North Suburban Special Olympics
1008 Woodview Drive, Grafton, WI 53024
262-894-5120 (Kevin); 414-550-5357 (Linda)
HOTLINE: 414-327-1016

August 2026

SPECIAL

Congratulations to the athletes and coaches who participated in the Special Olympics North America USA Games held in Minneapolis this past June. North Suburban was well represented. NSSO athletes competing in volleyball were John Avery, Craig Becker, Cindy Bentley, Geoff Coleman, Andrew Falek, Tim Kelly, Molly Teitgen, and Tim Vola. The team did great and took a gold medal! Also attending were NSSO coaches – great job! Bob Selingo for swimming, Kevin Szydel for volleyball, Micheal Mentzel for basketball, and Linda Brothen for bocce.

Fall Sports Information

Don't forget that athletes can compete in Volleyball and/or Bowling. Participation only is allowed for bowling, but, as always, not for volleyball.

VOLLEYBALL: Practices will start the first week of September (first date is Wednesday, September 9) and continue through October, with the State Volleyball tournament on November 7. We will be splitting volleyball into two nights as in prior years (Monday or Wednesday). Our practice site will be the Milwaukee Safety Academy. Please remember to ENTER the north side doors towards the parking lot, not the front door, and remember to use the sign in sheet (athletes, coaches, spectators). The required volleyball invitational is on October 18, 2026 at Nicolet High School.

The first two nights of practices will be for skills – come to what fits your schedule – we would prefer that all athletes come to both nights to get the skills done, if it's possible. Practices will be at the Milwaukee Safety Academy, 6:45-7:45pm (new time). Athletes will be notified of team assignment and night of practice after we know how many teams we will have. Volleyball is open only for competition and athletes must be able to attend the October invitational and the state competition.

BOWLING: Practices will start on Saturday, August 29, at Brown Deer Lanes and will be held Saturday's up to and including November 28th. If the schedule should change and there is no practice – information will be sent out as confirmed. Practices start promptly at 10:15am, please be there 15 minutes ahead; the door will not open until 10:00am. The fee this year is set at $ 100.00.

- The NSSO Volleyball Invitational Tournament will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2026. Schedule information will be distributed to the volleyball teams in October; games will be at Nicolet High School. This invitational is mandatory for all players. The SOWI State Volleyball Tournament is Saturday, November 7, 2026 – Milwaukee Sting Volleyball Center; N54 W13904 North Park Dr., Menomonee Falls 53051.
- The regional bowling competition is returning this year as a state competition - Sunday, December 6, 2026.

Please let us know if you will not be involved in sports this fall – for any reason. It could be that bowling and volleyball are not your preferred sports. It helps us plan.

Upcoming

Our annual Recognition Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, November 8. Mark your calendar. Information will be sent out later this fall.

Also add to your calendars – Bingo on Friday, September 25th and Packer Party on Sunday, November 15th.

We again plan on starting basketball on a Monday/Wednesday schedule – we found that it was quicker to get the required skills done and break into teams earlier, especially with the holidays taking some of our practice nights. NOTE: Team basketball practices will start in December. Complete information will be available in the next newsletter. Basketball skills will start in January, returning to Monday evenings.

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 a 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 required games and/or the area/district tournament and the team advances to the next level, 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. Even if attendance at all invitationals/ tournaments 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.

When you register for a team sport, please make sure that you will be able to attend all competitions as this is important in team building and SOWI rules. If you cannot attend mandatory competitions, please talk to Kevin and Linda before you register.

MISCELLANEOUS

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

While rain and other moderate inclement weather conditions do not generally cancel practices when they are indoors there may be other situations which would cancel a practice. Even something like dangerous winter driving conditions may require us to cancel a practice for the safety of drivers and passengers. So, keep in the practice of regularly checking the Hotline for current information. Remember that we may not always know about a building closure ahead of time, but if we do, it will be put on the hotline. Check the Hotline about 45 minutes prior to the practice start time to see if practice has been cancelled. For example, if practice starts at 6:00pm, a message will hopefully be left about 5:15pm. This means that athletes should not call their coaches to check to see if practice is cancelled. We will try to reach all athletes and coaches for sudden practice cancellations that are NOT weather related, but it is still a good idea to listen to the Hotline just before you leave for practice, because it is not always possible to reach everybody. If time permits, the website will also be updated with cancellation information.

This is also a reminder to not drop off an athlete at a practice until you have verified that a coach is on site. If the weather is iffy – stop and ask if a practice might be shortened and return on time.

Don't forget to get to a practice on time and please make sure that all drivers return at the correct time after the practice to pick up the athletes.

Website

Have you checked out the website https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org? A handful to type, but make it a favorite! You will find many current items and we love pictures. Check for cancellations and special events. Online forms launch from a green button.

Printing provided by Cornerstone Church, Grafton – Living to Love People Like Jesus Loves

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

AUGUST 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Bocce	4	5	6	7	8 Sendik's - Grafton
9 NSSO picnic	10 Bocce	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Bocce	18	19	20	21	22 Sendik's - Grafton
23	24 Bocce	25	26	27	28	29 First Bowling
30	31 Bocce					

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 Bowling
6	7 NO practice *Labor Day*	8	9 Volleyball 6:45-7:45pm	10	11 *Rosh Hoshanah*	12 Bowling
13	14 Volleyball; Bocce*	15	16 Volleyball	17	18	19 State Bocce; Bowling practice
20 *Yom Kippur*	21 Volleyball	22	23 Volleyball	24	25 Bingo	26 Bowling; Sendik's - Grafton
27	28 Volleyball	29	30 Volleyball			

'* bocce practice only for the teams advancing to State; 6:00-7:00pm

OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURS.	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Bowling
4	5 Volleyball	6	7 Volleyball	8	9	10 Bowling
11	12 Volleyball	13	14 Volleyball	15	16	17 Bowling
18 NSSO Volleyball Tournament	19 Volleyball	20	21 Volleyball	22	23	24 Bowling
25	26 Volleyball	27	28 Volleyball	29	30 Bingo	31 Bowling *Halloween*

Last Updated: 8/16/2026

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 *Daylight Savings*	2 Volleyball	3	4 Volleyball	5	6	7 Bowling Practice & **STATE Volleyball Tournament**
8 NSSO luncheon	9 NO Practice	10	11 NO Practice	12	13	14 Bowling
15 Packer Party	16 NO Practice	17	18 NO Practice	19	20	21 bowling
22	23 NO Practice	14	15 NO Practice	26 *Thanksgiving*	27	28 Bowling –last
29	30 NO Practice					

DECEMBER 2026

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

Last Updated: 8/16/2026

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS
202620 FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION FORM

This form is due by September 1, 2026

NORTH SUBURBAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS
3131 S. 77th St., Milwaukee, WI 53219
Email to kjszydel@wi.rr.com or brothen@uwm.edu

ATHLETE NAME _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____(specify athlete or parent)

- **Bowling:** Those athletes competing or participating in bowling must send a check for $100.00 for the bowling fees with this registration form. We would like everyone to pay the full amount to make it easier to administer, however, we realize this is a lot of money at one time, so we offer a split payment option. This option will allow you to send in a check for $50.00 with this registration form, with the remaining $50.00 due by October 15, 2026. If mailing a check. L to address listed above.
- **Volleyball:** Since volleyball is a team sport, there are no participants allowed, only competitors.
- If you have any questions regarding this form please call Kevin at 262-894-5120 or LindaB at 414-550-5357.

YOU CAN EASILY REGISTER ON THE WEBSITE: https://northsuburbanspecialolympics.org/nsso-fall-2025-sports-registration/

Choose from Options Below	OPTION DESCRIPTION **COMPETE**: Means attending practices AND Regional/District/State competitions **PARTICIPATE**: Means attending practice, NOT attending competitions
To compete in **Bowling** *1. Check here:* ☐ **And** *2. Answer questions* ➔	**Athlete MUST ATTEND and COMPETE:** • A minimum of 5 practices by November 5, 2026, or athlete may not be registered for the Bowling Competition and a minimum of 9 practices for the entire 2026 season. • The State Bowling Competition on Sunday, December 6, 2026. • **Will athlete attend the State Bowling Competition?** **Circle one: Yes or No** **OR** Will athlete **PARTICIPATE** in Bowling, not compete? **Circle one: Yes or No** ❑ Include a check with this registration form, for $100.00 (or $50.00 for the partial payment option) to cover the weekly bowling fees made out to: North Suburban Special Olympics.

To compete in **Volleyball**
1. Check here: ☐
And
2. Answer these questions ➔
	Athlete MUST ATTEND:
	• A minimum of 3 practices by October 12, 2026 and a minimum of 6 practices for the entire season or athlete will not be registered as part of the team and/or may not be allowed on the team next year.
	• At least two games prior to the SOWI Volleyball competition on Saturday, November 7, 2026.
	• The NSSO Volleyball Invitational Tournament on Sunday, October 18, 2026?
	  • **Will athlete attend the NSSO Volleyball Invitational? Circle one: Yes or No**
	• The SOWI Volleyball Competition on Saturday, November 7, 2026.
	  • **Will athlete attend the SOWI Volleyball competition? Circle one: Yes or No**
	• Will Athlete also **PARTICIPATE** in Bowling? **Circle one: Yes or No**
	  • If Yes, include a check with this registration form, for $100.00 (or $50.00 for the partial payment option), to cover the weekly bowling fees made out to: North Suburban Special Olympics.
	OR
	• Will Athlete also **COMPETE** in Bowling? **Circle one: Yes or No**
	  • If Yes, include a check with this registration form, for $100.00 (or $50.00 for the partial payment option), to cover the weekly bowling fees made out to: North Suburban Special Olympics.

Check here ☐	**If you do NOT plan on competing in any sport in the Fall season, please check here and return the form.**

NSSO USE ONLY: (CASH or CHECK) ($100.00) or ($50.00 paid on _____ and $50.00 paid on _____)