



## 2022 State Basketball Tournament November 10 - 12, 2022 \* Butte, MT

The **Special Olympics Montana (SOMT) State Basketball Tournament** is back in Butte for the last year of a four-year run on November 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Excitement is growing in “Butte America” thanks to the support of our premier sponsor, Town Pump, and the leadership provided by the volunteer Games Management Team comprised of over 20 Butte community members.

Over **700 athletes** and **unified partners** from **85 teams** are expected to compete in more than **160 team competitions** over a two-day period. Along with athletes and unified partners, **over 180 coaches and chaperones** will attend the tournament. An additional **500 local residents** will donate their time as volunteers to help organize and run the event.

**Tournament games will be held in gyms throughout Butte and the surrounding community.** Athletes are thrilled to have the opportunity to compete in 5-on-5 (unified and traditional), 3-on-3, individual skills, and Motor Activities Training Program events in such welcoming communities.

Approximately half of the Special Olympics Montana competitors are youth, the other half adults. The athletes competing in the State Basketball Tournament will **range in age from 8 to 79 years old**.

In addition to the games, SOMT hosts the following special events during the tournament:

- The **Opening Ceremony** officially kicks off the tournament and will take place at the **Maroon Activity Center** on **Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30pm**. The event is highlighted by the arrival of the Special Olympics Flame of Hope, escorted by athletes and Law Enforcement Torch Run officers.
- The **Dance and Carnival** will also be hosted at the **Butte Plaza Mall** on **Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm-9:00pm**. The event is staged for athletes as a celebratory evening filled with dancing, music, and a high-energy carnival atmosphere.
- The **Special Olympics global Healthy Athletes initiative** presents free health screenings and education for Special Olympics athletes. The Healthy Athlete activities take place on **Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Butte Plaza Mall from 7:00pm to 9:00pm**. Health professionals volunteer their time to conduct various health screenings including Fit Feet, Special Smiles, and Healthy Hearing.

During the Tournament, **the Butte community will enjoy a significant positive economic impact** on hotels, restaurants, retailers, museums, recreation and more. Thousands of people (teams, volunteers, family members, spectators and friends) will spend at least 2 days in “Butte America”.

**To volunteer for the State Basketball Tournament**, please visit the SOMT website: [www.somt.org](http://www.somt.org)

**To learn more about Special Olympics Montana**, or for information on how you can support the State Basketball Tournament, please visit our website at [www.somt.org](http://www.somt.org) or call Special Olympics Montana at 1-800-242-6876.