

Special Olympics New Mexico

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NEWS RELEASE

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Hundreds of Athletes to take the field at the 2015 Special Olympics New Mexico State Summer Games

Albuquerque, NM - On May 29-31, Special Olympics New Mexico's (SONM) largest sports competition will return to the UNM Track and Field Stadium. Presented by Mountain States Insurance Group, the State Summer Games will showcase the athletic skills of almost 900 Special Olympics athletes from all over New Mexico. They will show skill, bravery and strength as they compete in Track and Field, Bocce, Unified Soccer and Unified Volleyball during the three-day athletic tournament.

The event will begin on Friday May 29, with Opening Ceremonies from 7:00pm-8:30pm, followed by Track and Field, Bocce and Unified Soccer competitions taking place on Saturday all at the UNM Track and Field Stadium; and concluding with Unified Volleyball on Sunday at Sandia Preparatory School.

On Saturday, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, SONM athletes will also have the opportunity to receive health screenings in the following areas: Opening Eyes (vision), Special Smiles (dentistry), Fit Feet (podiatry), FUNfitness (physical therapy), Health Promotions (nutrition) and blood pressure screenings by Blue Cross Blue Shield of NM. Blake's Lotaburger, Panda Express, and Rudy's BBQ will be providing meals throughout the weekend.

For the fourth year in a row, SONM will return to Cliff's Amusement Park for "Special Olympics Day at Cliff's" and the Victory Dance on Saturday May 30. This unique partnership allows SONM athletes free admission into the amusement park – a fantastic opportunity especially when many would never get the chance to experience what a rollercoaster is like in their everyday lives. Special Olympics Day at Cliff's takes place from 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

SONM provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. Today, Special Olympics New Mexico serves over 3,100 athletes, offering training and competition in 13 sports. Across the world, more than 3.5 million children and adults with intellectual disabilities participate in more than 200 programs in 180 countries. SONM is sponsored year-round and statewide by New Mexico Knights of Columbus, New Mexico Law Enforcement Torch Run, 7-Eleven, French Funerals Cremations, Wells Fargo, Mark's Casa, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Comcast, New Mexico Chevy Dealers and ConocoPhillips.

For more detailed information and a schedule for the 2015 SONM State Summer Games visit www.sonm.org, or call (505) 856-0342.

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