## Special Olympics Texas Cypress Fairbanks ISD 2024 Basketball

Dear Parents and Athletes,

The second half of the 2023-2024 Special Olympics sports will soon begin with basketball. Practice will be on Mondays and Thursdays from 6:30--7:30 p.m. There are a few dates where we will not have practice as stated below, and please plan your practice schedules accordingly through the area meet. The Skills meet will be on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> the Area meet is scheduled for Saturday February 24th for all team athletes. Athletes must be currently enrolled at a CFISD campus, be at least 8 years of age and have a complete Athlete Medical before participating, in which ALL 6 pages must be filled out completely. Page six of the medical must be signed by a physician clearing your athlete to participate, and page seven is for athletes who have had restrictions in the past.

- 1st Practice: Monday, Jan. 8, 2024 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
- Season Dates: January 8<sup>th</sup>—February 24<sup>th</sup>
- Team practices: Langham Creek High School 17610 FM 529 Rd. Houston, TX 77095
   \*Performance Gymnasium
- Skills practices: Langham Creek High School 17610 FM 529 Houston, TX 7709
   \*Auxiliary Gym (We will direct you once you arrive!)
- Practice Days: Mondays and Thursdays Time: 6:30pm to 7:30 p.m. for both skills and team practices. We may not enter the gyms early so please plan to arrive close to 6:30! The gyms are located on the back side of the school, nearest to LA Fitness. (Enter at the light on F.M. 529 going to the back of the campus.)
- If you are unsure if your athlete is considered a team or a skills player, the coaches will assess your athlete and inform you on proper placement.

## Important Dates:

- Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>-- No practice- student holiday
- Jan. 18th Final acceptance date for new athletes
- Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> Team Classifications & Skills Competition (location TBD)
  \*ALL ATHLETES MUST PARTICIPATE ON THIS DATE! \*
- February 24<sup>th</sup>- Area 4 Team Competition for ALL Teams (location TBD)

Attendance and punctuality at practice are important to success, particularly with team sports. Please discuss any scheduling conflicts you may have with your team coach. Appropriate attire (i.e. shorts, shirt, and athletic shoes) is required for practice.

Athletes do not need to have previous knowledge or ability but must show interest in order to participate. As with any extra-curricular activities, all athletes must behave in order to participate in practice and competitions. There may be additional dates added for skills players, and that information will be shared later regarding those dates. Also, additional games may be added to the calendar, and if so, the team coaches will be sharing this information. Athletes are required to have a yearly physical before they can practice or compete. If your athlete participated last year, we are giving a year of grace and that physical will still be valid. The medical form must be current, less than one year old.

PLEASE BRING A COPY OF YOUR ATHLETE'S CURRENT MEDICAL FORM TO GIVE THE COACH ON THE FIRST DAY OF PRACTICE. A COPY IS REQUIRED FOR **EACH** SPORT (i.e. participation in basketball and swimming will require two copies—one for the Basketball coach and one for the swimming coach and so on) PLEASE RETAIN THE ORIGINAL TO MAKE COPIES AS NEEDED FOR ADDITIONAL SPORTS.

Open the following link to access the Athlete Medical Form directly:

https://www.sotx.org/files/misc/new+sotx+medical+form+blank.pdf

If you have any questions, please let me know. I look forward to seeing all of you on the courts!

Go Cy-Fair! Sincerely,

Melissa McKay Special Olympics Program Coordinator/ Head of Delegation Melissa.mckay@cfisd.net