



Special Olympics
New Jersey

PRESS RELEASE

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With a Month to Go, The Countdown to Summer Games Has Begun

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – More than 2,300 athletes from across New Jersey will compete at the 2010 Special Olympics New Jersey Summer Games held at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) in Ewing Township from June 11 through 13.

To kick off the event on Friday, June 11, nearly 3,000 law enforcement officers will take part in the 27th annual Torch Run, a 27-leg journey that brings awareness about the Games and Special Olympics to communities throughout New Jersey. The torch will be lit as early as 4:45 a.m. and be carried by officers representing various law enforcement agencies before being run into the Opening Ceremonies at Lions Stadium at TCNJ and handed off to an athlete to light the cauldron.

Opening Ceremonies begin at 7:30 p.m. when athletes will process into the stadium before witnessing the entrance of the torch. All spectators will then have the pleasure of enjoying a concert by the BStreetBand, the original Bruce Springsteen tribute band as well as an extraordinary display of fireworks.

Throughout the weekend SONJ athletes will compete in seven sports: Aquatics, Bocce, Gymnastics, Powerlifting, Softball, Tennis and Track & Field. Gymnastics will be held at EnVision Gymnastics in Easthampton, and Softball will be at Armstrong Fields down the street from TCNJ. All other events will be held on campus.

While volunteer positions are full, the public is encouraged to come out and be “fans in the stands.” Fans may register at information tables on campus to receive a small gift to help them cheer on the athletes.

All events, including Opening Ceremonies, are free and open to the public. To learn more about the 2010 Summer Games or the Law Enforcement Torch Run, visit www.sonj.org, or call 609-896-8000.

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ABOUT SONJ: Special Olympics New Jersey provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for more than 21,000 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.