



IMT Des Moines Marathon Special Olympics Iowa Unified Pairing

The IMT Des Moines Marathon is launching a brand-new Unified Pairing partnership with Special Olympics Iowa for the Principal 5k Road Race and need partners for Special Olympic Athletes!

This is an opportunity for IMT Des Moines Marathon athletes to “partner up” with a Special Olympic athlete and participate together in the Principal 5K Road Race.

What does this entail from you as a participant in the Principal 5K Road Race?

You will have the option when you register for the Principal 5K Road Race to select that you are interested in participating in the Unified Pairing program.

Pre-race responsibilities: You will receive communication from a representative with Special Olympics Iowa who will assign you to a Special Olympics athlete. You will then have the opportunity a few weeks before the race to meet the Special Olympics athlete whom you have been paired with to enjoy a leisurely run/walk and hang out with Special Olympic athletes!

Race weekend responsibilities: You will need to check in at the Special Olympics Iowa booth during the Scheels Sports & Fitness Expo either Friday, October 18 or Saturday, October 19 during athlete packet pick-up hours.

Race day responsibilities: The IMT Des Moines Marathon and Special Olympics Iowa will have a meetup spot selected (location info coming at a later date) where you will join us before the race and meet your Special Olympics athlete. We will then walk over as a group to the Principal 5K Road Race start line, and you and your Unified Partner can participate in the race together!

For More Information: This is a fun and unique opportunity for IMT Des Moines Marathon Athletes to interact and engage with Special Olympic athletes. To register for the Principal 5K Road Race visit the IMT Des Moines Marathon website at desmoinesmarathon.com and contact Rachel Bosworth at Special Olympics Iowa at rbosworth@soiowa.org.

About the IMT Des Moines Marathon The IMT Des Moines Marathon advocates for active participation in our own personal health and wellness by providing community running events and related activities. Since its inception in 2002, the IMT Des Moines Marathon has provided a positive image of Des Moines by offering race distances for athletes of all abilities from the IMT Des Moines Monument Mile in September to the IMT Des Moines Marathon & Half Marathon, Bankers Trust Marathon Relay, Mercy Live Up Loop 5-Mile Run & 1-Mile Walk and Principal 5K Road Race in October. Join us as we celebrate 18 years of running October 18-20, 2019.

About Special Olympics Iowa Since 1968, Special Olympics Iowa has been a statewide movement that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports. In the state of Iowa, there are over 16,000 Special Olympic athletes and Unified Partners who compete year-round in sports training competition. Special Olympics Iowa provides 23 Olympic-type sports. Beyond sports programming, they also offer programs such as Challenge Days, Play Days, Healthy Athletes, Unified Champion Schools, and many more.