

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS
1008 WOODVIEW, GRAFTON WI 53024
262-894-5120 (Kevin cell) ; 414-550-5357 (Linda cell) ; (414) 327-1016 Hotline
<https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>

March 2026

SPORTS UPDATES - 2026

BASKETBALL

With 4 Basketball teams, Basketball skills, and swimmers we have a long practice season. We greatly appreciate the Milwaukee Safety Academy for allowing us to use their gym facilities and Brown Deer High School for the swimming pool.

Regional competition is being held at Homestead on March 8. There is no Sectional competition this year – we hope that some team(s) will advance to State on April 18-19, 2026 at UW-Oshkosh.

BASKETBALL SKILLS

District tournament was Saturday, February 13, with the State games on Friday, April 17 at UW-Oshkosh for those that qualify to advance to the State competition.

SWIMMING

Swim practice is again part of this SOWI sports season, with Basketball. Regional Aquatics will be on March 21, 2026 at the YMCA at Pabst Farms, in Oconomowoc. State for swimming will be at UW-Oshkosh on April 18-19.

UPCOMING SPORTS

REGISTER FOR UPCOMING SPORTS VIA THIS WEBLINK:

[Spring Sports Registration - North Suburban Special Olympics](#)

ATHLETICS (TRACK AND FIELD)

Practices will be on Wednesday evenings starting April 1, 2026. With new athletes to athletics and/or potential event changes, we are asking all athletes WHO DID NOT COMPETE IN TRACK IN 2025 to attend the first practice on April 1st. If you are interested in changing events, we also recommend coming on the April 1st date. This first day for new and returning athletes will help coaches and athletes decide the best events. Other athletes are welcome but attendance is only expected for others as of April 8th. Please fill out the registration form with the information requested – it will help. We plan a structured time frame to get all events done at a practice with less stand-around time. Practices for some will start at 6:00pm and for others, will start at 6:30pm = practice should be complete for all by 7:45pm. Athletes can leave the venue after they have practiced their events, but must check in with the coaches before leaving the field. Regional Competition will be at Muskego High School, on Saturday, May 16, 2026.

Weather has, as always, an impact on practice actually being held. With no indoor track facilities available to use, attendance at practices will be very important because we will not have a guaranteed decent weather night to get timing done. These first practices will be mandatory to compete in the regional tournament due to the short time frame – let us hope for good weather.

TENNIS & SOCCER

With recent changes in Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) competitive sports seasons and sports offered, there will be NO soccer or tennis this year. SOWI is regularly studying sports offered and the season they are offered. We will be monitoring activity in re-activating these two sports and seeing what other sports might be considered or be moved in the calendar.

STATE

State Games for athletics (track) will be June 4-6, 2026 at UW-Whitewater.

SOFTBALL, BOCCIE

The summer sports will start in June. Bocce will be on Monday evenings, softball will be on Tuesday evenings (Maslowski Park). The bocce/softball invitational is on Saturday, July 18th at Wick Field. Regional competition will be August 1, 2026 with the State Tournament on September 5-6th at the DeForest area.

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS
1008 WOODVIEW, GRAFTON WI 53024
262-894-5120 (Kevin cell) ; 414-550-5357 (Linda cell) ; (414) 327-1016 Hotline
<https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>

ATHLETE REGISTRATION vs MEDICAL

On January 1, 2026, a new athlete registration system was put into place by Special Olympics International (SOI) for use worldwide. This was not initiated or devised by Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) or Special Olympics North America (SONA) – but intended to be the in-place so that all athletes are registered under the same system. The system in place for us before was a 3-year form requiring a medical signature (often hard to get when needed). The new form is considered an athlete registration, and not called a medical. Yes, the form asks for a health history, but no longer requires the medical signature unless there is a specific reason. More information is being sent out as a separate message.

COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS

Coaches/Volunteers – SOWI has a new and “improved” registration system (Voluntaro) -if you have problems with it, please contact SOWI directly for help. NSSO should be notified when you’ve completed the process.

MISCELLANEOUS

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. It is mandatory that each team member attend and compete at district level to advance to state (if that team advances), as well as being required to participate in pre-district games and invitationals or other tournaments. 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 should also help in advance planning, although changes in the sports seasons and availability of sites does make for some variation. 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.

REMINDERS FOR PRACTICES: Do not wear wet boots on the gym floor and leave all winter and/or wet attire outside the room. Also do not come to practice more than 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled time. We owe this courtesy to the institutions that we are using. Rides should also be on-time to pick up athletes, so we can vacate the premises within the required time frame.

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

REMINDER !!! <https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>

Don’t forget to check the Hotline and the 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 or the Milwaukee Safety Academy got closed because of health issues or it was 100 degrees in the shade? We cannot call all athletes when we cancel – check the Hotline – there may be insufficient time to send an email. We try to update the website as well for updated information. This also means athletes should not call their coaches to check to see if practice is cancelled. The cancellation message will be left on the hotline as soon as any special information is known – we try for 45 minutes before practice is scheduled, but don’t always have such advance notice. We will continue to attempt to call all 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 just before you leave for practice, because it is not always possible to reach everyone. If we have sufficient notice, we’ll try to get an email sent out. We also have location changes, which may not be expected, especially during basketball season. Please get into the habit of checking regularly - it helps.

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS
1008 WOODVIEW, GRAFTON WI 53024
262-894-5120 (Kevin cell) ; 414-550-5357 (Linda cell) ; (414) 327-1016 Hotline
<https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>

Special Activities

Our Activities Committee continues to plan occasional special activities. Watch for flyers as activities are scheduled. When these events are scheduled, it is simple to sign up online!! We are looking for parents and/or coaches who would be able to attend and be available for whatever is needed at the varied activities. If you are interested, or willing to help out for a specific event, such as the picnic, Packer party, bingo night, etc., please contact Lilane Koehn Mace at lkoehnmace@aol.com or 414-247-1146.

Don't forget the Jersey Mike's fundraiser for Special Olympics Wisconsin – dine for SOWI on March 25th.

Bingo is a popular social event – March 20th will be our next Bingo session – registration is available on our website.

We are planning a summer picnic but the date has not yet been confirmed - information will be distributed closer to the date.

Concessions

Don't forget the Sendik's Grill Out dates throughout the summer. These are great fun and a valuable contribution to our fund-raising. We can use volunteers for any of these - please consider helping us out. If you are willing to help out with the Sendik's Grill-Out dates, contact Chuck Sigurdson (414-688-9106; csigurdson@sbcglobal.net). Currently scheduled dates are May 9, May 30, July 11, August 8, and August 22. Dates in September and October will be scheduled later. All of this year's dates are for the Sendik's in Grafton.

Thanks to all who have volunteered and made our concession stands a success. We are always looking for additional help on these occasions. There are 4 during the year – and volunteers are needed at each event – the concessions at these sports events are fundraisers for North Suburban. The events are the NSSO Volleyball Invitational (October), the two MPS/TM basketball invitationals (January, February), and the Regional basketball tournament (March). If you are willing to help out, contact Glenn Nowak (414-940-9032; ganowak1541@gmail.com).

Website

Have you checked out the website? You will find many current items, photos = a wealth of information. Check for cancellations, special events, etc. Registration forms for events, including sports activities, are available from the website. All of our forms will now launch from a green button. The website address is <https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org>. A handful to type in, but make it a favorite!

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Basketball	3 Swim	4 Basketball & Basketball Skills	5	6	7
8 BBall REGIONAL <i>Daylight Savings</i>	9 Basketball	10 Swim	11 Basketball & Basketball Skills	12	13	14
15	16 Basketball	17 Swim	18 Basketball & Basketball Skills	19	20 Bingo	21 Regional swim – YMCA Pabst
22	23 Basketball	24 Swim	25 Basketball & Basketball Skills Jersey Mike's fundraiser for SOWI	26	27	28
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	30 Basketball	31 swim				

APRIL 2026

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

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Track	7	8	9 Sendik's - Grafton
10	11	12	13 Track	14	15	16 Regional Track Muskego High School
17	18	19	20 Track	21	22	23
24	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26	27 Track	28	29	30 Sendik's - Grafton
31						

JUNE 2026

Special Olympics North America, USA Games (UG)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Track	4 State Summer Games	5 State Summer Games	6 State Summer Games - Track
7	8 Bocce 6:30-8:00pm	9 Softball 6:30-8:00pm	10	11	12	13
14	15 Bocce	16 Softball	17	18	19 USA Games	20 UG
21 UG	22 UG ;Bocce (yes practice)	23 UG ; no softball practice	24 UG	25 UG	26 UG	27
28	29 Bocce	30 Softball				