



## **MEDIA ALERT**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – EVENT CANCELLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

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### **SPECIAL OLYMPICS PENNSYLVANIA'S 2020 WESTERN BOWLING SECTIONAL HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO IMPENDING INCLEMENT WEATHER**

**(Norristown, PA) January 16, 2020** - The 2020 Western Bowling Sectional scheduled for Saturday, January 18, 2020 has been cancelled due to an inclement weather advisory calling for snow and ice. We regret to inform the public that the event will no longer take place; however, the safety of our athletes and volunteers is our primary concern.

The 2020 Western Bowling Sectional competitions were to serve as qualifying events for athletes who expressed an interest in competing at the 2nd annual 2020 Indoor Winter Games in York, PA from March 7th – 8th.

Athletes will still have a chance to qualify for the Indoor Winter Games through a random selection. The bowling drawing will be held on Friday, January 17th, and athletes will be notified soon thereafter.

More than 300 athletes, 100 coaches and 200 volunteers were scheduled to participate during the Games. The event was scheduled to take place at the Eastway and Greengarden Lanes in Erie, PA, as well as Westway Lanes in Girard, PA.

For information, please contact Mike Ermer, Western Competition Director at 724-375-7515, ext. 243.

#### **About Special Olympics Pennsylvania**

Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) provides year-round training and competition in 21 Olympic-type sports to more than 20,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disabilities. For 50 years, SOPA and its 54 local programs have used the power of sports to transform the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and unite everyone by fostering community and building a more acceptable and civil society. SOPA is much more than a sports organization. Through its Athlete Leadership Programs, athletes assume meaningful leadership roles, influence change within the Special Olympics movement and take on roles as Global Messengers (trained as public speakers for Special Olympics), athlete representatives, coaches, board members and more. SOPA also addresses major challenges facing its athletes including healthcare. Its Healthy Athletes program offers athletes free health screenings in the form of eye, ear, dental and podiatry assessments. Athletes are also taught how to live active lifestyles, eat healthy and more. Additionally,



SOPA strives to create a unified world by promoting inclusion, uniting communities, and changing attitude. Through Unified Sports, SOPA brings together individuals with and without intellectual disabilities as equal teammates in training and competition, which promotes respect and acceptance, and facilitates meaningful relationships between people of all abilities. For more information about how you can join “The Inclusion Revolution,” visit [www.specialolympicspa.org](http://www.specialolympicspa.org).

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