

North Suburban Special Olympics
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Kevin 262-894-5120 (cell); Linda 414-550-5357 (cell)

Hotline: 414-327-1016

<https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>

November 2025

FALL UPDATES

VOLLEYBALL

Our three teams (Warriors, North Stars, and Spikers) have done well in practices and competition. We were able to host our Volleyball Invitational at Nicolet and competed in the State games – all three teams taking 2nd place – great job!.

BOWLING

We had a full house most weeks and offer participation in bowling as well as competition as individual, doubles, teams, and ramp. Everyone's had fun for this season. The on-site Regional tournament was at AMF lanes and we had a full complement of competitors. State games are the first weekend in December, in Weston. North Suburban is not supplying transportation and we know that the date for Region 8 is Sunday December 7th. Next year, the only competition for Region 8 will be the one held at AMF lanes, we do not know date.

TEAM BASKETBALL

The practices for team basketball will be held at the MILWAUKEE SAFETY ACADEMY (6680 N. Teutonia Ave., Milwaukee, 53209). For the first practices, we will do the basic skills and team evaluation. With new athletes joining and the loss of several these past years, we want to remind everyone that you may not be on the same team as the previous year; we may have to change team membership to fit the numbers, skills, and needs of all athletes. With the holidays coming fast, practices the first weeks are important for team assignment. Practices will be 6:30-8:00pm OR 7:00-8:00pm depending on the night. The Safety Academy has a fitness program for their individuals on Mondays until 7:00pm. ALL MONDAY PRACTICES WILL BE ONE HOUR FROM 7:00-8:00PM; Wednesday practices will be 6:30-8:00pm.

Please come on the evening of the week that you practiced on last year; if you are new to team basketball let us know which night for the first three weeks you can make it – everyone interested in team basketball should come to one night a week for the first three weeks. Monday, December 1 or Wednesday December 3, Monday, December 8 or Wednesday, December 10 and Monday, December 15 or Wednesday, December 17.

We hope to split into teams *after the new year*; and will inform all as to what our plans are for after the first two weeks. We will be using the Milwaukee Safety Academy for team basketball practices. Practices will be either Monday or Wednesday. There may be a few dates that will change a practice – players will be notified. As usual, practices will stop on the week after any team is eliminated from competition; this may affect which night the remaining teams will practice.

There will be no practices over the holidays – check the calendar - enjoy the break.

Milwaukee Safety Academy (MSA) – come in the back/side door and use the supplied sign in sheet, park in the back of the building, not in front of the building. Because of the activities held at the Academy, keep all noise in the hallway to a minimum. (6680 N. Teutonia Ave., Milwaukee, 53209). Reminders: do not roam the building; we are guests of this facilities. Please be on time and make sure your ride comes in good time after the practice time.

We sometimes get short notice if a facility is not available; so it should become a habit to call the hotline before coming to a practice to verify time and location. Don't forget that weather and the safety of those driving is always important – CALL THE HOTLINE! 414-327-1016; information, if possible, will also be emailed and on the website – <https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>

Tournaments/Invitationals – The invitationals are January 17-18th and February 1 – both at Vincent High School; the District Tournament will be on Sunday March 8, 2026, at Homestead High School. There are two changes – for the first Invitationals, teams will play on either one of the two days, not both. For the second, all teams will play on the one day. This is a scheduling change – in prior years, the first invitational was one day and the second a two-day event – this has been reversed for the 2026 season. There will be NO Sectional Tournament; decisions for which teams advance to State; decisions will be after the Regional Tournament, held on March 8. State competition will be part of the Indoor Games on April 17-19, 2026.

BASKETBALL SKILLS 2026

Basketball Skills practices will begin on WEDNESDAY January 7, 2026 – practices will be at the Milwaukee Safety Academy. The change is because the Academy is not available on Monday's until 7:00pm making it impractical to schedule skills and two teams. Practice will be 6:00-6:30pm. Regional Basketball Skills competition will be held at the Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School in Jackson on Saturday, February 14, 2026. State competition will be part of the Indoor Games on Friday April 17th – only the one day at late afternoon into the early evening. Athletes can compete in Basketball Skills and Swim, but NOT team basketball.

SWIMMING 2026

We will, as usual, allow participation in swimming. We will be practicing at the pool at Brown Deer High School for starting January 6, 2026. Regional swim is March 21, 2026, and we plan on participating in the TM swim meet on February 20, 2026, at Hamilton High School. Swim state competition will be part of the Indoor Games on April 18-19, 2026.

SWIM VS BASKETBALL 2026

With the new SOWI sports seasons implemented in recent years, we realize that making the choice between these two sports is a difficult decision and one many would prefer not to make. However, a choice has to be made. Athletes have to choose to compete in swim OR basketball; not both. To be able to put everything together, we must know the decision by each athlete = basketball or swim. Again a reminder that athletes can participate in swimming even if competing in basketball, but not participate in basketball if competing in swimming.

TRACK 2026

With the changes in sports offered by Special Olympics Wisconsin, we will be offering only track in the 2026 season. We hope to have practices start in March-April Wednesdays; will often depend on weather. The outdoor track practices are scheduled at Brown Deer High School. Track practices will be very important for event decision and timing. Regional Track will be May 17, 2025. Practices will be 6:30-8:00pm. The early in the season practices as we determine events and times for all athletes who choose to compete in track. There are a variety of walking and running events and field events – something to tempt everyone.

General Sports Information

We try to give as much scheduling information as we can, as much in advance as we have it. Please remember to keep practices, tournament dates and competition dates in mind when scheduling vacations, etc. Not only is this important for those in individual sports – to be able to learn and possibly advance to the next level, but it is important for all team events. Teams learn to play together and rely on each member to be there when needed. Participation is allowed in individual sports, such as swimming and track - but team sports require all athletes to be doing the sport as a competitive team.

It is mandatory that each team member attend and compete at a district level to advance to state (if that team advances) (or other mid-level competition). It is also required that every player participate in pre-district games and invitationals or other tournaments (a minimum of two games). If an athlete misses the area/district tournament, that athlete is no longer on the team for the year and should no longer attend practices – the team has to learn to work together, if that team advances to the next level of competition. Even if attendance at all invitationals is not mandatory, it greatly helps each team to have all members at such events. Annual dates are usually held at about the same weekend each year, so this would also help in advance planning. Special practices, games, etc. – we may not know much in advance, but we do let everyone involved know as soon as we do. Practices after a district event, even for those individuals or teams not advancing to state are very worthwhile – it's the time to work on skills or try something new, etc.

Reminder: Please pick up your athlete on time after a practice or other event. While we cannot guarantee to the minute when everyone will be ready to leave, we have had a few occasions where there was a significant wait for the last driver.

MISCELLANEOUS

CONCESSIONS

HELP! We can always use help at our concession stands (NSSO fundraisers) at the MPS Classic I (two days), MPS Brandon Spewer Tournament (one day), District Basketball, the fall NSSO Volleyball invitational, and don't forget the Sendik's Grill Out dates throughout the summer. We can use volunteers for any of these occasions - please consider helping us out. If you are willing to help out at any of these tournaments - setting up, working, taking down, etc. - please contact Glenn Nowak (414-940-9032; ganowak1541@gmail.com). If you can help with the Sendik's Grill-Out dates, contact Chuck Sigurdson (414-688-9106; csigurdson@sbcglobal.net)

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS – information will be distributed for these events.

PACKER PARTY – Sunday, November 23, 2025 – Milwaukee Safety Academy = watch for updates as the time of the Packer game may change and cause this event to be cancelled.

BINGO – Friday, January 23, 2026 = Milwaukee Safety Academy

REMINDER !!! NORTH SUBURBAN'S HOTLINE NUMBER  414-327-1016

WEBSITE - <https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>

Don't forget to check the Hotline and website regularly. During winter, it may not seem that bad weather would cancel a practice without being a blizzard, but there may be other unexpected reasons – remember when the swimming pool had no water? We cannot call all athletes or coaches when we cancel due to bad weather – check the hotline, your email, and/or the website. This also means athletes should not call their coaches to check to see if practice is cancelled. The cancellation message is generally on the hotline approximately 45 minutes before practice is scheduled (website as soon as possible). We will attempt to call athletes and volunteers for practice cancellations that are NOT due to bad weather, but it is still a good idea to listen to the Hotline or check the website before you leave for practice, because it is not always possible to reach everyone nor is there sufficient time to update any format.

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NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

NOVEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Bowling Practice & STATE Volleyball Tournament
2 <i>Daylight Savings</i>	3	4	5	6	7	8 Bowling
9 NSSO luncheon	10	11	12	13	14	15 regional Bowling Competition; no practice
16 Regional bowling – not NSSO	17	18	19	20	2	22 Bowling
23 Packer Party	24 NO Practice	25	26 NO Practice	27 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	28	29 Last Bowling Practice
30						

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURS.	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Team Basketball – first half	2	3 Team Basketball – second half	4	5	6
7 STATE bowling Region 8	8 Team Basketball practice – first half	9	10 Team Basketball – second half	11	12	13
14	15 Team Basketball - first half <i>Hanukkah</i>	16	17 Team Basketball– second half	18	19	20
21	22 NO Basketball practice	23	24 NO Basketball practice	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27
28	29 NO basketball practice	30	31 NO Basketball practice; <i>New Year's Eve</i>			

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

JANUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3
4	5 Basketball 7:00-8:00pm	6 Swim	7 Basketball (6:30-8:00pm) & Basketball Skills (6:00- 6:30pm)	8	9	10
11	12 Basketball	13 Swim	14 Basketball & Basketball Skills	15	16	17 MPS Classic I; Vincent HS
18 MPS Classic I; Vincent HS	19 Basketball	20 Swim	21 Basketball & Basketball Skills	22	23 Bingo	24
25	26 Basketball	27 Swim	28 Basketball & Basketball Skills	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Brandon Spewer; Vincent HS	2 Basketball	3 Swim	4 Basketball & Basketball Skills	5	6	7
8	9 Basketball	10 Swim	11 Basketball & Basketball Skills	12	13	14 Regional Basketball Skills
15	16 Basketball	17 Swim	18 Basketball & Basketball Skills	19	20 MPS/TM Swim invite; Hamilton HS	21
22	23 Basketball	24 Swim	25 Basketball & Basketball Skills	26	27	28

**NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS
MARCH 2026**

Track may start – exact schedule information will be determined after the team basketball full season schedule is determined.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Basketball	3 Swim	4 Basketball & Basketball Skills	5	6	7
8 REGIONAL BBALL	9 Basketball TBD	10 Swim	11 Basketball TBD & Basketball Skills	12	13	14 <i>Daylight Savings</i>
15	16 Basketball TBD	17 Swim	18 Basketball TBD & Basketball Skills	19	20	21 Regional Swim
22	23 Basketball TBD	24 Swim	25 Basketball TBD & Basketball Skills	26	27	28
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	30 Basketball TBD	31 swim				

APRIL 2026

Track will start – exact schedule information will be determined after the team basketball full season schedule is determined.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Basketball TBD & Basketball Skills	2	3	4
5 <i>Easter 2026</i>	6 Basketball TBD	7 Swim ; Track ?	8 Basketball TBD & Basketball Skills	9	10	11
12	13 Basketball TBD	14 Swim; Track ?	15 Track (6:30- 8:00pm)	16	17 Indoor State Games (Basketball Skills)	18 Indoor Spring Games (Team Basketball; Swim)
19 Indoor Spring Games	20	21	22 Track	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Track	30		

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS REGISTRATION FORM

Each athlete must complete this form and mail or email it to the address below so that it arrives by **December 5, 2025**:
NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS
1008 WOODVIEW, GRAFTON, WI 53024

ATHLETE NAME _____ PHONE _____

- Special Olympics is a training and exercise program, so we have listed practice minimums. We expect you to be at all practices, if possible. Remember that an athlete can compete in only one sport per season.
- **Basketball:** Since basketball is a team sport, there are no participants allowed, only competitors.
- **Swimming and Basketball Skills:** these sports do allow participation.
- If you have any questions, please call Kevin at 262-894-5120 or LindaB at 414-550-5357.

MAIL FORM OR REGISTER ONLINE – WEBSITE REGISTRATION PREFERRED:

<https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org/winter-sports-registration-2025/>

	BASKETBALL/SWIM/BASKETBALL SKILLS/SWIM Compete means attending practices, Invitationals, AND Area/District competitions and, possibly, State Competition.
<p><i>To compete in</i> Team Basketball</p> <p>1. Check here <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2. Answer these →</p>	<p>Athlete MUST ATTEND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 4 practices by February 20 or athlete will not be registered for Regional, and a minimum of 10 practices for the entire 2025-26 season or athlete may not be allowed to be on a team next year. • At least two games prior to the Regional Basketball competition on Sunday, March 8, 2026. • The MPS Team Basketball Classic I Invitational on Saturday-Sunday, January 17-18, 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will athlete attend this tournament? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO • Attend the MPS Basketball Brandon Spewer Classic on Sunday, February 1, 2026? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will athlete attend this tournament? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend the Regional Basketball Competition on Sunday, March 8, 2026. • Will athlete attend this tournament? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend the State Basketball Competition on Saturday-Sunday, April 18-19, 2026. • Will athlete attend this State Basketball? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO <p>You MUST attend Regional to advance to State with the team and to continue practicing with the team after the corresponding competition. You MUST be at the required invitationals.</p>
<p><i>To compete in</i> Basketball Skills</p> <p>1. Check here <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2. Answer these →</p>	<p>Athlete MUST ATTEND:</p> <p>A minimum of 3 practices by February 13 or athlete will not be registered for Regional and a minimum of 5 practices for the entire 2025 season.</p> <p>The Regional Basketball Skills Competition on Saturday, February 14, 2026.</p> <p>Will athlete attend Regional Basketball Skills? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend the State Basketball Skills Tournament, Friday, April 17, 2026, if athlete advances. • Will athlete attend for State Basketball Skills? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO <p>OR</p> <p>Will athlete participate in Basketball Skills, but not compete? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one - YES or NO</p>
<p><i>To compete in</i> Swimming</p> <p>2. Check here <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2. Answer these →</p>	<p>Athlete MUST ATTEND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Team Milwaukee Swim Meet, if possible, on February 20, 2026? Will athlete attend Team Milwaukee Swim Meet? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO • The Regional Swim Competition on March 21, 2026. Will athlete attend Regional Swim Competition? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO • Attend the State Indoor Games Tournament if athlete advances, on Saturday, April 18-Sunday April 19, 2026. Will athlete attend the State Swim Competition? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one – YES or NO <p>OR</p> <p>Will athlete participate in Swimming, but not compete? <input type="checkbox"/> Circle one - YES or NO</p>
<p>Please email this information</p>	<p>If you do NOT plan on competing in any sport in this season, please email that information to Kevin (kjszydel@wi.rr.com) or Linda (brothen@uwm.edu).</p>