AM	Coaches Meeting
8:30 AM	Pool Play
10:30 AM	Lunch in Flights
Starts following pool play	Medal Rounds
4:00 PM	Awards

Health Program

Friday, June 5th - 5:15 PM - 7:45 PM

Performance Stations- Clark Center—parking lot

Visit the Performance Stations before opening ceremonies to learn about how fitness can improve your sport performance and collect some awesome gear to help you compete at your best! Stations will include physical activity/stretching, nutrition, hydration, and goal setting/positive mindset. **Athletes will receive giveaways at each station including snacks, seltzer waters, stretching bands and more!**

Saturday, June 6th - 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Healthy Athletes in Hutton Dome

Check out the Healthy Athletes event during closing ceremonies to receive free healthcare screenings and enter for your chance to win a raffle prize! **Athletes that visit at least 1 of the Health disciplines will receive a Special Olympics NY branded bag to collect all of their health giveaways!**

Special Smiles - Receive a free dental screening, learn how to correctly brush and floss your teeth, get a mouthguard, and grab a free toothbrush, toothpaste and floss to use at home!

Health Promotion - Learn how to maintain an advanced level of fitness and wellness by developing healthy habits in nutrition, hydration, tobacco avoidance, sun safety and hand washing. Grab some healthy snacks, sunscreen and ChapStick to make sure you keep yourself safe in the sun!



Health Program

FUNFitness - Learn about your flexibility, strength, balance, and aerobic fitness. Our volunteers will provide guidance and exercise recommendations to prevent and reduce the risk of injury, and help you be the best athlete you can be!

Opening Eyes - Receive a vision assessment and a free, customizable pair of prescription glasses, sport goggles or sunglasses!
(Athletes only)

Strong Minds - Stop by to learn about adaptive coping skills and strategies to maintain emotional wellness. Athletes will practice relaxation breathing, muscle relaxation, get stress balls, pinwheels, fidget toys and more!

Healthy Hearing - Receive a comprehensive hearing screening to detect possible ear and hearing problems and walk away with a free pair of earplugs!

Referral Care Opportunity!

If an athlete is identified as needing follow-up care and they do not have a provider to go to, the athlete/their caregiver may be contacted by National Care Advisors (NCA).

NCA has partnered with Special Olympics to offer athletes and their caregivers support in coordinating follow-up care appointments free of charge.

Since 2008, National Care Advisors has supported individuals with complex care needs in the areas of life care planning, quality of life, insurance and benefits, education, and case management.

Transportation Information

Utica University is a walkable campus but we will also have some buses for offsite sport venues.



Opening Ceremony and Victory Celebration will not have buses—only Saturday day of competition.

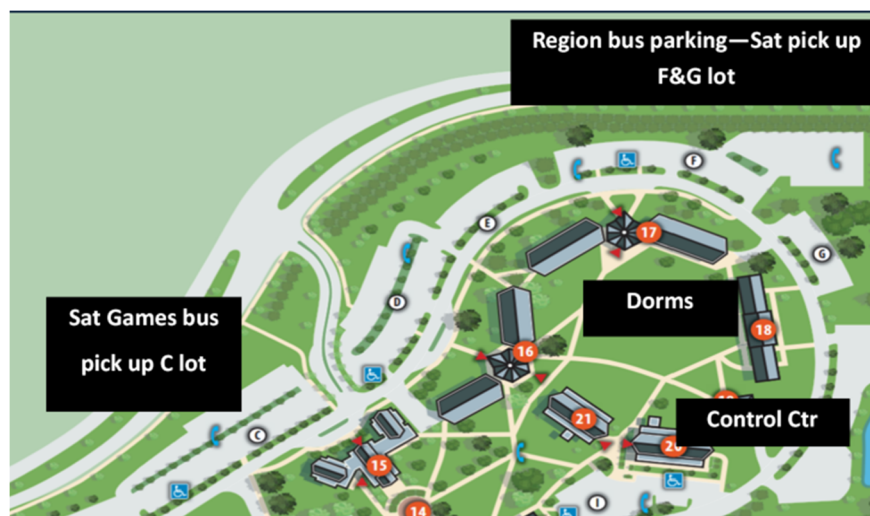
Onsite walking only: Athletics, Basketball Team & Basketball Skills.

Offsite Games busing: Powerlifting, Tennis & Volleyball * *These are not looping*

Offsite busing: competition day, please note the different Bus Stop areas:

Lot C - Games School Bus
Lot G & F - Regional busses

Connect with your Regional Director to learn which bus you are on. Regional vs. Games



Helpful Hints:

1. Be early!
 2. Offsite Busses are NOT shuttles and will not return until end of day
 3. For safety, buses will NOT pick up at Dorms or on side of road. Parking lot loading only
 4. Take all items with you when you arrive
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Lot C - Games School Bus Schedule

Powerlifting: Adirondack Bank, 400 Oriskany St W, Utica

School Bus (1)

Bus loads: 6:30 AM

Bus Departs: 6:45 AM

Departure Time from Venue: 4:00 PM

Tennis: Parkway Rec, Tennis Center , 10 Memorial Pky, Utica

School Bus (1)

Bus loads: 7:45 AM

Bus Departs: 8:00 AM

Departure Time from Venue: 3:00 PM

IF rain plan in enacted, bus will follow new plan

Volleyball: MVCC, 1101 Sherman Dr, Utica NY

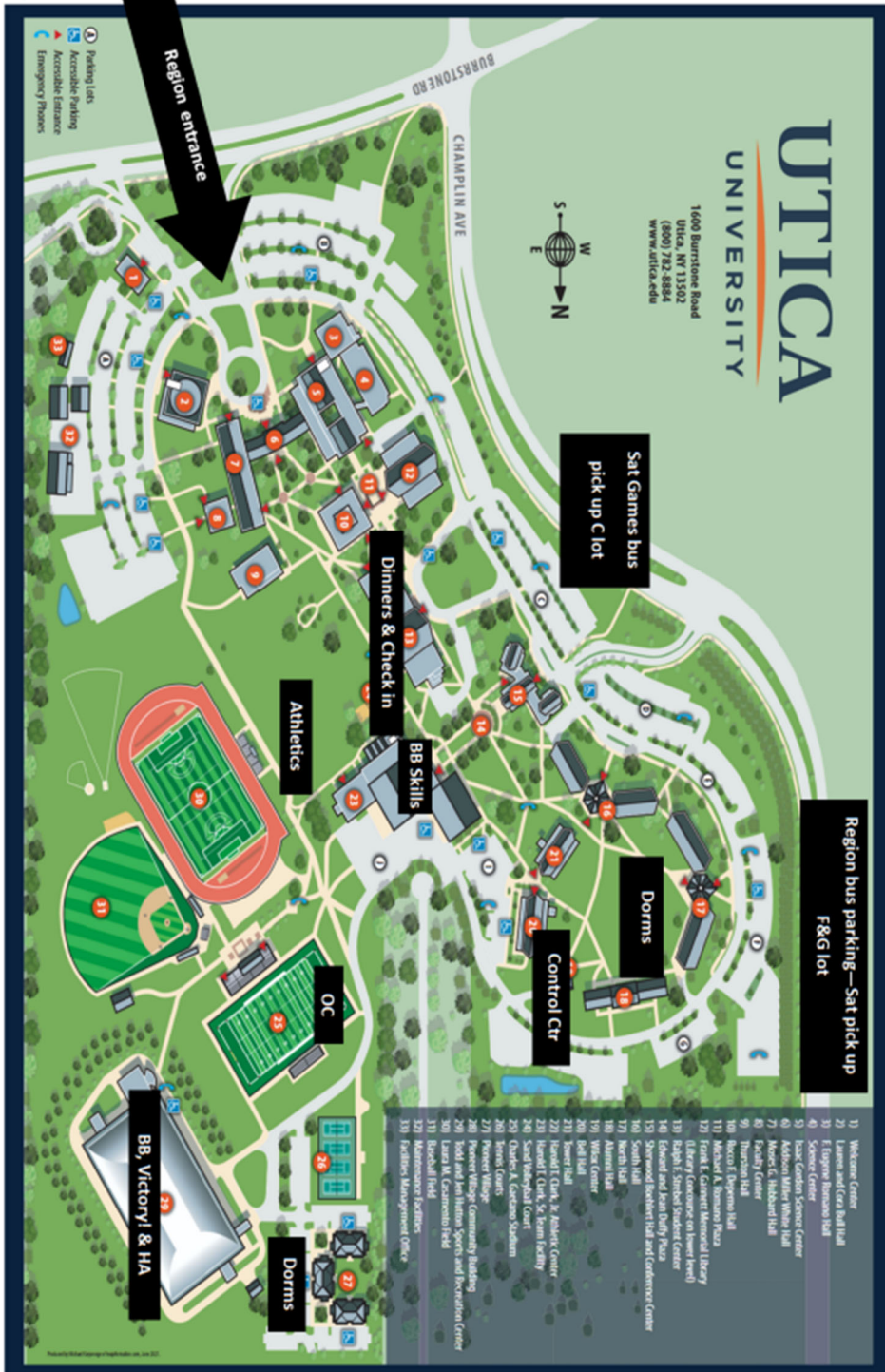
School Bus (1)

Bus loads: 7:15 AM

Bus Departs: 7:30 AM

Departure Time from Venue: 4:00 PM

Maps:



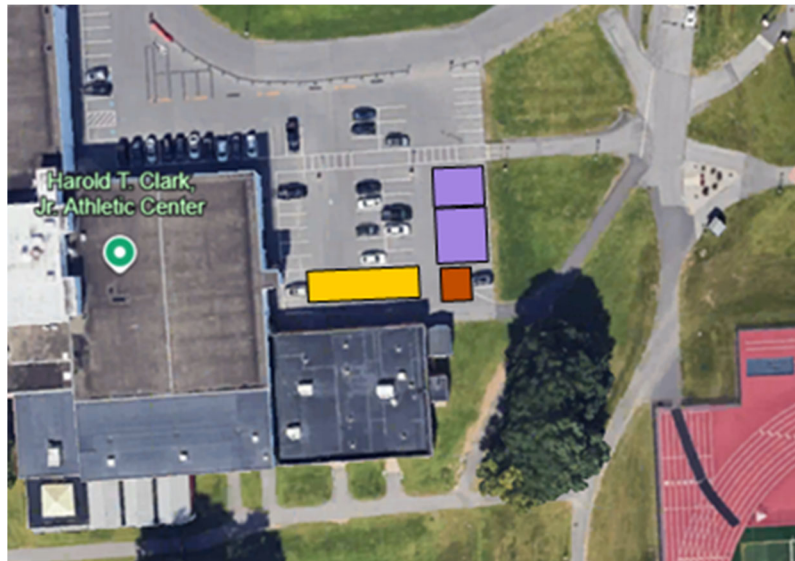
Athletics:

Special Olympics NY Utica University —Closed Track Map

- ◆ Blue Tent: all running events
- ◆ Red Tent: Jumps
- ◆ Orange Tent: Awards
- ◆ Green Tent: Softball throw
- ◆ Black Tent: EMS
- ◆ Purple Pop up Tents: Volunteer Zone
- ◆ Gray Tent: Officials
- ◆ Yellow Tent: Shot Put & Turbo Jav Staging
- ◆ Entrance = ⊙
- ◆ Exit = ⊗
- ◆ Bike rack =



Clark Center - tented area: Health, Athletics & BB Skills lunch



Delegation Check-in

Only Head of Delegations should report to Check-In located in the Strebel Center on Utica University Campus. Athletes and coaches should not be entering the area. Head of Delegation or Program Representative must identify themselves and will have to visit each station prior to leaving the check-in area. Below are instructions for the process.

STATION “A” - Adds and Scratches Directions

Station “A” is where we check adds and scratches. A "Scratch" Is someone who is no longer part of the delegation and will no longer be in attendance. An “add” is someone who is listed as an alternate who is being “added” to participate in an event. In order to activate an “alternate” someone must be scratched from the original team roster. Please clearly communicate and ensure understanding of the onsite staff who is being scratched and who is being added. It is also very important to communicate that the alternates you are not activating should be scratched from GMS.

STATION “B” - State Games Registration check point

Station “B” is where Delegation Registrations forms are checked.

Each HOD / Program Rep. will review the submitted Delegation registration forms with delegation check in to ensure all effective dates are entered in GMS and that all required paperwork has been submitted to the Share point.

STATION “C” - Competition Review

HOD/Program Rep. will stop at Station C to review and verify the competition data that includes all Divisioning Criteria, Team sizes, Athlete Partner Ratios, and proper skill level selection. Any changes to competition registration should occur at this station.

STATION “D” - "Nurse - Medications and HOD Phone Check"

HOD's are to stop at Station C to confirm that the onsite medical personnel has the correct contact number. EMS should be able to reach HOD's mobile phone Via text or call at all times during state games events.

STATION “E” - Housing

Check in with Lauren for any housing questions or turn in any dorm rooms for scratches.

Housing

Utica University will provide housing for athletes, coaches, and staff arriving on Friday, June 5th, and departing on Sunday, June 7th.

Utica University will provide bundled bed linens, towels and face clothes. Pillows will be provided. All linens bundles will be on the beds upon arrival.

Residents will be expected to make their own beds. Utica University Campus Living Staff will pre-inspect rooms to ensure all are in standard operating condition. However please alert SONY staff or Utica University staff of any damages or missing items in rooms.

Residence Halls:

Delegation	Dorm
Capital North Country	Bell Hall
Central Genesee Hudson Valley South- ern Tier	North Hall
Long Island	Alumni Hall
Western	Pioneer Village
New York City	South Hall

Athletes & Coaches Meals



Breakfasts & Dinners: Utica University, Strebel Student Center

Lunch: Eat where you compete - lunch can only be picked up by athletes and coaches

Coaches, staff, and volunteers should monitor the amount of food & beverages athletes are consuming, especially prior to competitions.

Everyone must bus their own dishes to the designated tray return station when they exit the dining area. Utica Univ will post adequate signage stating tray return areas. Volunteers will be there to assist if help is necessary.

**Meals are for the Athletes and Coaches only
No families may enter dining areas.**

Check in will be done at the door—please be prepared to show credentials/wristbands.

Steps to enjoying your Friday evening:

Arrive on site, get settled in dorm, explore, go to dinner starting at 5:00, we have a lot of people to feed in a tight time.

After dinner, exit out the back of Strebel and walk over to the white tent in the back of Clark. Enjoy some games and Performance Stations before getting into Opening Ceremonies line up at 7:45.

Food Trucks will be on Utica University campus on Saturday, June 6th, concessions will be available at Hutton Dome Saturday 10-2, cash only in the dome.

Hydration: water will be available at each venue—either water cooler or venue water station.

Go Green! Bring your reuseable water bottles!

MEDICAL

MEDICAL INFORMATION

1. Coaches must be familiar with participants' health problems, medications, dosages, etc.
2. All coaches should learn where phones and telephone numbers are as soon as they arrive in the housing area.
3. Medical personnel and emergency vehicles will be at competition sites.
4. First Aid personnel will be in attendance for the entire weekend. Designated medical personnel will be on 24 hour call. Medical personnel are trained in both CPR and first aid and will be readily identifiable.
5. Be certain that athletes dress appropriately. Liquid refreshments will be available at various locations around the fields.
6. If there is medication that must be refrigerated, let the housing staff or the medical personnel know when you register. Be sure you have access to the medication when needed.
7. All accidents or medical concerns, no matter how minor they may appear, must be reported to the medical personnel.



•IMPORTANT REMINDER•

Coaches are responsible for insuring that each athlete's medical release and consent form are with him/her during all activities at state games. This includes competition, opening and closing ceremonies, special events, travel time and while in the housing area.

MEDICAL

MEDICATION Each athlete or delegation member who is taking medication should have a complete supply of medications in **original container**. It is important that those individuals who are taking medication also bring an accurate list of medication use, as well as a schedule indicating the exact dosages.

CLOTHING Athletes should bring appropriate dress for competition. Rain Gear is encouraged as we will compete in the rain.

EQUIPMENT Athletes who require adaptive equipment should bring their own.

IN CASE OF INJURY OR ILLNESS

1. During the competition - Athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers should seek help at the nearest first aid station. Emergency care will be rendered there, or, if appropriate, referral to the hospital will be arranged by medical personnel.
2. Other Events - All events will have medical personnel in attendance, identified by a medical badge. The names and location of medical personnel staying at the dorms will be made available at registration.
3. Identification Wrist Bracelets - It is important that each athlete keeps his or her wrist bracelet on at all times. This simple procedure will expedite the identification and treatment of an injured athlete.



Emergency Protocol

Control Center: (315) 320-7820
Utica University, Wilcox Building #19 on map

All Others: 911

Remember if you are using a cell phone from outside the area, you must dial the area code. The area code for the area is **(315)**.

Emergencies should be reported IMMEDIATELY to the police, who will dispatch assistance as needed and you should then contact the Control Center.

The following types of incidents should be reported directly to the police:

Serious or Life Threatening Situations - accidents, injuries or situations where participants have been seriously harmed. This includes transports to the hospital for all injuries, admissions to the hospital, etc.

Potentially Dangerous or Hazardous Situations - such as extreme cold, overcrowding, severe weather, etc. which requires immediate action and response to avoid serious damage or harm to participants.

Report of Serious Crime - including allegations of crimes involving force, sexual misconduct, controlled substances and/or those which threaten the health and safety of participants.

Non-emergency incidents

Should be reported directly to the Control Center. Types of incidents that should be reported to the Control Center are as follows:
Violations - of SONY's policy on the strict prohibition of Alcohol by all people associated with any event which involves athletes in training or competition.

Media Exposure - any situation or complaint which may result in negative or controversial media exposure and will require implementation of SONY's Crisis Communication Plan. This would typically be linked to other incidents described in this section, but may also include disgruntled volunteers, spectators, parents, etc., any type of boycott/demonstration, etc. Please ALSO notify the police.

Other Incidents/Situations - which may not be of an emergency nature, but should be reported in the event an incident report needs to be filed, as well as for information/communication purposes should the situation arise again.

Evacuation Protocol

Dorm/Hotel Emergency Evacuations—whether emergency or drills, when the alarm sounds, safely exit the building using the nearest safe stairwell.

Do not use elevators. Evacuations are mandatory. Do not take time to gather personal belongings.

Leave The Building

- ◆ Follow the signs and exit the building as quickly and safely as possible and proceed away from the building.
- ◆ Once outside the building follow all instructions given to you.

The Head of Delegation and/or On-Call Regional Staff Member should report any missing persons or injuries to the emergency responders; Fire Department, etc. SONY Medical protocol will then follow.

No one may not re-enter the building until it is declared safe by the Fire Department, and they have authorized re-entry.

Hospital Designations

Wynn Hospital
111 Hospital Dr, Utica, NY
13502

ER Phone: 315-917-9966



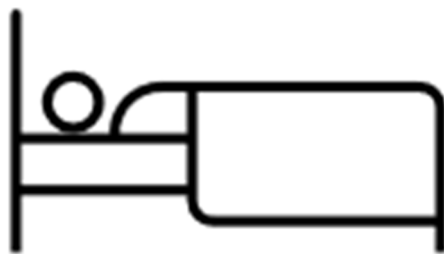
Overnight Travel: Guidance

Special Olympics New York (SONY) has implemented a delegation curfew for overnight events establishing restful quiet hours for sleep as well as the safety of our athletes and delegation members. Curfew times will be set by the Games Director for each overnight, communicated in the Games Handbook and reviewed at the HOD meeting(s).

Each delegation will appoint a HOD and Assistant HOD(s), one for each housing property assigned to the delegation.

In addition, each delegation will appoint one Special Olympics regional staff member to be the regional On-call. The HOD(s) and On-call will work collaboratively to monitor curfew and overnight safety. SONY Control Center is always available for support and emergencies throughout the Games.

The Control Center will maintain a curfew check-in report for each overnight. Each Region will list the HOD(s) and On-call names, including cellphone contact information on this form. Curfew check-in will be monitored by the Control Center.



Curfew Check-in Process:

- ⇒ At the designated curfew time for each overnight, athletes and delegates will return to their assigned rooms and prepare for bed.
- ⇒ **15 minutes** past curfew the HOD at each housing location will complete a room check for each delegate in their delegation, assuring that room assignments are complete, delegates are present and preparing for bed.
- ⇒ HOD(s) to monitor curfew and room checks for a minimum of **30 minutes** past the designated curfew.
- ⇒ At any time, should room check prove problematic, the HOD(s) should notify the regional On-call for support. Room checks to be repeated **10 minutes** after disturbances, until check is clear.
- ⇒ HOD(s) notify Control Center of clear check status before they retire for the night. Ideally this would be **30-45 minutes** past scheduled curfew. Control Center: Phone: (315) 320-7820
- ⇒ If there is a problem or unresolved concern, HOD or staff On-call notify the control center **immediately**.
- ⇒ Control Center will notify Games Director of all-clear upon HOD final check-in or alternatively **45 minutes** past designated curfew if delegations fail to check-in.
- ⇒ In the event of a failed curfew check-in, Games Director will work with the HOD and On-call staff to resolve issues and assure safety.
- ⇒ Curfew Check-in will remain active **throughout the overnight** until safety related concerns are resolved.

Protest Procedure

Protests on sports rules infractions may be filed by notifying the Sport Director at each venue. Please remember that judgment calls, heating, divisioning, etc., are not protestable.

Protest forms must be completed and turned in to the Sports Director at each venue, who will then page the necessary individuals for deliberation.

Protest must be lodged no later than 30 minutes following the event. In the case of team sports, officials must be notified of a protest at the point of contention, with the remainder of the games being played under protest.

Whenever possible, awards presentations will be held until resolution of the protest. Should awards be distributed prior to the resolution, and the outcome of the protest results in different awards placements, duplicate awards will be presented. Awards will not be taken away from an athlete once received in the awards ceremony.



Proper Competition attire

In previous state games we had several athletes who were disqualified for not wearing the appropriate attire for their competitions. Please be aware that we will again be following Special Olympic General Rules which clearly states that “proper attire is required for all of our competitions”. If coaches have any questions about what constitutes “proper attire” please review sports rules found for each sport at www.specialolympics.org

Be aware, not wearing proper attire is grounds for automatic disqualification from competition. Let’s all be proactive and avoid any unfortunate incidents.

Day Trip Check-In Process

All day-trip delegates are expected to keep their Head of Delegation (HOD) informed of any changes to their registration throughout the registration process. HODs must continue to communicate any updates as they arise over the course of the weekend. We frequently encounter last-minute changes from day-trip teams on the morning of competition, which can lead to disruptions to the event schedule and competition flow. To minimize issues, we are asking for your help to minimize these occurrences.

HOD Expectations:

- **Come prepared.** At Delegation Check-In, arrive with a complete and accurate understanding of which athletes and coaches plan to participate.
- **Alpha Roster Accuracy.** Clearly indicate:
 - All delegates who have **scratched** (withdrawn).
 - Any **alternates** who have been activated and are now participating.
 - Any **alternates** who are **not** being activated and should be scratched.
- **Ongoing Communication.** After initial check-in, if you receive any additional updates or changes, you must communicate them **immediately** to:
 1. Kyle Walsh – kwalsh@nyso.org
 2. Simphiwe Maqubela – smaqubela@nyso.org
 3. Applicable Regional Director of Program

Day Trip Coach Expectations:

- **Venue Arrival.** Upon arrival at your competition venue, please locate and check in with the on-site Special Olympics New York staff. Staff will be identifiable by official uniforms.
- **Confirm Registration Details.**
 - Confirm that the athlete list on file is accurate.
 - Report any last-minute changes that occurred during travel that morning.
- **Communicate Through HOD.**
 - Any changes prior to the morning of travel should be communicated through your HOD.
 - Changes not communicated prior to the start of competition could have a range of implications. We will always do our best to be accommodating, however some changes or accommodations may not be possible depending on the status of the event.

Please do everything you can to follow this process to ensure a smooth and enjoyable competition for all involved. We appreciate your efforts and understanding

Credentials

Please note that credentials will be needed for entrance to all meals in dining areas and competition venues. Volunteers will be enforcing this therefore, parents and guardians will not be allowed in dining areas. Athletes, Coaches and delegation support will show the wristbands or lanyards provided by HOD's as credentials.

In the event a registered delegation member needs a wristband, they will be at Delegation Check in on Friday and at the control center throughout the weekend.

Head of Delegation

Each region has designated a person or persons to serve as Head of Delegation. The Head of Delegation is directly responsible for the coordination and management of the region in matters that affect the entire region, particularly as it relates to the appropriate conduct of coaches, transportation, housing, meals, and special events.

The HOD meeting will be at 6:00 PM on Friday, June 5th, in the Stebel Center, same location as Delegation Check in

Opening Ceremonies

Athlete line up is at 7:45pm located behind the bleachers of Gaetano Stadium, start time is 8pm.

At Opening Ceremonies, local programs will be marching in under the Regional Banner. When lining up for the Ceremony, please look for your regional banner. Volunteers will be at the line-up to help organize.

Please be advised of the following during Opening Ceremonies:

Flashing Lights
Police Sirens
Loud Music

No Smoking Policy

As part of the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes effort, Special Olympics New York has been designated **Tobacco Free**. Smoking and use of other tobacco products (such as snuff and chew) will not be permitted at any Special Olympics training or competition, except in specific designated outdoor areas.

Nonsmoking and tobacco-free areas expressly include:

- Any enclosed place of public access
- Any indoor venue (competitive and non-competitive)
- The field of play at any venue
- The team and spectator areas at any outdoor venue
- Olympic Village
- Dining areas
- Any bedroom or living quarters of hotels
- In any Games transport vehicles



This practice has been put into place in an effort to protect the athletes, volunteers, spectators, and staff from the harmful effects of tobacco. This practice reflects Olympic tradition, as well as community and sports expectations regarding the hosting of sporting events.

We trust that coaches and area personnel will assist us with implementation of this Healthy Athletes initiative. Thank you in advance for your support of making Special Olympics Tobacco Free.

POLICY ON THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL

The consumption of alcohol by all persons associated with Special Olympics New York is prohibited from the time of departure for the event, until arrival back at your Region/Area.



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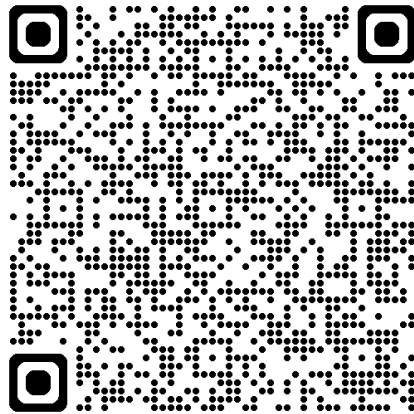
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**Special
Olympics**
New York

Help us Improve!

At the end of games,
please use fill out the
games survey.



THANK YOU, WE HOPE YOU
HAD A GREAT TIME!

