

# **BARRON COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

## **WHAT IS SPECIAL OLYMPICS?**

Barron County Special Olympics is a year round sports program providing athletes with an opportunity to learn skills, build friendships, and have fun in a family friendly environment.

## **WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?**

Athletes must be 8 years old to compete. Athletes must have a diagnosis of intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disability. Athletes must have a current physical on file with the state before beginning practice.

## **HOW DO I REGISTER OR LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM?**

Athletes must complete a physical form every 3 years and a one-time release form. Forms can be found on-line at [specialolympicswisconsin.org](http://specialolympicswisconsin.org) under "Get Involved" and then "Become an athlete" or by contacting Mary Ebner at 715-651-7439. Physicals must be completed prior to practicing. If interested in a specific sport, see the physical deadline dates per sport below in "General Information." These are the dates in which the physical MUST be into the state office.

## **WHAT SPORTS ARE AVAILABLE IN BARRON COUNTY?**

### **Bowling**

Practice Starts: Saturday, September 10

Where: Rice Lake Rands Lanes

Times: 1-2:30ish

Cost: Practices= \$2.50 per game and \$1.00 if shoes are needed      Competitions= No Charge

Competitions: District Oct. 22 @Chippewa and Eau Claire; State Nov. 12 @ Weston

Other: Athletes may participate as an individual, member of a doubles team, or member of a 4 person team. If desired, assistance will be provided to place athletes on an appropriate team.

### **Basketball**

Practice Starts: Wednesday, November 2

Where: Cameron Elementary Gym

Times: Individual Skills 5:00 – 5:45   Teams 5:30-6:00 (social time/warm-ups) Practice 6:00 – 7:30

Cost: None

Competitions: Baldwin Invitational Jan. 12; Eau Claire Affair Feb. 12; District Feb. 19 @ UW Stout; Regional TBD @ UW Stevens Point; State Apr. 8-9 @ UW Oshkosh; There will be a Wed. night Boys and Girls Club game during practice @ Cameron, a Wed. night Polk Co. game at Cameron, and a Wed. night Polk Co. game at Unity. The Dates of these 3 games are yet to be determined

Other: Athletes may participate in individual skills (shooting, dribbling, passing), or as a team.

Barron County has 5 teams of various ability levels from beginners to advanced

### **Swimming**

Practice Starts: Sunday, February 5 – March 5 (Each week will be focus on a specific stroke/skill with attendance optional) Whole group practice March 12

Where: Rice Lake Pool

Times: 12:00 -1:00

Cost: Practices = Optional Donation (\$1-\$2.00)      Competitions= No Charge

Competitions: Regional April 22 @ Rice Lake; State June 8-10 @ UW Stevens Point

Other: State participation is based on qualifying as well as team quota as determined by the state.

### **Track and Field**

Practice Starts: Wednesday, April 12 (dependent upon snow ☺)

Where: Rice Lake High School Track

Times: 6:00-7:00

Cost: None

Competitions: May 6 @ Chippewa Falls; State June 8-10 @ UW Stevens Point

Other: State participation based on qualifying as well as team quota as determined by the state.

### **Softball/T-Ball**

Practice Starts: Wednesday, May, 24

Where: Rice Lake Middle School or Fields by the RL Hockey Arena

Times: 5:30-6:00 (social time/warm-ups) 6:00-7:30 practice

Cost: None

Competitions: Dates and locations to be determined.

Other: Barron County has 3 softball teams with ability levels from beginners to advanced.

T-Ball is offered as a fun practice to gain skills with competition at The Bob Invitational only

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Athletes may participate in any sports which interest them.
- Physicals are good for 3 years and apply to all sports. A current physical must be into the state by the following dates to participate: Bowling Oct. 1; Basketball February 1; Swimming @ Track/Field April 1; Softball/ T-Ball June 1
- If attending state, the program requests \$35.00 to help off-set registration fees. (\$35.00 covers transportation, housing, meals, registration) No athlete is denied participation due to economic circumstances!
- Uniforms are provided. Athletes may opt to provide their own black shorts (requirements will be provided)
- Competition is based on individual/team abilities and age. Athletes compete against those within 10% of their times, distances, skill scores, etc. and age range.
- Athlete and family t-shirts are available for those interested. Information will be available at the start of each sport season.
- Athlete transportation is provided (free of charge) to Regional and State competitions.
- Barron County Special Olympics has been participating since 1978. We have dedicated coaches, athletes, and families who focus on fun, skills, fun, friendships, fun, sportsmanship, and ...fun.
- Feel free to contact Mary @ 715-651-7439 if interested in participation or desiring additional information.