

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Special Olympics
Colorado
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Special Olympics Colorado 2010 State Winter Games Reinstated

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. -- The Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) 2010 State Winter Games will proceed after all. The two-day annual event was originally cancelled for 2010 due to declining donations in 2009. However, thanks to a generous Denver area donor who responded to a 9News feature last week regarding the cancellation of the event, the games will go on. This year's signature winter event for Special Olympics Colorado will take place March 28-29 at Copper Mountain Resort and Dobson Ice Arena in Vail.

"We are delighted to announce that the Special Olympics Colorado 2010 State Winter Games have been reinstated," says Mindy Watrous, President & CEO of SOCO. "These generous Coloradoans, who wish to remain anonymous, have made our athletes' dreams come true. We are extremely grateful to them."

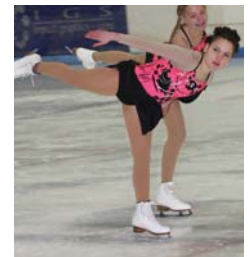
The Special Olympics Colorado Winter Games mark the culmination of the winter sports season. The event draws nearly 400 Special Olympics Athletes and Unified Sports® partners plus an additional 600 individuals (volunteers, coaches and family members) from around the state. Competition takes place in six sports -- alpine skiing, cross country skiing, figure skating, snowboarding, snowshoeing and speed skating. The games, which include Opening and Closing Ceremonies, are open to the public **FREE** of charge.

This marks the 32nd year for the Special Olympics Colorado State Winter Games and the 22nd consecutive year the event will take place at Copper Mountain Resort.

"We are thankful for our wonderful partnership with Copper Mountain Resort. They have been supportive, understanding and incredibly flexible in agreeing to once again host our winter games."

For more information regarding this event or Special Olympics Colorado, go to www.specialolympicsco.org.

Since 1969, Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) has been strengthening families, athletes and the very soul of our community through sports training and athletic competitions. Special Olympics Colorado provides year-round training and sponsors over 80 competitions at the area and state level in 20 sports for nearly 10,000 athletes statewide. With a base of more than 6,000 volunteers, hundreds of hours are donated allowing SOCO to support athletes of all ages and abilities, allowing them to build athletic, learning and social skills. Participation with other athletes, non-disabled peers (Unified Sports® partners), coaches, sponsors and volunteers builds confidence and creates opportunities to participate as productive and respected members of society by increasing public awareness of the athletes' capabilities. There is no cost to participate in Special Olympics.



Support. Volunteer. Coach. Compete. Special Olympics Colorado. Be a FAN.