

For Immediate Release

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS PENNSYLVANIA TO HOLD ANNUAL CENTRAL FALL SECTIONAL AT JUNIATA COLLEGE

More than 300 athletes will compete in full day of competition in 4 sports

(Norristown, PA September 17, 2018) – Approximately 300 Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) athletes and 100 coaches will travel to the Juniata College Campus, located at 1700 Moore Street in Huntingdon, PA, for the annual Central Fall Sectional on Sunday, September 23, 2018.

Athletes from the central part of Pennsylvania will compete in team and individual events in four sports including bocce (doubles & Unified Sports® doubles), long distance walking/running, powerlifting, and volleyball (team and individual skills). Over 200 area volunteers recruited from the college, regional clubs, organizations, schools and the surrounding community will give of their time to support the day's activities and cheer on the athletes.

The Central Fall Sectional will kick-off with Opening Ceremonies held in Juniata College's Main Gymnasium at 9:00 a.m. Competitions will begin at 10:00 a.m. and run until 4:00 p.m. Bocce, powerlifting, and volleyball individual and team competitions will be held on campus in the Kennedy Center. Long distance running/walking competitions will take place at Knox Stadium.

Athletes will have the opportunity to enjoy Olympic Village from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm outside of the Kennedy Center entrance. Olympic Village offers athletes a variety of fun activities to keep them busy in between competitions. Numerous Juniata College student clubs will set up booths and crafts tables, and area businesses will participate.

Athletes will also have the ability to gain an understanding of how healthy habits affect sport performance and everyday life by visiting Healthy Habits interactive education stations. The Healthy Habits program will take place in the lobby by the main entrance of Kennedy Center from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and is open to all athletes.

Spectators are welcome to visit any of the competition venues, cheer-on the athletes or volunteer. There is no charge to attend SOPA competitions for athletes, volunteers or spectators. **For a full schedule of the day's events, please [visit our website](#) or contact Wenona Sutton at wsutton@specialolympicspa.org.**

About Special Olympics Pennsylvania

Special Olympics Pennsylvania provides year-round training and competition in 21 Olympic-type sports to nearly 20,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disabilities. For more information about how you can help "Reveal the Champion Inside" thousands of Special Olympics athletes, visit www.specialolympicspa.org.