

Alhambra to Embrace Special Olympic Games as Host City

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With the Olympics occurring every four years, the Special Olympics are held just as often. These aren't just any Olympics; these are the Olympics for athletes with intellectual disabilities, giving them a chance to showcase their skills. The 2015 Special Olympics are set to be held in Los Angeles from July 25 to Aug. 2, welcoming over 7,000 athletes from 170 countries to compete in over 25 Olympic sports, according to the Special Olympics Organization. Over half a million people are expected to travel to Los Angeles in support of these athletes. With so many people from all around the world coming to the LA area, many surrounding communities have expressed support for the event. While many of the events will be held in the Los Angeles area, many cities will house a certain country's athletes or group of people.

Founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the Special Olympics were created when Shriver saw how unfairly people with mental disabilities were treated. Opening a summer camp in her own backyard, she taught kids with disabilities that they can play sports like others, and they should not dwell on what they can not do. The first ever Special Olympic Games was held in a Soldier Field in Chicago, IL. Over a thousand people with intellectual disabilities from the U.S. and Canada competed in both track and field and swim. As time passed, the games evolved, gaining popularity as it went along.

Recently, according to the Alhambra Source, the Alhambra City Council has approved the city to become one of the host cities in the Special Olympics along with over 50 other cities that have been approved to contribute to the event as well.

"I'm really excited about having the Special Olympics so close here," Alhambra Mayor Gary Yamauchi said in the afore-

mentioned article. "It's something that I've always thought that we could participate in."

The Host Town Program takes place three days before the opening ceremony. Host towns both welcome and celebrate the arrival of the athletes from around the world. As a host city, Alhambra will take in delegates and athletes from Taiwan, providing activities and cultural events throughout their stay at California State University, Los Angeles over the summer. They will spend their first day in Alhambra, their second day in Monterey Park and their third day traveling to the Games.

Transforming from a backyard summer camp to an international movement, the Special Olympics has changed many lives and continues to impact the lives of those with mental disabilities. As a host city, Alhambra hopes to become involved in an event that is not focused on the competition but on support and awareness for those with disabilities. **MOOR** graphic by SAMMIE CHEN

ANHAYTE'S ANTICS

The Frosh/Soph Team is Where You Want to Be



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Coming into high school, many athletes are eager to become one of the best players in their chosen sports program to work hard in order to become talented enough to play on the varsity team. However, for athletes who have never experienced matches at a varsity level, I believe that the froshoph team is the best program for incoming freshman athletes, to help them grow and gain some experience before moving up to a more difficult level.

Sometimes, starting from the bottom is the best way to begin your career in high school sports. You learn to become a leader in your own age group and it gives more young athletes the opportunity to learn from watching and helping each other because everyone wants to improve. Entering the frosh/soph team gives the students the proper time needed for them to mature and develop as athletes, as well as mentally prepares them for the challenge of playing on the varsity team.

Besides the skills and techniques, the frosh/soph team is also important because it encourages more students to try out for sports by giving students a greater opportunity to make the team. With a greater number of athletes, it gives them a chance to show their talent and eventually move up a level. It is better to move up slowly and learn, so by the time you reach varsity you are the one the players look up to and follow rather than being on the varsity team and being placed on the sideline, sat on the bench or hardly used due to their lack of experience.

There are many people, including myself, who have started off with the frosh/soph team and it helps them set the goal to one day play on the varsity team. To reach the goal, athletes train harder and focus. Although the frosh/soph team may not always be the most popular team, it is the team that will help the younger athletes become the best they can be.

Golf Team's First Season Ends on Hopeful Note

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As the first official girls' golf season has come to a close, a new leaf is turned over. Although the team had to forfeit many matches due to the insufficient number of members, the team tops their season off with two girls attending league finals.

"[The girls] played as well as they could play this season. We had two girls make it to league finals, and [they] could have easily made it to California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) prelims; it was just an off day. Our expectations for next year is to have more girls come out and play for us," Head Coach Luis Brambila said.

On Oct. 21, the girls participated in Almont League preliminaries. Those who scored less than a 50 advanced to finals, and the top four from finals advanced to CIF preliminaries. During preliminaries, junior Amanda Beal shot a 48 and sophomore

Yaneli Guajardo shot a 50, both qualifying to be league finalists.

On Oct. 23, Beal and Guajardo competed in finals, an 18-hole game against 10 other girls from the Almont League at Marshall Canyon. Beal finished 12th out of 23 girls. Finishing fifth in finals, Guajardo qualified as an alternate for CIF preliminaries, meaning if one of the top four is unable to attend, she would compete. Despite not qualifying for CIF as a team, the girls ended their first season knowing they will do better next year.

"Next year I really hope we have more girls try out! We will have a better chance at qualifying for [both league] finals and CIF [next season]," sophomore Yaneli Guajardo said.

Next season, the golf team hopes to reach a total of seven to ten players. They are going to start recruiting earlier, and hopefully engage in practices earlier in the offseason. **MOOR** graphic by LESLIE HWANG



MOOR montage by SARA HERNANDEZ and YIBEI LIU
OUR FUTURE IN SPORTS JV water polo and cross country look towards meeting their high school career goals.

Necessities to Ensure Safety of Fans

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It is half-time; and your favorite team is up by 7 points. There is a noticeable distinction of color blocking a row behind you and there is a loud commotion coming from that area. In a split second, a fight breaks out and the distinguished opposing fan is getting stomped on. According to the Huffington Post, on Oct. 14, this situation occurred between the University of Texas and the University of Oklahoma over a football game. A few fans sustained injuries but they were not critical. For the safety of future games and fans, some people questioned whether or not security should be increased to ensure safety.

"I think people wield too much civic pride when it comes to sports; however, I understand their behavior because fans should have the luxury of boasting about

the team that represents their city. In terms of preventing aggression, there is no definite way of controlling all the people in the stadium. I would increase the amount of security to regulate any behavior that would be too aggressive," senior swimmer Travis Nguyen said.

The option of increasing security to regulate behavior would provide a larger horizon for safety ensured by being able to watch over blind spots of the stadiums. Some believe that fans have a responsibility to play a part when it comes to safety, despite the athletes being the main attraction in the stadium. For example, according to New York Daily News, two San Francisco 49ers fans brawled out in the bathroom due to "impatience for an open stall." This wasn't necessarily brawling against opposing fans. Also, when the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Boston Celtics in 2010, the riled audience took to the streets for a riot, caus-

ing many injuries and resulted in one person beaten unconscious.

"By attending these games, people are acknowledging the risk that others around them might get a bit emotionally involved in the conduct of the sporting teams and fail to make correct choices in relieving those feelings," senior volleyball player Ethan Spencer said.

Many fights occur within the blind spots of the human eye and it is nearly impossible for security guards to watch the entire perimeter of the field or parking structures. With a size that vast, the majority of people would rather increase the security to ensure safety for the common people. However, with instances such as the fight between two University fans and the Lakers riot, one conflict was on the premises of the field while the Lakers riot took place over central Los Angeles. In these cases, increased security may not have prevented those instances.

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