



October 23, 2022

## **OH MY GOODNESS!** We have so much exciting news to tell you about the **Fairfield Flaming Marshmallows!**

We had a great 2021-2022 competition season. The 'Mallows medaled at State Bowling, State Basketball and at the Summer Games in Track & Field AND Soccer. With all that experience and shiny medals around their necks they were ready to play in 2022-2023. We've even opened the gates to add adults to our team! This year, we've tripled the size of our team and we are expected to double again by the end of this year. Our goal is 30-50 athletes for 2022-2023.

We sent our team to Regional Bowling and came home with 6 1<sup>st</sup> place finishers, all going to state, 1 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish and 1 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was an amazing time and now they are focused for State on November 19<sup>th</sup> in Cedar Rapids.

We are also starting our practice for MidWinter Games in basketball and hope to be adding weightlifting and cheerleading. These athletes know no bounds. There is interest in snow shoeing and swimming as well. **Look out Winter and Summer Games. The 'Mallows want to represent and that's why we need you!** 

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sport training and competition to children and adults with Intellectual Disabilities to help develop physical fitness and courage, but more importantly to us, it is their mission to experience the *joy of being a part of a team*.

It is our goal as coaches, that these experiences are at little or no cost to our athletes and that we have the specialty equipment needed to enable our athletes to compete. It is also our goal to lay the foundation for the team and grow to meet our community needs so that it's available to all whom desire for years to come, regardless of age or ability.

Our community was amazing last year helping us develop the team and we are hoping that you will help with the charge again this year in growing the team. **Any and all help is welcome and appreciated.** 

In addition to donations and sponsorships, our team will be fundraising team logo shirts and cups to help keep us going. We as a team, coaches and parents, are dedicated to make this team continue as long as there is a need in Jefferson and local counties.

Personally, it's been a wonderful experience working with an organization, volunteers and parents that dedicate their time to helping build confidence, courage and joy. I hope that you can help us continue that tradition.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or would like more information. We'd be happy to stop by and give you a presentation or answer any questions. We also will probably take a moment to brag about our amazing athletes if that is ok with you!

We thank you in advance for your consideration and generosity. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely, Janel Orgovanyi & Lisa Phillips, Coaches

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## FAIRFIELD FLAMING MARSHMALLOWS CHALLENGERS SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

## IMMEDIATE NEED LIST in order of priority

- TEAM SHIRTS Approximate Cost: \$20/athlete Need changes based on sport/team size 1 shirt for Summer (sleeveless), 1 for Fall/Winter (T-shirt).
- **BOWLING PASSES** Approximate Cost: \$50/athlete (10 required practices & shoe rental)
- POSTERS & PHOTOS

It's become a tradition to create posters for each sport for the athletes so they have a memento to show off. Each sponsor also gets one to hang and show off too as a thank you.

- HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE BOWLING RAMPS Approximate Cost: \$500/ramp Need 2
  Ramps are made by the MNPVA (Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America) and used for the Iowa Special Olympics State Conference. Our team uses ramps for every practice, regional and State competitions. (Ramps provided at bowling alleys are too flimsy and do not accommodate our athletes who are either in wheelchairs or do not have the ability to hold/control a bowling ball.)
- PARK & REC PASSES & GRANTS Approximate Cost: \$500 per year
- EQUIPMENT

We are looking for sponsorship for materials to build two Bocce Ball Ramps out of PVC for our athletes who do not have the ability to hold/throw. One of our athlete's fathers will do the build. Approximate cost \$200 each.

Basketballs, soccer balls, bocce ball sets (2), tennis balls, javelins, discus and so much more.

 PIZZA PARTY WITH THE TROJANS &/or END OF THE YEAR AWARD BANQUET Approximate Cost: \$100 per sport

We hope to unite the Fairfield Trojans with the Fairfield Flaming Marshmallows, to be ONE Fairfield. We have invited local athletes & coaches to help at our practices. It is amazing to see the impact of the relationship between our athletes & the Trojans. We would like to foster this relationship by hosting end of season banquets with the Trojans, coaches, & our athletes' families. Also, purchasing end of season awards for athletes.

• MISCELLANEOUS SPORTING EQUIPMENT, TEAM TRAVEL EXPENSES, MARKETING, ETC.
As we add adults, we will also need help with reimbursing athletes for travel to and from practice and tournaments as needed as well as printing costs for flyers (schools and community for registrations 3x per year), thank you cards, etc.

## HAVE OTHER IDEAS OF WHAT WE NEED? WE'D LOVE TO SEE THEM.

We will also help fundraise locally as opportunities become available so if you have an idea, we are all ears.

Any donation will be sent to Special Olympics Iowa's central office, in an account designated for Fairfield's Flaming Marshmallows. All donations or sponsorships are welcome and appreciated, of any amount. (Checks should be made out to Special Olympics Iowa with FF Flaming Marshmallows in the memo line.)