

RSO Newsletter



Special
Olympics
Rockdale

Rockdale
Special
Olympics (RSO)

About RSO

The current RSO management team has been together for 5 years. In that time they have registered 270 athletes. They range from 6 to 65 years in age. They are with the Rockdale school system, Independent Enterprise (a day program for 22yr and older), United Cerebral Palsy and those who stay at home. The athletes who are 6 to 8 years of age only participate in Rockdale County activities. They must be 8 years old to participate in competition outside the county. We offer and have certified coaches in 6 sports, including basketball, softball, bocce ball, bowling, swimming and track and field. We are working on training more coaches for more sports.

Our athletes have competed in summer games, fall games, winter games and many invitationals around the state in the last 5 years. Rockdale County Special Olympics program is made up totally of volunteers, whether they are on the management team, coaches, chaperones and others. We are lucky to have as many willing people as we do. Of course we always need more volunteers all the time for various jobs. We do fundraising in order to provide activities for our athletes. Every county has their own Special Olympics (SO) program that they must raise funds to support. The program does not cost the athletes or their families anything for them to participate.

We pay for their transportation, uniforms, equipment and fees for participating in local, area and state games. We raise funds through grants, fundraisers and donations. All the money we raise is used for the athletes in Rockdale County. We have more people in the county that want to be SO athletes and we are trying to get them all registered. In order to be a SO athlete the first criteria is a person must be mentally challenged with an IQ of 70 or below, they may also be physically challenged. We welcome inquiries from parents, teachers and other caregivers as to a child's or adult's qualifications to become a Special Olympic athlete.

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Board Member Spotlight

Mark A. Schnetzer is a member of the RSO management team. He is responsible for the development, updates and maintenance of the RSO web page. He has created pages for contacting RSO, making donations, links, photographs, news, supporters, and upcoming events. He is committed to updating the web page every 72 hours with new information. Please visit RSO at

<http://rockdalespecialolympics.org/>

There is a guest book for sharing thoughts and for asking questions

RSO Athlete Insider

RSO athlete Ricky Webb reporting for HHS sports. Rockdale High School hosted the Special Olympics track and field event for 2006. On March 31st we loaded the bus and headed for the high school. When we arrived

we walked up a steep hill. They gave us arm bands that listed the event's that we was to do. Then the announcer said "LET THE GAMES BEGIN"! Winston won the 100 meter dash. Ricky won the ball throw. Chad and

Justin won the wheel chair race. Then we all had lunch and a great time was had by all. We enjoyed spending the day with all of our friends and family that came out to support us on this special day.



RSO

Missy and Ryan going to Nationals!
 Ryan Shadrix and Missy Rascoe were chosen last year to be members of team Georgia, to compete at the first USA national games. The games will be held at the University of Iowa State in Ames Iowa July 2 through July 8. They will travel on corporate Cessna jets. They join 6 other swimmers and 8 track and field athletes that make up Team Georgia. They have been training all year, and will compete in 3 individual events, Ryan is also a member of

the 4x25 relay team. They have also been training once a month with 3 other members of the team who live in the metro area. Ryan and Missy have been swimming competitively for 3 years at the state level.

**Congratulations Missy and Ryan
 GO TEAM GEORGIA!!**



A BIG THANK YOU

Thanks Longhorns!!!

Rockdale Special Olympics 3rd Annual Golf Tournament held on April 13, was a huge success, thanks to Longhorns Steakhouse, and Paul Smith and his entire staff. The After Party sponsored by Longhorns was such a wonderful time for all. We raised more money this year than ever and we plan to do it again next year. Thanks to Paul we learn something new and we get better each year. Our golf tourney is becoming one of the best and we owe it all to Paul Smith.

Longhorns

Steakhouse

Conyers, Georgia

Thank You!

A big thanks also goes out to Dale Pierce Co Chair Fundraising for RSO. She worked very hard with Longhorn's Paul Smith and many others to make this years Annual Golf Tournament the best ever.

Summer Calendar

JUNE

Friday 2nd-Sunday 4th- Georgia Summer Games at Emory University Atlanta, Georgia.

JULY

Sunday 2nd-Saturday 8th- Nationals at the University of Iowa Ames, Iowa.

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th- Masters Bowling in Columbus, Georgia

AUGUST

Look for volume II newsletter for what's happening in RSO