



**Calendar of Events for 2017 - 2018**

November 14	<b>Floor Hockey North</b>	East Stroudsburg HS South
December 7	<b>High School Bowling South</b> (snow date – December 8)	Hampton Lanes
December 9	<b>New York City Bus Trip</b>	Colonial IU 20
January 25	<b>High School Bowling North</b>	Blue Valley Lanes
January 28-30	<b>Winter State Games</b>	Johnstown, PA
February 6	<b>Special Special North</b> (snow date – February 13)	Wind Gap Middle School
February 14	<b>Basketball Competition</b> (snow date –February 15)	Freedom High School
February 17	<b>Polar Plunge</b> (Super Plunge Feb 16)	Easton, Pa
March 7	<b>Gymnastics</b> (snow date – March 8)	Easton High School
March 9	<b>Middle School Bowling South</b>	Hampton Lanes
March 23	<b>Middle School Bowling North</b>	Blue Valley Lane
March 25	<b>Eastern Bowling Sectionals</b>	Allentown, PA
April 5	<b>Developmental Olympics</b>	Shawnee Intermediate
April 14	<b>Yard Sale</b>	Liberty High School
April 19	<b>Special Special South</b>	Nazareth High School
May 3	<b>Athletics South</b> (Rain date--May 4)	Bethlehem Stadium
May 10	<b>Athletics North</b> (Rain Date--May 11)	East Stroudsburg HS South
May 23	<b>Swimming</b>	Pocono Mountain West
May 24	<b>Preschool Meet</b>	Wind Gap Community Park
May 31-June 2	<b>Summer Games</b>	Penn State University
June 25	<b>Golf Tournament</b>	Glen Brook

**All local events will run from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.**

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## **LAST CHANCE FOR MEDICALS**

It is now time to get SO physicals updated before the upcoming end of the year events. Medicals must be up to date and complete in order to participate in school based and community based programming.

All questions regarding physicals should be directed to Linda Lechner  
[LLechnerNCSO@gmail.com](mailto:LLechnerNCSO@gmail.com).

### **Teachers**

Please make sure that parents are notified when their child needs a new or updated physical. Send originals to the IU office c/o Amanda Sechrist as soon as you receive them. Please include your name and program in the space provided on the center top of the form!!! Remember to carry copies of physicals with you at all events.

### **Instructions for Completion**

Specific instructions and the required medical form can be found on the NCSO website under About Us/ Medicals.

[www.ncspecialolympicspa.org](http://www.ncspecialolympicspa.org)

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## **Equestrian**

The Northampton County Equestrians are braving the continuing cold weather and are back in the saddle for the 6<sup>th</sup> year. Ten riders train weekly to improve their skills in preparation for our Local Horse Show on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The show will begin at 5pm at Equi-librium, 524 Fehr Road, Nazareth PA. Come cheer us on! Riders are also working to improve overall fitness through the Special Olympic Fit 5 Program.





## **Basketball Training**

The sounds of basketballs bouncing, balls swishing through hoops, and balls being passed to partners could be heard in the Chrin Center Gymnasium. There were 25-30 athletes practicing their dribbling, passing, and shooting skills each Thursday afternoon for 8 weeks in March and April. Spot shooting, serpentine dribbling through cones, give and gos, keep away, and 3 vs. 3 were just a few of the drills they worked on each week.

It was great to see the improvement they made week to week. They worked on 3 basic skills that were tested at the start of the training, throughout the training, and at the end of the training for the FIT 5 Program. This enabled us to see the improvements they were making and the goals they were meeting. Our athletes also learned how to take the skills they learned to play in a 3 vs 3 game. They were able to work together with teammates to pass, shoot, rebound, and play defense.

Ten athletes participated in the VIA Shoot Out at NCACC on March 31. They played two 3 vs 3 games in the big court in front of a large crowd. Senior All-Stars from the Lehigh Valley were present and cheered for our athletes during their games. The highlight of the day for most of our athletes was getting interviewed by Service Electric TV! They were asked questions about how they like playing in front of a large crowd and how they like being there with all the Lehigh Valley Sr All-Stars! There were smiles galore on all of our athletes faces!

For the first time, seven of our athletes participated in a Special Olympic Basketball Competition at Moravian College on April 22! They played three games against teams from Bethlehem and Lehigh Counties in a 3 vs 3 competition. All of the teams we played against have competed at Kutztown and Penn State, and our team did an outstanding job against the stiff competition! This was a great learning experience for our athletes and for the coaches.

But the best part of the day was seeing all the smiles, high fives, and hugs between the athletes; the pizza they served after the games wasn't too bad either! Looking forward to next year and seeing what our athletes will accomplish!

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**Basketball Training**





## **High School Bowling South Tournament**

Bowling pins were being knocked down and ribbons and trophies earned on December 7th. Students from 9 schools in Northampton County competed in the HS South Bowling Tournament. We had 127 bowlers trying for spares and strikes at Hampton Lanes in Northampton.

A big THANK YOU goes out to Kylee Diaz from Pen Argyl HS for leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance, Cassie Woolf from Freedom HS for singing the National Anthem and Masais Calderon from Pen Argyl HS for leading our athletes in the Special Olympic Athlete Oath.

After training for 8 weeks these athletes were divisioned in lanes and competed against athletes from other schools to determine the top bowlers that day. We would like to congratulate all of our bowlers for doing such a great job competing and showing such good sportsmanship. Our top bowlers at this event were:

### **Bumpers**

**Violet Young - 107**

**Robbie Epps - 116**

### **No Bumpers**

**Alexanjura Mongon - 112**

**Jordan Clinton - 107**

### **Bumpers and Ramps**

**Tamicqua Crawford - 108**

**Jesse Torcivia - 109**





## Eastern Sectional Bowling Competition

This year Northampton County Special Olympics took thirty-one of its' top bowlers to the Eastern Sectional Bowling Competition held in Allentown, Pa. on March 25, 2018. Under Head Bowling Coach, Janelle Pemberton, the athletes threw many strikes and spares. All thirty one athletes and ten coaches were housed at the Rose Bowl. They each received a new maroon polo shirt to compete in. With the new format from the state, the open ceremonies were held at the lanes with our own Tyler Youngkin giving the opening speech and getting the bowlers pumped up for a fun day of competition. A huge thank you to all of the coaches and families who came out and cheered on our awesome bowlers!





## Special Special South

20 classrooms and over 120 athletes had a great time going “under the sea” at our Special Special South event held at Nazareth Area High School on April 19, 2018. This year the athletes competed in multiple events such as target throw, scooter races, 25 yard dash, long jump, and so much more!

Outside in the Olympic Village, NAHS created lots of fun activities for the kids such as watching a movie, creating a craft, coloring pages, face painting, and ball toss for them to enjoy when they were not competing. We even had a visit from our furry friends for some dog therapy time! The volunteers worked around the clock before the event to bring the “Little Mermaid” theme to life with pictures, balloons, streamers, and more!

Looking around, you saw smiling faces and heard lots of giggles as wonderful student volunteers enjoyed the day with their athletes. The day was ended with a huge parade to cheer on our athletes and congratulate them on a job well done!

As Ariel would say “We’ve got no troubles, life is the bubbles, under the sea!”



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**Special Special South**



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## **Gymnastics**

Over the last few months, athletes from 22 Northampton County classes have been practicing their gymnastics skills. They worked very hard with the help of their classroom and gym teachers to learn routines in floor exercise, balance beam, and the vault.

After much anticipation, and 2 unexpected snow cancellations, the Special Olympics Gymnastics competition took place on Monday March 26, 2018. Easton Area High School hosted the 13th annual event. 165 gymnasts came ready to show their families, coaches, friends, and judges all their hard work.

The event kicked off with opening ceremonies, and then the routines were on! The athletes tumbled, rolled, balanced, and jumped their way across the mats. Each routine started with the traditional one hand salute, and ended with an enthusiastic "TA DA!". Every athlete was proudly awarded a ribbon for each event. There was no shortage of sportsmanship, as the athletes cheered for their friends on the mats.

This event is supported by so many wonderful volunteers. Many thanks to Easton Area High School, Student Council, security, custodians, administration, and student volunteers for your help and support. We are also grateful to the Easton Angels for holding their annual bake sale on behalf of Northampton County Special Olympics. Lastly, a special thank you to teachers and volunteers for your hard work and dedication to the athletes.

As always, the event closed with a dance party! It was a fun event and we are looking forward to another great year!