

Special Olympics PA - Winter 2023-24 Calendar

Task/Project	Date	Responsible	Notes
Winter Season Kickoff	August 1	HQ & Regions	Provide sports offerings, rule updates/priorities, important dates/deadlines
Winter Site Registration Form	Aug 1 - Sept 1	Head Coaches	Indicate where training sites will occur for the season
Winter Season Coach Prep webinar	Before Sept 15	Regions	Webinar to review seasonal timeline and walk through Sign-Up process and attendance trackers.
Winter Sign-up Form	Sept 15 - Oct 15	Athletes/Volunteers	Everyone (athletes and coaches) interested in participating in the season MUST complete this sign-up form
Winter Coach Training School Request via VSys	October 15	Coaches	Must be submitted by individuals in their VSys portal under "Training Schools, Webinars and More" select "Request a Skills Training School"
Winter Coach Training Schools	Nov 1 - Dec 18	HQ & Regions to schedule	Registration links will be provided, all interested coaches must register on Vsys portal
Team Leader/Sport and Comp Coord. Pre-season webinar	November 7	HQ	Pre-season webinar to cover important things to know for the season, updates to sport rules and/or competitions
Winter Pre-season Coach webinars	November 8 - 17	HQ	Webinars to inform coaches in areas of emphasis and rule changes for the upcoming season
Winter Regional Pre-season coach meetings	Nov 20 - Dec 6	Regions	Regional meeting to review region specific events/info
Winter Season Begins	Dec 8 - Jan 5	Local Teams	To be eligible for Winter Games must begin training by Dec 15 (and complete 8 weeks of training); Indoor Winter Games by Jan 5
Winter Season Eligibility deadline	December 18	Regions	Athletes and coaches who have completed the Sign-Up Form must have all required paperwork completed by this time; those that do not will be scratched from rosters. All team sport age exemption requests must be submitted by this date. Coaches joining after this date must have all Class A requirements (valid background check and trainings) before attending a practice. Athletes looking to join after this date need to work with their respective Regional Team.
Winter Games (WG) Event Registration Info Shared	December 19	HQ	Will include revised allocations with team sport age group breakdown and events being offered at that competition
WG LOI Due	January 4	Local Teams/Regions	LOI = Letter of Intent, how many athletes are you requesting for this event
WG Final Allocations	January 5	HQ	HQ will provide final number of slots of event
WG Roster Finalized by Coaches	January 8	Head Coach	Coaches identify athletes attending event within Attendance Tracker
WG Rosters added to GMS	January 10	Regions	RSDs will pull list into GMS project
WG Google Registration link shared	January 10	HQ	Event registration link
Indoor Winter Games Event Registration Info Shared	January 12	HQ	HQ to send event information
WG Registration due	January 18	Local Teams/Regions	Event registration deadline
IWG LOI Due	January 25	Local Teams/Regions	LOI = Letter of Intent, how many athletes are you requesting for this event
IWG Final Allocations	January 26	HQ	HQ will provide final number of slots of event
IWG Roster Finalized	January 29	Head Coach	Coaches identify athletes attending event within Attendance Tracker
IWG Roster added to GMS	January 31	Regions	RSDs will pull list into GMS project
IWG Google Registration link shared	January 31	HQ	HQ to send event information
WG Competition Eligibility deadline	February 2	Regions	All participants registered for this event who have not met eligibility criteria (clearances, trainings or medical) will be scratched from the event
WG Scratch/Activation deadline	February 5	Local Teams/Regions	Last chance to remove or make changes to athlete scores
IWG Registration due	February 8	Local Teams/Regions	Event registration deadline
Winter Games	February 13-15	HQ/Three Rivers/R8	Seven Springs Resort
IWG Competition Eligibility deadline	February 29	Regions	All participants registered for this event who have not met eligibility criteria (clearances, trainings or medical) will be scratched from the event
IWG Scratch/Activation deadline	March 4	Local Teams/Regions	Last chance to scratch/add or make changes to athlete scores
Indoor Winter Games, York, PA	March 2-3	HQ/CAR	York Convention Center and surrounding facilities
Color Key:			
Staff: HQ and/or Regions	Regional Contacts	Northwest	Douglas Chuzie, dchuzie@specialolympicspa.org
Regions		Wilds	Jennifer Tresp, jtresp@specialolympicspa.org
Local Teams (Head Coaches/Volunteer Leaders)		Region 3 & 8	Michelle Baranowske, mbaranowske@specialolympicspa.org
Participants (Athletes/Volunteers)		Northeast	Kim Lope, klope@specialolympicspa.org
		GLVPR	Jason Merola, jmerola@specialolympicspa.org
		Region 6	Brynne Wacker, bwacker@specialolympicspa.org
		CAR	Shannon Pechart, spechart@specialolympicspa.org
	Three Rivers	Jessie Merckle, jmerckle@specialolympicspa.org	
Headquarters Contacts		Michelle Boone, mboone@specialolympicspa.org (Overall Winter Season)	
		Bruce Bach, bbach@specialolympicspa.org (Winter Games)	
		Erika Christiansen, echristiansen@specialolympicspa.org (Indoor Winter Games)	