
September 2026 Green List News

From Sherry Rudolph <srudolph@somt.org>

Date Mon 9/7/2026 3:10 PM

To Sherry Rudolph <srudolph@somt.org>

Green List & Field News.



FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

Over 1,300 athletes have registered in the COE so far!

Thank you for getting your athletes registered. Please remind them to look at their Checklist to see if they are missing any documents.

If someone is missing from your Green List, they are probably in the Area Tab. When a person isn't assigned to a team in COE, they are placed in the area in GMS.

When it is time to register your team for Basketball, please look at the name on your Green List. COE profiles are loaded into GMS. People are using legal names in COE. If you use a nickname in your registration for Basketball, you will create a duplicate profile.

Here is the link to the COE page on our website:

[Special Olympics Montana | Center of Excellence](#)

Please remind athletes to look at their Check List and see if they need to take a Medical Form to their Primary Care Physician. Remember, all participants must be in the COE with completed forms prior to participation in basketball.

The Green List is a combined GMS and COE list. Since the COE is live, you may not see someone on the spreadsheet. Remember, LPC's can search for people to add to their team. Please see the COE page on our website for information.

Key to the new Green List:

Red = expired or missing items

Blue = items expiring in the next three months

Green (naa) = athletes successfully registered in COE with no medical required

Green with a date = medicals that can be used for COE registration

Yellow = Athlete needs to create a profile in COE and can use the medical currently on file with SOMT

Orange (See athlete medical column) = athlete is in COE, but there is an issue with their medical

If the medical column is red and labeled "Obsolete" that means that the athlete had what was considered a current medical, but it was dated prior to a year ago and is now considered obsolete.

Action Needed indicates the participant is not in COE and must create a profile to participate.

New Column!

COE Profile Status:

Unclaimed Profile indicates a volunteer needs to claim their profile

Claimed Profile indicates participant has claimed their COE profile

Create COE Profile indicates a profile must be created

SPORTS

Please add the Sports Departments' email addresses to your *safe sender* list in your email. We have gotten reports of our emails being sent to the junk folder and want to make sure everyone is getting our communications.

Brittani – bbush@somt.org

Bill – bpolk@somt.org

Richie – rwhitney@somt.org

2026 STATE BASKETBALL | Butte, MT - November 12-14

SEASON TIMELINE | IMPORTANT DATES

- **August 14** - Games Info Packet & Roster/Registration Form Distributed
- **August 24** - Practice Season Starts
- **September 18** - All Paperwork Due in the COE
- **September 25** - Rosters Due
- **October 9** - Scratch Report Distributed
- **October 16** – Divisioning Scores/Ratings & Final Registration Due

****No athlete, unified partner, team volunteer, coach, or LPC should attend practice until they have completed their paperwork in the COE. The final date to have your paperwork complete is September 18. ****

NEW! Basketball Team Assessment Process

This process is important to ensure quality competition at the State Basketball Tournament. ***Coaches should review the process and make sure they are rating their players correctly.***

The Sports Department builds divisions, but coaches build the foundation. Accurate player ratings are one of the most important contributions you can make to ensure every athlete has a fair and meaningful competition experience.

Step 1: Basketball Individual Assessment Form (for each player)

- Complete the top section listing all requested information
- Each section covers an aspect of basketball team play
- Choose the point value that best describes the athlete/partner's skill level
- Place that value in the "Score" box for that section
- When each section is complete, add each "Score" box together and place it in the "Total Score" box
- Divide "Total Score" by 6 and place the number in the "Overall Rating" box

Step 2: Basketball Assessment Summary Form

- Complete the top section, listing delegation, team gender (male, female, mixed), team name, and age group
- List the players from the highest score to the lowest score in the column under "Name" then complete the remaining sections of the table

5v5 -----

- Add and take the average of the top 5 players to get the Top 5 Players
- Add and take the average of the bottom 5 players to get the Bottom 5 players

3v3-----

- Add and take the average of the top 3 players to get the Top 3 Players
- Add and take the average of the bottom 3 players to get the Bottom 3 players

The Team Rating Summary Form is IN ADDITION to your roster and final registration forms. You must still submit individual ratings for each player on your final registration.

The Individual Assessment Forms are for coach use during assessment and do not need to be submitted. Assessments should take place continually throughout the season, with the final assessment taking place no later than October 16 (Final Registration Due Date).

[**DOWNLOAD BASKETBALL RATING FORM & INSTRUCTIONS HERE**](#)

2027 BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS | January-February

SEASON TIMELINE | IMPORTANT DATES

- **November 20** - Games Information Packet and Roster/Registration Form Distributed

- **December 4** - Official Bowling Season Start/All Paperwork Due in COE
- **December 18** - Roster Deadline
- **January 8** - Divisioning Scores/Final Registration Due
 - Tournament Locations:
 - Dates & Locations subject to change as planning continues. Updates will be sent out as dates are locked in.
 - Helena – January 24, 2027
 - Billings (2 venues) - January 31, 2027
 - Missoula – February 1, 2027
 - Bigfork – TBD
 - Butte – February 2, 2027
 - Great Falls (2 venues) - February 9, 2027
 - Glasgow – TBD

2027 STATE SUMMER GAMES | Missoula, MT - May 19-21

SEASON TIMELINE | IMPORTANT DATES

- February 12 - Games Info Packet & Roster/Registration Form Distributed
- **March 5** - Practice Season Starts/All Paperwork Due in COE
- **March 26** - Rosters Due
- **April 9** - Exceptions/Scratch Report Distributed
- **April 16** - Final Registration/Divisioning Scores Due

COACH EDUCATION

All coaches must be certified in the sport they intend to coach for the season. With basketball season coming up, please make sure coaches are getting their sport specific certification. You must watch the training video and complete the quiz for your sport specific coach education.

Coaches should understand the rules for their sport and the events they are coaching. They are also responsible for collecting scores or ratings to ensure proper divisioning for competition.

Coaches must also be up to date on paperwork in the COE and have concussion training completed. To protest at competition, a coach must be Level 1 certified.

All training is available within the COE and SO Learn.

Please reach out to Bill Polk with any questions (bpolk@somt.org).

OUTREACH

COE Office Hours- focus on Coach Zone

- Thursdays at Noon-starting August 27th until September 17th
 - Log in to Teams meeting [HERE](#)

- Tuesdays at 5:15 pm-starting September 1-September 22nd
 - Log in to Teams meeting [HERE](#)

Team Budget Training for 2027 Programming year

- Monday, Sept. 21 at either noon or 5:45 pm
 - Register [HERE](#)
 - Access the 2027 Budget templates on the SOMT Team Planning webpage here: [Special Olympics Montana | Team Planning](#)

State Basketball [Hotel List](#) available.

- Be sure to get your reservations for SBB
- Questions about setting up your SBB Lodging? Download the “Direct Bill Hotel Reservation Process” resource also on the Team Planning page referenced above.

Thank you to the 120 LPC’s and Coaches who attended the Basketball Season Opener!

Thank you also to the volunteers from Glacier & Big Sky Areas that attended our Volunteer Summits!

HEALTH

STAY TUNED: New fitness challenge coming up!

We are expanding Healthy Athletes at State Basketball! 2-day event!

Day 1

- Thursday, November 12
 - Location: Tentatively, Copper King Hotel
 - Time: 12-4pm, may change based on sign-ups
 - Screenings: Healthy Hearing, Strong Minds, Performance Stations and tentatively MedFest (exams will target bowling athletes soon to expire)

Day 2

- Friday, November 13
 - FUNFitness, Special Smiles, Healthy Hearing and Strong Minds
 - Location: Civic Center
 - Time: 6:30-8:30p

UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS

Are you the LPC of a school-aged (ages 8-21) or school-based team?

If so, is your team affiliated with a Special Olympics Unified Champion School? If not, and you’d like to get the school(s) connected, please contact Terri Norman, UCS Senior

Director, at tnorman@somt.org and provide school contact details, and we'll reach out with information and next steps for the school(s) to become involved!

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

It's been 14 years.....

Special Olympics International will finally release a refreshed look for the Special Olympics Brand! The logo is the same..... but there is a lot of fun on the way. Stay tuned for more details!

DEVELOPMENT

Area & Team Fundraising:

As the Fall begins, please remember you must submit a fundraising approval form for any new fundraising events you may plan. Approval is not required for State events such as Polar Plunges or the MTN Chevy Raffle. The fundraising approval form can be found on our website, somt.org, Forms & Resources (at the bottom of the page), Team Planning.

MTN Chevy Raffle:

For the upcoming MTN Chevy Raffle, all tickets, sold and unsold, must be returned to the state office. Every single ticket will need to be accounted for. Tickets will be distributed at State Basketball/Team Check-In. If you cannot be in attendance, please reach out to Wendy wrispens@somt.org to make alternate arrangements.

LETR

Plane Pull Registration Is Now Open!

Think your team has what it takes to pull an airplane? Gather your friends, family, coworkers, or agency and join us for one of Montana's most unique fundraising events!

- **Billings Plane Pull – September 19**
- **Great Falls Plane Pull – September 26**
- Build a team
 - **\$500 minimum fundraising goal per team**
- Compete for bragging rights

Register Today:

- Billings: <https://go.somt.org/26PlanePullEast>
- Great Falls: <https://go.somt.org/26PlanePullWest>

Don't wait—start recruiting your team and fundraising today. We can't wait to see you on the runway! 🦋

Hot Pursuit 5K Registration Is Open!

Lace up your running shoes and join us for the **Hot Pursuit 5K**

- **Great Falls Hot Pursuit 5K – October 10th**
- **Kalispell Hot Pursuit 5K – October 10th**

Run or walk at your own pace

Invite your friends and family

🔗 **Register Today:**

- Great Falls: <https://go.somt.org/26GFHotPursuit>
- Kalispell: <https://go.somt.org/2026HotPursuit-Kalispell>

It's Budgeting Season — Plan Ahead for the 2027 LETR Kickoff Conference!

As you begin planning your **2027 budgets**, don't forget to include expenses for attending the **2027 LETR Kickoff Conference!**

📅 **March 5–7, 2027**

📍 **Holiday Inn Downtown Missoula**

🏔️ **2027 Theme: Climbing to New Heights**

The Kickoff Conference is an opportunity to connect, learn, and get inspired for another great year with Special Olympics Montana and LETR. Attendees will have the chance to **learn best practices from others, share ideas, and network with peers from across Montana** around:

- **Sports**
- **Health**
- **Athlete Leadership**
- **LETR & Fundraising Initiatives**

Whether you're looking for new ideas to bring back to your local program, ways to better engage athletes and volunteers, or simply an opportunity to connect with others doing this work across the state, there will be something for everyone as we work together to **Climb to New Heights in 2027!**

2027 Conference Costs to Budget For:

🏨 **Hotel:** \$144.40 per night

🎫 **Conference Registration:**

Gold (Full Conference with 2027 T-shirt): \$100 per person

Silver (Full Conference without 2027 T-shirt): \$80 PER PERSON

Welcome to the LETR Team, Raylynn!

We're excited to welcome **Raylynn Bucher** as our new **LETR Development Director**, based in Missoula! Raylynn's first day is September 9th.

Raylynn will help support and grow LETR events, fundraising, partnerships, and law enforcement engagement across Montana.

We're excited to have her join the team and look forward to meeting Raylynn at an event near you in the upcoming year!

Please join us in giving Raylynn a warm welcome!

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!



Sue Hill
GMS Specialist
Special Olympics Montana | Great Falls



📞 406-315-4194

@ shill@somt.org

📮 PO Box 3507 Great Falls, MT 59403

📍 headquarters: 710 1st Ave N, Great Falls, MT 59401

📠 fax: 406.315.5820

🌐 www.somt.org