

2026 Special Olympics South Dakota State Basketball Tournament Information



Opening Ceremony:

Opening Ceremony will be at the High School. Staging will begin at 8:15 AM in the back gym on courts 8 & 9. The OC line-up is as follows.

1. HOST Delegation: Mitchell
2. Aberdeen Hub City Express
3. Aberdeen Golden Eagles
4. Aberdeen Thunder
5. Augustana
6. Brandon Valley
7. Brookings
8. Clark
9. Huron Tigers
10. Huron Heartland Hunters
11. Milbank
12. NESD
13. Parkston
14. Pierre Wildcats
15. Rapid City Flame
16. Rapid City Patriots
17. Redfield Eagles SDDC
18. Roosevelt High School
19. Sioux Falls Bulldogs
20. Sioux Falls Fireworks
21. Sioux Falls Lancers
22. Sioux Falls United Wolf Pack
23. Sisseton
24. Spearfish Peaks
25. Spink County
26. Vermillion
27. Vermillion- SESDAC
28. Watertown
29. Yankton

Sportsmanship: Please share these statements below with your athletes and Unified Partners as a reminder. We will not tolerate any unsportsmanlike behavior. Any unsportsmanlike behavior will result in suspension from the tournament.

- I will practice good sportsmanship.
- I will act in ways that bring respect to me, my coaches, my team, and Special Olympics.
- I will not use bad language.
- I will not swear or insult other people.
- I will not fight with other athletes, coaches, volunteers, or staff.

Pizza Ranch Coupons: These coupons are to be used by Special Olympics Athletes and Unified Partners ONLY. They are valid at the Mitchell Pizza Ranch location only.

Meal Information

Meals: Lunches will be delivered to LB Williams, Mitchell High School. Teams can pick up their presorted lunch at the location they are playing at. Lunches will be at each location by 11:30.

Saturday Lunch- Pizzas will be boxed by team. When you pick up your team's pizza, you will receive the number of boxes based on what was submitted on the lunch forms.

- Menu: Pizza, bottled water
- Lunches will be sorted by teams and can be picked up at LB Williams, Mitchell High School

Saturday Dinner

- John Paul II Elementary School - 1510 W Elm St, Mitchell, SD 57301
- Menu: Spaghetti, Meatballs, breadsticks, dessert, milk/water
- Three meal shifts: 5:00PM, 5:30PM, and 6:00PM
- If lines are backed up delegations can wait in the gym where music will be played, and the dance will follow.
- Please eat at your assigned time as listed below.

5:00PM		5:30PM		6:00PM	
30	Aberdeen Golden Eagles	72	Sioux Falls Fireworks	45	Pierre Wildcats
13	Aberdeen Thunder	10	Abd Hub City Express	30	Mitchell
3	Huron Heartland Hunters	34	Brookings	63	Yankton
31	Milbank	47	Rapid City Flame	45	Watertown
71	NESC	7	RC Patriots	16	SDDC Redfield
51	Spearfish Peaks	20	Sisseton	20	SF Lancers
14	Spink County	19	Vermillion SESDAC	5	Roosevelt
213		209		224	

Meals provided to registered coaches/chaperones and athletes/unified partners only. No tickets will be sold outside of this number.

Sunday Lunch

- Menu: Sandwich, cheese stick, granola bar, chips, bottled water
- Lunches will be sorted by teams and can be picked up at LB Williams, Mitchell High School

COACHES INFORMATION

TYPE OF PLAY: Round Robin for 5 team divisions. 3 team divisions will play double round robins. Traditional Jr teams will play each other twice. Awards based on head-to-head competition. 4 team divisions will play each other pool play and then seed into a 4-team bracket. Awards in 4 team divisions are based on bracket results.

RULES: Please refer to the original registration materials included in the Competition Guide.

Coaches, please try to establish contact with officials and opposing coaches before every game so that everyone is on the same page in terms of levels of abilities/game modifications/rules.

Scorebooks:

Delegations will be required to write athletes and unified partners uniform numbers prior to the start of the game if they are not submitted to the State Office.

No additions will be allowed to be handwritten into the scorebooks unless approved by a SOSD staff member, if names or changes are written into the roster without communication you are at risk for a forfeit.

Medical: Athletic trainers will be located at all locations.

AWARDS: Medals will be awarded to the first three places in each division. Ribbons will be awarded to teams placing 4th through 8th in each division. Awards will be presented at each location following the completion of divisions.

Unified Basketball Buddy Ribbons:

Unified Partners must wear pink buddy ribbons attached to the back of their jerseys. These will be in each team packet.

SPIRIT/SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD: Each Head Coach will nominate one player from their team for the Spirit/Sportsmanship Award. From these nominations, one player from each division will be selected as the recipient of the Spirit/Sportsmanship Award. These players will be presented with a shirt during their team awards presentation. Ballots will be included in your coaches' packet. You will receive your coaches' packet when you check in at the tournament. Please turn these forms into the gym supervisors at each school.

INDIVIDUAL SKILLS CONTEST: The Individual Skills Contest will begin at 10:00 AM on Saturday at Mitchell High School. Awards will be presented immediately following the completion of each division.

TEAM BASKETBALL SKILLS CONTEST: Will be held on Saturday morning immediately following the conclusion of the Individual Skills Contest AWARDS. Team Skills Awards will be presented at the conclusion of each division.

CHEERLEADER COMPETITION: Cheerleading Squads to be present at the clinic which will be held at 10:00 AM in the wrestling room located at Mitchell High School. Individual medals will be awarded to the first through third place winners with ribbons being awarded to teams placing 4th-8th. The Cheerleading awards will be presented following the completion of the clinic in the wrestling room on Saturday.

GAME SCHEDULING AND RESULTS:

Game schedules will be listed in the programs as well as at each gym. Results will be posted following each game at each site.

COMPETITION FACILITIES

DWU Avera Sports & Wellness Complex: Courts 1, 2, 3
Christen Athletic Center: Courts 4,5
LB Williams: Award/ Lunches
Mitchell High School: Courts 6,7 8, 9,10 Skills/ Cheer

407 West Norway Avenue, Mitchell, SD 57301
1200 University Dr, Mitchell, SD 57301
1420 W University Ave, Mitchell, SD 57301
920 N Capital St, Mitchell, SD 57301

BANQUET/DANCE:

John Paul II Elementary School
*Reminder Dance Theme: I Hate Winter

1510 W Elm St, Mitchell, SD 57301
(Grass skirts, shorts, Hawaiian shirts etc.)