

Special Olympics PA - Winter 2024-25 Calendar

Task/Project	Date	Responsible	Notes
Winter Season Kickoff		HQ & Regions	Provide sports offerings, rule updates/priorities, important dates/deadlines
Winter Site Registration Form	Sept 1 - Oct 1	Head Coaches	Indicate where training sites will occur for the season
Winter Sign-up Form	Oct 15 - Nov 15	Athletes/Volunteers	Everyone (athletes and volunteers/coaches) interested in participating in the season MUST complete this sign-up form
Coach Certification Requests	Oct 31	Coaches	Inform your RSD of sport coach certification needs
Winter Coach Training Schools	Nov 1 - Jan 15	HQ & RSD	List of Training Schools and Registration links are posted in the NEW Portal, you must REGISTER to attend a Training School. Timing is sport dependent, snow sports may not be able to occur until January.
Team Leader/Sport and Comp Coord. Pre-season webinar	Nov 13	HQ	Pre-season webinar to cover important things to know for the season, updates to sport rules and/or competitions. Will not occur live, recording will be shared in weekly Team Leadership email.
Winter Pre-season Coach webinars	Nov 12 - Nov 21	HQ	Webinars to inform coaches in areas of emphasis and rule changes for the upcoming season, at least 1 coach per training site should plan to attend - recording will be posted to Sports Offered page of website.
Winter Regional Pre-season coach meetings	Nov 25 - Dec 6	Regions	Regional meeting to review region specific events/info
Winter Games Event Registration Info Shared	Dec 13	HQ	Will include revised allocations with team sport age group breakdown and events being offered at that competition
Winter Season Begins	Dec 6	Local Teams	To be eligible for State Games athlete MUST complete 8 weeks of training prior to that event, this can include dryland training.
Winter Season Eligibility deadline & Team Sport Age Exemption deadline	Dec 20	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.
Indoor Winter Games Event Registration Info Shared	Jan 3	HQ	HQ to send event information
Declare participants for Winter Games competition and work with Program Leader on LOI	Jan 7	Head Coach	In columns L on the Tracker Athlete/Vol tab, mark with an "X" those Athletes and Unified Partners that desire to attend the event. Follow the normal process for your program to submit LOI requests.
Winter Games LOI Due	Jan 9	Local Teams/Regions	LOI = Letter of Intent should be submitted by Program Leadership or Regional Staff.
Winter Games Final Allocations	Jan 10	HQ	HQ will provide final number of slots for event
Winter Games Roster Finalized by Coaches	Jan 13	Head Coach	Based on final allocations, coaches update athletes and volunteers attending the event and identify their role within column H on the Event Registration tab. Additional volunteers who plan to attend event but are not listed on Tracker need to be shared with RSD.
Winter Games Rosters added to GMS	Jan 14	Regions	RSDs will pull list into GMS project
Housing Form shared with Programs	Jan 16	HQ	HQ will provide housing list to Programs
Winter Games Registration and Housing due	Jan 23	Local Teams/Regions	Event registration deadline: Complete Event Registration info for each athlete/UP attending on the Roster tab of Tracker (starts in column J)
Indoor Winter Games LOI Due	Jan 23	Local Teams/Regions	LOI = Letter of Intent should be submitted by Program Leadership or Regional Staff.
Indoor Winter Games Final Allocations	Jan 24	HQ	HQ will provide final number of slots for event
Indoor Winter Games Roster Finalized by Coaches	Jan 27	Head Coach	Based on final allocations, coaches update athletes and volunteers attending the event and identify their role within column H on the Event Registration tab. Additional volunteers who plan to attend event but are not listed on Tracker need to be shared with RSD.
Winter Games Rosters added to GMS	Jan 28	Regions	RSDs will pull list into GMS project
Housing Form shared with Programs	Jan 30	HQ	HQ will provide housing list to Programs
Winter Games Competition Eligibility deadline	Feb 3	Regions	All participants registered for this event who have not met eligibility criteria (clearances, trainings or medical) will be scratched from the event
Winter Games Scratch/Activation deadline	Feb 4	Local Teams/Regions	Last chance to scratch/add or make updates to athlete scores
Indoor Winter Games Housing and Attendee list due	Feb 6	Local Teams/Regions	Event registration deadline - confirm athletes via delegation report, add coaches/volunteers, complete housing
Winter Games	Feb 11-13	HQ/Ridge & Valley	Seven Springs Resort
Indoor Winter Games Competition Eligibility deadline	Feb 19	Regions	All participants registered for this event who have not met eligibility criteria (clearances, trainings or medical) will be scratched from the event
Indoor Winter Games Scratch/Activation & Scores deadline	Feb 20	Local Teams/Regions	Last chance to scratch/add or make updates to athlete scores
Indoor Winter Games	March 1-2	HQ/Capital Area	York, PA (multiple venues)
Color Key:			
Staff: HQ and/or Regions		Northwest	Douglas Chuzie, dchuzie@specialolympicspa.org
Regions		Wilds	Jennifer Tresp, jtresp@specialolympicspa.org
Local Teams (Head Coaches/Volunteer Leaders)		Region 3	Michelle Baranowske, mbaranowske@specialolympicspa.org
Participants (Athletes/Volunteers)		Northwest	Tom Robinson, trobinson@specialolympicspa.org
		GLVPR	Jason Merola, jmerola@specialolympicspa.org
		Region 6	Brynne Wacker, bwacker@specialolympicspa.org
		CAR	Shannon Pechart, spechart@specialolympicspa.org
		Region 8	Michelle Baranowske, mbaranowske@specialolympicspa.org
		Three Rivers	Jessie Merckle, jmerckle@specialolympicspa.org
		Headquarters Contacts	Michelle Boone, mboone@specialolympicspa.org (Overall Season)
			Bruce Bach, bbach@specialolympicspa.org (All Competitions/Fall Fest lead)
			Erika Christiansen, echristiansen@specialolympicspa.org (Central Event lead)