



To: All Wood County Special Olympics Athletes, Families and Providers

From: Jennifer Krouse Wood County Special Olympics Coordinator
LeAnn Frankfather, Recreation Specialist
Ken Windisch, Recreation Specialist
Angie Prowant, Recreation Specialist
Kamara Traylor, Recreation Specialist
Brooke Bruman, Recreation Specialist

Re: Fall Sports Registration

Date: July 6th, 2026

It is time to register for the Fall Sports 2026 season! Wood County Special Olympics (WCSO) is offering Flag Football, and Bowling. **Please read the following information carefully.**

Proudly, Wood County Special Olympics is a robust sports program that offers 9 different sports each year and participation is at an all-time high! For every sport season, Wood County Special Olympics tries extremely hard to avoid sport practices and games from overlapping. Unfortunately, this goal is not always met due to facility rental availability, program growth, and competition scheduling.

To offer the most successful program possible, we utilize outside community resources and facilities to host practices and events. This is a major cause for overlap in schedules. Each sports season, WCSO rents swim and bowling lanes, softball fields, indoor and outdoor track facilities, and golf courses. Communication with facilities begins months in advance to secure the schedule that would be most suitable for our athletes and families. Although the facilities do their best to accommodate our requests, they are not always able to grant each preferred choice.

The increased participation in our program also requires the creation of several teams within certain sports. For example, the high volume of volleyball and basketball athletes have led to the creation of multiple teams within the volleyball team and basketball team. Ultimately, this leads to the scheduling of additional practices, games, and times in those specific areas.

Each sports season, our program typically schedules competitions with seven other counties for basketball, volleyball, softball, and flag football. Our goal is to offer as much competition as possible for our athletes, so we try to be flexible and creative with our schedules to accommodate the availability of other counties as well as our own.

We appreciate your continued support in our program and our athletes. Without it, we would not be able to provide the program our athletes deserve. We are excited to spring into this next season, and we hope you are too.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Krouse
Wood County Special Olympics Coordinator

WOOD COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2026 FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION:

To participate, register online at:

www.woodcountydd.org > **Our Services > Special Olympics (Click on this link)**

Registration Deadline: Sunday July 26th!

Bowling:

We will be offering bowling on two afternoons each week: Tuesdays at Interstate Lanes in Rossford and on Thursdays at Al-Mar Lanes in Bowling Green. We will be offering two different time sessions at Al-Mar Lanes again this year.

Balls and shoes are available at both bowling alleys, however if you own your own shoes or bowling ball, you are encouraged to bring them. Wood County Special Olympics covers the cost of bowling for all athletes.

Special Olympics staff will not be providing transportation. You will be responsible for your own ride to the bowling alley and home.

**Practices for Bowling will start the week of September 1st. **

Interstate Lanes (Rossford):

Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00pm

**Practices will start on Tuesday, September 1st.*

Al-Mar Lanes (Bowling Green):

Thursday - Session 1 from 2:30-3:30pm

Thursday - Session 2 from 3:30-4:30pm

**Practices will start on Thursday, September 3rd.*

Flag Football:

We're excited to offer Flag Football again this year! Athletes will focus on learning the rules of the game, developing fundamental skills, and working together as a team. While all athletes will have opportunities to compete, please note that the level of competition may vary based on individual and team skill levels. We're looking forward to another great season filled with growth, fun, and friendly competition!

Based on last year's participation, we're excited to share our plan for this year's season. We will be offering three teams:

- **Skills Team**

This team is ideal for athletes who are new to the sport or are still learning the basics. The focus will be on understanding the rules, learning positions, and building confidence through fundamental skill development.

- **Traditional Blue & Silver Teams**

These teams are for athletes who have already developed basic football skills and are ready for more structured gameplay and increased opportunities for competition.

Practice Schedule:

- **Start Date:** Wednesday, August 12th
- **Days:** August Wednesdays only; September Mondays & Wednesdays
- **Times:**
 - *Skills Team:* 4:15–5:00pm
 - *Traditional Blue Team:* 5:15–6:15pm
 - *Traditional Silver Team:* 6:15–7:15pm
- **Location:** Wood County Board of DD
1921 E. Gypsy Lane Rd., Bowling Green
Meet and pick up near the Shelter House (between Buildings A & B)

Note: Team rosters will be shared after the initial assessment is completed.

****Mandatory Flag Football Skills Assessment will be on
Wednesday, August 5th at the Wood County Board of DD. ****

**For last names that start with the letters A through L,
the assessment will be held between 4:30 - 5:30pm.**

**For last names that start with the letters M through Z,
the assessment will be held between 5:30 - 6:30pm.**

Assessments should take 15-20 minutes and will be done on a first come, first serve basis. Once your assessment is completed, you may leave. If you are unable to make your time, please contact Ken Windisch at kwindisch@woodcountydd.org ASAP to schedule your assessment.

****Detailed Fall Sports Calendars will be sent after the registration deadline with specific practice and games time, and location information. ****

*** All athletes must have a valid Special Olympics Ohio Registration, Release, Health History, and Medical Form on file to be eligible to participate.**

- The minimum age to participate is 8 years old.
- If your Physical Exam form is less than three years old and was completed using the previous forms, it is still valid.

If you are a new athlete, need to update your information, or have a Physical Exam form that is older than three years, please complete the updated forms available online at: www.woodcountydd.org > Our Services > Special Olympics > Special Olympics Forms

Please Note: Wood County Special Olympics does not provide one-on-one (1:1) supervision during practices, competitions, or events.

Our program is designed to support athletes in a group setting, with oversight provided by trained coaches and volunteers. While we work hard to create a safe and supportive environment for all participants, we are not staffed to provide individual, continuous supervision for any single athlete.

If an athlete requires 1:1 support for medical, behavioral, or safety reasons, it is the responsibility of the family or caregiver to arrange for a support person to attend with them.

This policy helps ensure the safety and well-being of all athletes and allows our coaches and volunteers to focus on delivering a positive experience for the entire team.

If you have any questions, please let us know by emailing specialolympics@woodcountydd.org or email Jen Krouse, Wood County Special Olympics Coordinator at jkrouse@woodcountydd.org or by phone at 419-352-5115 ext.7907.