

Agency Times

Support. Volunteer. Compete.

5900 Monona Drive, Suite 301 · Madison, WI 53716 · (800) 552-1324 · FAX (608) 222-3578 · SpecialOlympicsWisconsin.org

ISSUE NO. 91

October 2009

Next issue is December 2009

Thank you!

Thank you to all the Agencies for attending your fall area meetings. It is inspiring to begin a new Program year with such talented and dedicated Wisconsin volunteers and to remember that we are part of a much larger vision. Here are some significant international facts gathered from the 2008 Census Results and Reach Report. More facts are available online at <http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/095102a6/1>.

- We are now serving nearly 3.2 million athletes worldwide. That is a 10.5 percent growth rate over 2007 results.
- We hold more than 33,000 competitions around the world which averages to 90 competitions hosted every day.
- Nearly 68 percent of our athletes are of school age (8-21), and more than 27,000 athletes serve in leadership positions through the Athlete Leadership Programs (ALPs).



National Games Athletes

Special Olympics Wisconsin has selected 64 athletes to attend the 2010 Special Olympics National Games in Nebraska July 17-24. Athletes will participate in Aquatics, Athletics, Basketball, Bocce, Bowling, Golf, Gymnastics, Powerlifting, Soccer and Tennis. Athletes were selected by random draw after an Assessment & Selection Camp held in Oshkosh.

Check out the SOWI website for a list of delegates and photos.

MedFest is Approaching!



MedFest is a day of FREE sports physicals and dental screening. Athletes needing a sports physical for participation in Special Olympics are encouraged to attend. Wisconsin's FIRST EVER MedFest will be held Dec. 4th in Milwaukee and your agency is invited to attend. The MedFest Registration form is attached to this Agency Times.

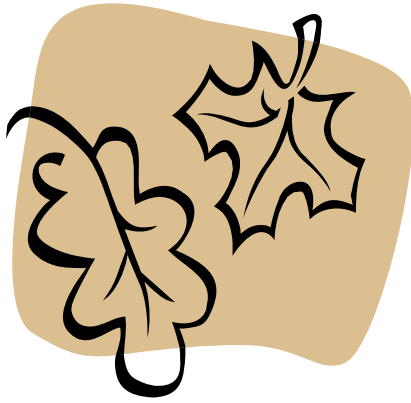
Contact Melissa Schoenbrodt for more info: mschoenbrodt@specialolympicswisconsin.org

Fall Sports Tournament Questions

- What is the protocol for assisting athletes with visual impairments who use ramps?
The volunteer may tell the athlete which pins are remaining, and then the athlete (not the volunteer) can adjust the ramp accordingly or tell the volunteer how to position the ramp. The volunteer may not aim the ramp without athlete input.
- Why doesn't SOWI allow substitutes for bowling?
Special Olympics tournaments are considered to be tournament play rather than league play and therefore do not allow substitutions.



Top 10



1. Thank you to the Agencies who have submitted their annual accreditation. (FYI—those Agencies who haven't will be dropped from the mailing list on Oct. 15).
2. Just a reminder that fourth quarter Agency financial reports need to be submitted by Jan. 15 in order for SOWI to comply with IRS guidelines.
3. Per the request at the Agency meetings, we have already received several Agency In-Kind Contribution Receipt Forms. We discovered that the formatting on this form in the Agency Manager Handbook is off, so please use the enclosed three-part carbon or contact your Area Office for additional forms.
4. Reprints of the portrait of Eunice Kennedy Shriver in the National Portrait Gallery are available to order. See the portrait and access the order form from the SOWI homepage.
5. Helpful hint from Agency Manager Michelle Schmidt, Fort Atkinson 7-21: you can export the information on the SOWI website regarding athlete medicals to an excel spreadsheet and then sort it by expiration date. Thanks Michelle!
6. The National Games delegation is planning to “take the plunge” as a team to raise money for their trip to Nebraska. Remember, your Agency can also coordinate a plunge team and earn 25% of the money raised. Online pledges now available on the SOWI website.
7. The World's Largest Convoy had a record number of trucks (137) and raised approximately \$100,000. See the SOWI website for details and photos.
8. Recently, SOWI President, Dennis Alldridge, testified before the Senate Committee on health, health insurance, privacy, property tax relief and revenue for their support of creating an individual income tax check off for SOWI. This has been part of a multiyear effort, and Agencies will be notified if it becomes reality.
9. Mario Ogunbowale, an athlete from Milwaukee, made his acting debut in an international advertisement for Special Olympics, Incorporated. The bonus: it was shot in Paris, France, and will hopefully be shown in U.S. basketball arenas, followed by television spots later this year.
10. Please continue to check out the Agency Management page of the SOWI website as we add your Agency's best practices to our list.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS WISCONSIN STATE PARTNERS

