



# The Principles

Honor the history of the  
Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Fulfill the responsibilities of Agency Coordinator by following the procedures and guidelines in the Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run manual.

Develop, foster, and nurture cooperative relationships between Special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch Run, and increase awareness and build bridges between communities, athletes, agencies, and sponsors.

Live my passion; leave a legacy.

## What Is The Law Enforcement Torch Run®?

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics is Special Olympics International's largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness effort. In 2008, the Torch Run raised more than \$34 million to benefit 2.2 million Special Olympics athletes around the world. More than 100,000 law enforcement members carried the *Flame of Hope* across 31 nations, and thousands more supported the participants' efforts through pledges, special events, and merchandise sales.



In 2008, Arizona law enforcement's fundraising efforts put \$463,060.69 into the programs supporting our local athletes!

At its most basic level the Torch Run is a running event in which law enforcement personnel and athletes run the *Flame of Hope* to the Opening Ceremony of local competitions, and State, National, and World Games. As Guardians of the Flame®, law enforcement personnel around the world carry the Special Olympics Torch for a common cause through blizzards in Alaska, the mists of England, the islands of the Caribbean, and the deserts of Arizona. The common goal is to raise money to support Special Olympics athletes and to help dispel the myths surrounding the capabilities of people with intellectual disabilities. To symbolize our support for Special Olympians and to celebrate their independence, at each Opening Ceremony we pass the Torch to an athlete who uses it to light the *Flame of Hope* that burns throughout the Special Olympics Games.

At its most fully developed, the Torch Run encompasses a variety of fundraising methods in addition to the Torch Run itself, such as t-shirt and merchandise sales, donations and pledges for participants, corporate sponsorships and special events such as Tip A Cops, Polar Plunges, golf tournaments, and other events with local appeal.

## How Did The Torch Run Begin?

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® began in 1981 when Wichita (Kansas) Police Chief, Richard LaMunyon, saw an urgent need to raise funds for and increase awareness of Special Olympics. LaMunyon felt Special Olympics was a fitting cause to unite local law enforcement, giving them closer ties to the community and to a very unique population. The Torch Run was quickly adopted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, now recognized as the founding organization of the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics.

As the Torch Run grew it took on another dimension. In 1987, organizers created the Final Leg. Every two years, law enforcement personnel from around the world gather to carry the *Flame of Hope* in a Law Enforcement Torch Run® Final Leg to kick off the Special Olympics World Summer or World Winter Games. It is an honor to participate in the Torch Run Final Leg in a salute to the athletes who compete in Special Olympics World Games. We congratulate our current delegate to the Winter Games in Boise, Idaho February 7-14, 2009, Correctional Officer III Eric Abt of the Arizona Department of Corrections.

Under the leadership of the Torch Run Council the Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run continues to touch the lives of Special Olympics athletes throughout Arizona. This year's Torch Run Council Co-Directors are Officer Kevin Albert—Paradise Valley Police Department, and Chief Mikel Longman—Arizona Department of Public Safety. Following is a list of former State Torch Run Directors who have been instrumental in the success of the Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics:

- Captain Linn Brown                      Mesa Police Department
- Lieutenant Steve Graehling            Tempe Police Department
- Lieutenant Brick Goodman            Scottsdale Police Department
- Sergeant John Calender                Chandler Police Department
- Lieutenant Bill Fogle                  Arizona Department of Public Safety
- Lieutenant Ed Shepard                 Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
- Sergeant Ron Weber                    Mesa Police Department
- Sergeant Robert Conrad                Phoenix Police Department
- Detective Skip Woodward              Tucson Police Department
- Ms. Nancy Mulleneaux                 Tucson Police Department
- Lieutenant Mikel Longman            Arizona Department of Public Safety
- Sergeant Mark Franzen                Chandler Police Department
- Ms. Patti Lopez-Cepero                Arizona Attorney General's Office
- Lieutenant Steve Graehling            Retired
- Sergeant Gil Soto                        Phoenix Police Department

## 2009 Torch Run Facts

- WHAT:** The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics involves members of law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona who are joining forces to relay the Special Olympics Torch. This “run for love and money” will culminate at Mesa Community College, the site of the 2009 Special Olympics Arizona Summer Games. There, participants will pass the Torch to the “Most Inspirational” Special Olympics athlete who will light the *Flame of Hope* that will burn throughout the games.
- WHEN:** Statewide Run: April 26–May 1, 2009  
 Summer Games Opening Ceremony: May 1, 2009  
 Mesa Community College—Mesa, Arizona
- WHERE:** Seven geographic legs cover over 2,000 miles throughout Arizona, ending at Mesa Community College on Friday, May 1, 2009. The seven legs of the run begin on April 26, 2009:
- Leg #1—Lake Havasu
  - Leg #2—Flagstaff
  - Leg #3—Pinetop/Lakeside
  - Leg #4—Douglas
  - Leg #5—Yuma
  - Leg #6—Safford
  - Leg #7—Window Rock
- WHO:** Law enforcement personnel (sworn and non-sworn) from 80 agencies, including state, federal, and military agencies.
- WHY:** To raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics Arizona (which provides year-round training and competition in a variety of sports for over 11,000 Arizona citizens with intellectual disabilities); in its 27 years of existence, the Law Enforcement Torch Run<sup>®</sup> has raised over **\$3,900,000** to benefit Special Olympics Arizona.
- HOW:** Torch Run participants run, walk, and bicycle to carry the Torch from the starting points to the Opening Ceremony of the Summer Games. Participants raise money for Special Olympics Arizona through donations, product sales, and special events.



# Special Olympics Arizona Facts



<b>Incorporated</b>	March 1975
<b>Mission Statement</b>	The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.
<b>Athlete Oath</b>	“Let me win. But if I cannot win let me be brave in the attempt.”
<b>Registered Athletes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Over 11,000</li><li>• Ages 8 and up</li></ul>
<b>Registered Volunteers</b>	Over 6,000 volunteers and up to 9,600 day-of-event volunteers
<b>Registered Coaches</b>	Over 500 Special Olympics Arizona trained coaches
<b>Sports Offered</b>	Alpine skiing, aquatics, athletics (track & field and indoor athletics), basketball, bocce, bowling, cheerleading, cross country skiing, cycling, equestrian, figure skating, flag football, floor hockey, golf, gymnastics (artistic/rhythmic), kayaking, power lifting, snowshoeing, soccer, softball, speed skating, tennis, volleyball
<b>Cost To Athlete To Participate</b>	No fees or charges are assessed to registered athletes, including costs for food, lodging, uniforms, training, or physicals.
<b>Local Programs</b>	173 programs offered in 15 regional areas
<b>Additional Athlete Programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Athlete Leadership Program (ALP)</li><li>• 8 Can't Wait/Young Athlete Program</li><li>• Healthy Athletes Program: Special Smiles, Healthy Hearing, Fit Feet, Opening Eyes, MedFest, Healthy Promotion</li><li>• Motor Activity Training Program (MATP)</li><li>• Global Messengers</li><li>• Equestrian Sports Program</li></ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sponsorship/Gift Revenue: \$2,850,000</li><li>• In-Kind Gifts: \$ 807,000</li><li>• 76% of every dollar goes to athlete and program support; the balance, 24%, goes to administrative costs</li><li>• Special Olympics Arizona receives no government funding—501(c)(3) non-profit</li></ul>