

Date: December 15, 2011

To: Special Olympics Montana Winter Sports Coaches
From: Nolan Taylor, Training and Competition Coordinator

RE: 2012 STATE WINTER GAMES – March 4-6, 2012

Greetings and Happy Holidays!

The SOMT State Winter Games (SWG) will take place Sunday, March 4, 2012 through Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at the Whitefish Mountain Resort. This year's event will kick off with team registration, the parade of athletes, and opening ceremonies in the town of Whitefish on March 4th. Team Check-In will be held at Whitefish Middle School from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on March 4th.

At 3:00 on Sunday, line-up for the parade through downtown Whitefish will begin. The parade starts at Central Avenue (near the First Interstate Bank parking lot) and ends at Depot Park.

Sunday's coaches meeting will be held at 8:00 pm at the Best Western Rocky Mountain Lodge. Tuesday's coaches meeting will be held at 7:00 am at the Base Lodge.

As in previous years, qualifying heats will be held on Monday, March 5th, and final heats will be run on Tuesday, March 6th. We will not be playing floor hockey at this year's SWG, and instead are encouraging all floor hockey teams to take advantage of the CMR Area Regional Floor Hockey Tournament on Feb. 4th and 5th. If you would like to participate in that tournament, please contact Star Darko at 453-2773.

The SWG team registration packet has been emailed to all head coaches and LPCs who attended last year's games or who have requested the packet for this year. Completed registration materials are due back to the state office on or before January 31st, 2012. If you have an athlete(s) that requires special needs such as dietary restrictions and/or requires the use of a snowmobile to get to the starting gate on chair 2 or chair 9, or if you have an athlete(s) who suffers from seizures, **PLEASE** make note of this in your registration materials so we can inform the staff at Whitefish Mountain Resort.

All athlete medical/participation forms that have expired and/or will expire prior to February 27, 2012, MUST BE UPDATED AND SENT TO THE STATE OFFICE VIA MAIL OR FAX BEFORE TRAINING BEGINS! ANY ATHLETE, COACH, OR VOLUNTEER WITHOUT COMPLETE PAPERWORK ON OUR REGISTRATION DUE DATE OF JANUARY 31ST, WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE.

DON'T RISK HURT FEELINGS OVER THIS...CALL OR EMAIL SARAH BARNES AT SOMT AT 406-216-5327 OR sbarnes@somt.org TO REQUEST A

GREEN LIST TO CHECK YOUR ATHLETES, COACHES, AND/OR VOLUNTEERS STATUS.

Thanks and we look forward to a great event!

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