

**Wolfpack Special Olympics Track & Field Announcements**

**Sunday, May 15, 2016**

\*\* Please read this entire handout thoroughly before calling with questions!\*\*

*Information about the Summer Games:*

* The Washington State Summer Games will be **June 3rd-5th in Tacoma, WA at Fort Lewis-McChord Airforce Base (JBLM)**. Only athletes that qualify for the State Track Meet will be traveling to Tacoma with the team.
* **Travel Itinerary:** We will be taking a charter bus
  + Depart: Friday, June 3 at 7:00am from 1412 W. Central Ave (Wolf Den)

**Athletes - please plan to be there by 6:30am**

* + - Lunch Friday: Ellensburg, WA Exit 109 (Restaurants by McDonald’s)   
      (Cost: $10)
    - Dinner Friday: TBA (Cost: Paid for by SOWA/Coaches)
  + Return: Sunday, June 5 TBA at 1412 W. Central Ave. (Wolf Den) - We will be leaving from the track meet and likely will be home very late. **Please plan pick-up rides accordingly.** 
    - Dinner Sunday: on the road (Cost: $10)
* **Medicine:** Bring ONLY what is necessary for the weekend in a well-marked package with athlete name, medicine name, dose, and time to be given. No monthly blister packs or pill bottles with more days than needed.
* **Housing:** We have not heard where we will be staying but it will either be on base or at Pacific Lutheran University. Information will be provided on May 22, including necessary items to pack.
* JBLM Access Information:
  + **Caregivers planning to accompany athletes, Family, & Friends - EMAIL ME (christena.georgas@gmail.com) BY TUESDAY, MAY 17 at 12pm TO BE INCLUDED ON THE BASE ACCESS FORM.** 
    - **Information Needed: First, Middle, and Last Name & Date of Birth**
  + I will email you the pass for your car to print out (if needed) once SOWA sends it to me
  + If you do not email me, you will have to use the visitor gates for JBLM.
  + You may enter any JBLM gate during the games with the access pass. Please avoid using I-5 because of congestion. There is a bridge between JBLM’s McChord Field and Lewis Main Fort, UNITY Bridge.
  + ID required for access
* **Opening Ceremonies:** Friday, June 3rd from 7:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Promptly)
  + Location: McChord AFB Hangar #1
  + Seating is available for registered family members and spectators in the bleachers.
* **Olympic Town:** Open during the track meet Saturday and Sunday by Cowan Stadium.
* **Healthy Athletes**: Open during the track meet Saturday and Sunday in Youth Activities Center (previous location for powerlifting), across from Cowan Stadium
  + Athletes can receive FREE health screenings from qualified medical professionals in podiatry, dental, vision and hearing. Athletes who are in need of follow-up care will receive referrals if appropriate.
  + Participation in this event will be subject to coach/volunteer availability
* **SOWA Phone Application:** There will be an application provided that contains all important information for Summer Games that will go live May 30, 2016, the Monday before Summer Games. If you search “Special Olympics Washington” in your applications search bar, you will find the app for Washington’s state games. You will have access to competition schedules, maps, directions, as well as promotional items. Updates and schedule changes will also be pushed out through the APP.
* **Family/Spectator Events**
  + In order to participate in the special family/spectator events listed below, **REGISTER BY MAY 27 at:** http://goo.gl/forms/9HpImcLbyN
    - **New Victory Dinner/Dance and Happening:** Saturday, June 4 from 5:30pm - 7:15pm at Hangar #1 and #2, JBLM.
    - **Athlete and Family Lounges:** SOWA is excited to expand the opportunities provide for Athletes and Families by offering lounges at each sport location. Where space permits, competition and/or activities venues will have a lounge for credentialed athletes to socialize and spend time between events. Extra hygiene items, brochures on Athlete Leadership, Athlete Input Surveys, and more will be provided! Be sure to stop in and take advantage of the resources!
    - **Priority Seating** at venues
* **No tobacco products, vapors, sugary drinks (pop, energy drinks, juice, etc.), or junk food are allowed during practice or from the time we get on the bus on June 3rd to when we return on June 5th.** 
  + **\*\*\*State Special Olympics Summer Games Smoking Policy: “**Smoking is not allowed at ANY Special Olympics Washington event or competition area. Smoking areas will be designated by the military. There is absolutely NO smoking at cycling, opening ceremony, or the Victory Dinner/Dance.”

**As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call or text Christena Georgas-Burns at 605-381-5220 or email her at christena.georgas@gmail.com.**