



MOOSE INTERNATIONAL

One of the cornerstones of the Moose fraternity is service to our communities. Our Lodges and Chapters contribute \$75-\$100 million dollars in community service annually, including monetary donations and volunteer hours worked and miles driven. Our efforts can be seen at the local, state and national levels.

One of the organizations benefiting from the generosity of our fraternal units throughout the years has been Special Olympics. Whether it has been financial support of Special Olympics programs or volunteer assistance at local and state games and tournaments, the men and women of the Moose have found themselves actively involved in the success of these endeavors.

And because our members have indicated to us the importance of Special Olympics, we have formed a partnership with Special Olympics North America. We feel that our commitment will serve to strengthen the entire program across the continent, and will provide an outstanding opportunity for people everywhere to realize the good works of our fraternity.



USA NATIONAL GAMES • NEBRASKA

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Since the first International Games were held in Chicago, IL in 1968, Special Olympics has provided year-round training and athletic competition in a number of Olympic-style sports to individuals with intellectual disabilities. During that time, more than 2.5 million athletes in nearly 200 countries around the world have been empowered to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society.

Children and adults with intellectual disabilities who participate in Special Olympics develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence and a more positive self-image. They grow mentally, socially and spiritually and, through their activities, exhibit boundless courage and enthusiasm, enjoy the rewards of friendship and ultimately discover not only new abilities and talents but "their voices" as well.

Today, Special Olympics North America supports more than 500,000 athletes throughout the United States, Canada and the Caribbean who participate in all 30 sports offered by Special Olympics.

The 2010 USA National Games will be held in Lincoln and Omaha, Nebraska. It will be the largest sporting event in the history of the state. 1,000 coaches, 8,000 volunteers and over 15,000 family members and friends will be in attendance, in addition to 3,000 athletes competing in 13 sports. One of these sports is softball, which has seen the most dramatic increase in participation of any Special Olympics program in North America since 2005.



AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

The sport of softball also got its start in Chicago, with the invention of the game in November 1887 by George Hancock. More than a century later, the game that started as "indoor baseball" has become a well-recognized and respected game played all over the world.

The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) was founded in 1933 and has evolved into the strongest softball organization in the country. The ASA has many important responsibilities as the national governing body of softball in the United States, including regulating competition to insure fairness and equal opportunity to the millions of players who annually play the sport.

When the ASA entered the softball picture in 1933, the sport was in a state of confusion with no unified set of playing rules and no national governing body to provide guidance and stability. The ASA changed all that by adopting softball's first universally accepted rules of play and by organizing consistent and fair competition across the nation.

From this beginning, the ASA has become one of the nation's largest and fastest growing sports organizations and now sanctions competition in every state through a network of 83 local associations. The ASA has grown from a few hundred teams in the early days to over 250,000 teams today, representing a membership of more than four million.





A Winning Team

The proposed agreement with Moose International, ASA and Special Olympics would initially be divided into the three phases listed below:

Phase I Moose-sponsored Special Olympics softball National Invitational Tournament, held as a test event in Lincoln, NE, 31 July – 4 Aug 2009

Phase II Moose sponsorship of the softball venue at the 2010 National Games in Lincoln, NE, 18-23 July 2010

Phase III Moose-sponsored regional softball events across the United States in summer 2011, with a national event to be held in late September-early October in Mooseheart, IL

We will have a tremendous opportunity as part of the Special Olympics National Games, held every four years. As we establish ourselves as the primary supporters of the softball program, we will make inroads to becoming a sponsor of the National Games. Sponsorship includes having the Moose name and logo included on all advertisements, promotions, publications and media releases; and exclusive signage at a designated sports venue, in this case, the softball events.

In addition to the benefits that will be enjoyed by Special Olympics North America, the ASA and our fraternity, there will be benefits to state Special Olympics programs based on the involvement of our Moose Associations, for which they will be recognized.

Here's how it would work: we will be asking each fraternal unit (Lodges, Chapters and Moose Legions) to contribute \$100 during the year toward our efforts. Councils of Higher Degrees, Districts and Associations are also encouraged to participate. Funds should be remitted to Moose Charities and earmarked "Special Olympics". Those resources will be used to fund the four regional softball tournaments and the national Special Olympics tournament at Mooseheart. All remaining monies will be dispersed to state/provincial Special Olympics offices based on contributions received on behalf of that state/provincial Moose Association.

The Department of Fraternal Programs will issue recognition awards to units contributing to Special Olympics through Moose Charities at levels of \$500, \$1,000 and greater.



Department of Fraternal Programs
Moose International

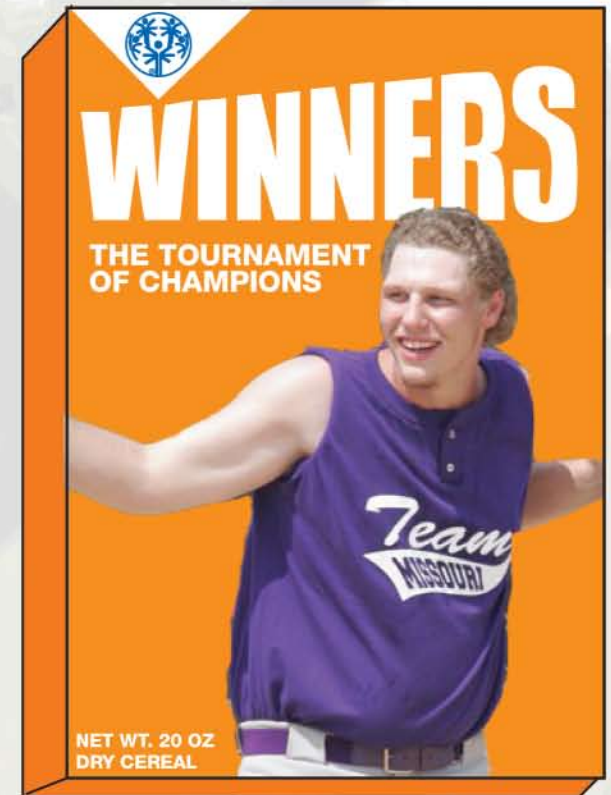
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“ Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.”