



Special Olympics Ohio Quarterly Family Support Newsletter – First Quarter 2018

FILL THE STANDS in 2018!

Keep in mind that Special Olympics Ohio is a fishing vessel, not a cruise ship...so we do need your help, as everyone on a fishing vessel contributes. Please, DO NOT KEEP your athlete's participation in Special Olympics a secret. It may be uncomfortable to brag about athlete's accomplishments; however, consider utilizing social media, be proud of their involvement and most of all, help to *fill the stands*. Our athletes want to perform, but more importantly, they want to perform for a **large** crowd of spectators. It provides that rush of performance adrenaline...the excitement and nervousness which turns into energy and enthusiasm to perform their sport at their absolute best!!

The theme is simple. Fill the Stands. Spread the message of Special Olympics. In return, will everyone in attendance be treated to the athletes and team very best performance? Yes, every time...without exception.

The Special Olympics Mission Statement is to provide year round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and *friendship with their families*, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

Coming Soon:

First Quarter State-Level Events...Special Olympics Ohio Winter Games, February 7th and 8th at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the Kent State University Ice Arena. Team Basketball and Basketball Individual Skills State Finals will make a return to Tuscarawas County (Dover HS & MS, New Philadelphia HS, Central Catholic HS, and Strasburg HS), March 23rd and 24th. Please come out and help **FILL THE STANDS** at one or all of these events!!! 😊

Let's Get Social – Fostering Community

Special Olympics Ohio is on various social Media platforms and we want to make sure that you know all about them:

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsOhio/

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/SOOhio

Check out some snaps on Instagram: instagram.com/specialolympicsoh/

And check out some great videos on these YouTube channels:

[Special Olympics Ohio](#)

[SOOH - Athlete Leadership](#)

Tell Us Your Story!

We understand the importance and power of a single story and we want to help you share how Special Olympics Ohio has impacted your life. So we are asking YOU—athletes, volunteers, coaches, fans, etc., to share your story with us for the chance to be featured on our website and social media! We will feature a new story regularly. If your story is not featured right away, don't worry, we will keep it on hand for future use!

If you have a story to tell, share it with us by emailing it to kburdett@sooh.org. Be sure to send a couple of photos too!

We look forward to reading your stories!

