



Volunteer Guide

**Special
Olympics**
Rhode Island



State Summer Games
June 2nd, 3rd & 4th, 2023

University of Rhode Island



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the Summer Games?

Special Olympics Rhode Island Summer Games are an annual Olympic athletic event for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

When are the 2023 Summer Games?

This year's Games will be held Friday, June 2 through Sunday, June 4, 2023. [Click here for a list of competition dates and times.](#)

Who will be there?

The 2023 Summer Games is expected to draw 1,000 athletes, 250 coaches, 1,000 volunteers, and 2,000 or more families, friends, and fans!

Where will the 2023 Summer Games take place?

The Summer Games are annually held at the University of Rhode Island located in Kingston, RI. The location of competition venues can be found below.

- **Bowling:** Old Mountain Lanes, 756 Kingstown Rd, Wakefield, RI
- **Powerlifting:** 75 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI
- **Soccer:** 75 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI
- **Swimming:** Tootell Aquatic Center, 105 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI
- **Track & Field:** Mackal Field, 75 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI

Who leads Special Olympics Rhode Island?

Special Olympics Rhode Island is a 501c3 not for profit led by a volunteer board of directors and twelve (12) staff. Robin Erban Moses is the current chair of the board. Edwin R. Pacheco was appointed President and CEO on May 16, 2022.

What is the mission of Special Olympics Rhode Island?

The mission Special Olympics is to provide year-round training and athletic competition in a variety Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities by providing them with continuing opportunities to develop fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendships with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Who is managing the 2023 Summer Games?

The entire staff of Special Olympics Rhode Island along with an amazing group of volunteers known as the Games Management Team (GMT) who plan and manage the Summer Games. The key individuals responsible for managing the event are Adam Johnson, Interim Chief Program Officer, and Brian Goldberger, Games Management Director.

If I need assistance at the Games, who should I look for?

Special Olympics Rhode Island staff and Games Management Team volunteers will be available throughout the various Summer Games venues to answer any and all questions. GMT and staff members will be wearing **RED** polo shirts and identification badges. Medical personnel will also be on site and identifiable by their **NEON GREEN** t-shirts and **BLUE** medical cross symbol.

What competitions are taking place at the Games?

The 2023 Summer Games will feature athletes competing in Aquatics, Athletics, Bowling, Powerlifting, Unified Soccer, and Soccer Skills.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS RHODE ISLAND STATE SUMMER GAMES June 2, 3, & 4, 2023

Thank YOU for volunteering!

CHECK IN

Park at Keaney Lot. Check in at the Volunteer Registration Tent located at 75 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI, adjacent to Mackal Field House at the main entrance to the Games. If you are volunteering from a corporation or a group, please check with your community affairs office to ensure you are pre-registered. Once you are checked in, you will receive a volunteer name badge with your job assignment listed, a volunteer t-shirt, and your specific venue assignment. Any training needed will be provided at each venue by the venue director. If you have any questions or concerns during the events, the Special Olympics Rhode Island staff or Games Management volunteers at each venue can help.

The Volunteer Tent will be open beginning at 8am if you would like to check in earlier than your stated time. **NOTE:** Bowling Volunteers will check-in directly at Old Mountain Lanes.

ATTIRE

Dress for comfort, mobility, and fun! Keep weather in mind if you are volunteering at an outdoor event. We ask that you wear khaki pants/shorts or something similar, preferably not jeans. Comfortable athletic shoes are a good idea. Wear your SORI Volunteer shirt provided and badge.

There is no storage for bags, purses, or backpacks. Please leave these locked in your car or at home.

FOOD/LUNCHES

Lunch will be provided if you are assigned to work through lunch. Can bring lunch/snack and reusable water bottle. Please do not eat while working at your assigned venue in front of athletes. Snacks and refreshments will be available in the Volunteer Hospitality tent, Olympic Village, and throughout the Games.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Please refrain from using your cell phone while volunteering unless it is an emergency. Cell phones should remain silent.

GENERAL INFORMATION

You represent Special Olympics Rhode Island as a volunteer. Remember to conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to athletes, other volunteers, family, the general public, and the media. Please give your full attention to your volunteer duties.

Smiles, applause, and enthusiasm are always welcome! Use your usual voice when giving support to the athletes. Physical recognition should be led by athletes based on their preference and comfort. Some athletes are instructed by their coaches and parents not to hug strangers. High-fives or fist pumps are most often appreciated!

Enjoy your interactions with the athletes, but don't hesitate to ask coaches, more experienced volunteers, or staff members for help.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

The Games are held rain or shine. Outdoor activities schedules are subject to change.

On Site Games Command Center phone numbers

401-636-6642 General Information

401-636-6629 Emergency Line

We Can't Wait to See You!

Brian Goldberger, Games Director

Heidi Hartzell, Director of Volunteers

Adam Johnson, Interim Chief Program Officer

Edwin Pacheco, President & CEO

COMPETITION VENUES:

- **Bowling:** Old Mountain Lanes, 756 Kingstown Rd, Wakefield, RI
- **Powerlifting:** 75 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI
- **Soccer:** 75 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI
- **Swimming:** Tootell Aquatic Center, 105 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI
- **Track & Field:** Mackal Field, 75 Keaney Rd, Kingston, RI

The Volunteer Tent will be open beginning at 8 a.m. if you would like to check in earlier than your stated time. **PLEASE NOTE**, Bowling Volunteers will check-in directly at Old Mountain Lanes.

MAP

