

Special Olympics Wyoming Athlete Leadership Program

2015 Fall Newsletter



2015 Athlete Input Council Members

Members Present: Lisa Allen – Laramie, Lewis Fancher – Riverton, Jeremy Martenson - Star Valley, Lucas Tronquet - Rock Springs, Raelynn Gall – Worland, Jeannie Ellinger - Sheridan RENEW, David Hansen – Thermopolis, Shae’lee Dial – Cheyenne, Tess Robinson - Casper Masters

Members Absent: Cliff Haley – Casper Masters, Ashley Richards - Douglas Schools, Micah Miller – Jackson, , Becky Pedro – Buffalo, George Antel - Gillette BOCES



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ATHLETE INPUT COUNCIL UPDATES

The second official meeting of the Statewide Athlete Input Council took place at the 2015 Fall Tournament Victory Banquet in Casper. Tammie Bertelson led nine Council members were in attendance to discuss a meeting schedule, review the bylaws, the role of the Chairperson, and to make suggestions moving forward. The meeting notes can be found on the Athlete Leadership webpage.

NEW SUGGESTIONS

At the Athlete Input Council members made suggestions to help better serve the athletes around the state. Below are the suggestions brought up:

- Proposed Sports to add: Bocce, Volleyball, and Wheelchair Basketball.
- Provide opportunities for more wheelchair sports; the number of wheelchair sports options should be equal to the number of non-wheelchair options.
- Provide more opportunities for Most Inspirational Athlete and more awareness on how it is selected.
- All athletes to have more input into choosing the banquet theme.
- Have an alternate plan if it’s snowing or raining so that athletes who have trained hard are allowed to compete in their events.
- Use a screen at future AIC meetings so that agendas and notes can be projected.

If you have any questions or suggestions please email Jeannie Ellinger or Tammie Bertelson so they are able to share them with the rest of the council

BYLAW UPDATES

During the Council Meeting there were two changes to the AIC Bylaws. The changes are as follows:

Section 4 - Terms of Chair

- The term of office for the appointed members of the AIC shall

be two (2) years. Members may be re-elected or reappointed

Section 6 – The Role of the Chair:

- Added facilitate meetings
- Noted that the current term ends June, 2017

STAY CONNECTED WITH FACEBOOK

Special Olympics Wyoming has created an Athlete Input Council group on Facebook! This group is set up to help Special Olympics Wyoming Athletes connect with the AIC council, share ideas and suggestions to improve the overall athlete experience, share stories and pictures, and to stay connected to one another year round. This is a closed group just for Special Olympics Wyoming athletes, so to join search Special Olympics Wyoming Athlete Input Council on Facebook and click the join button. Be sure to share this with all of the athletes that you know across the state!

PLANS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The end of year Athlete Input Council meeting will take place via conference call in December. Jeannie, Tammie, and Regan will keep athletes updated as more information comes to light. Make sure to check the ALP's page on the website and the AIC Facebook group for dates!