



Where to find 2017 World Games Video

DAILY HIGHLIGHTS:

Every day during the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, ESPN will create a 5-minute video news release (VNR) featuring highlights from the day's competitions. Up to two minutes of this footage may be used, free of charge, by broadcasters worldwide.

This footage will be available for download at approximately 7 p.m. ET/12:00 a.m. CET each night starting Saturday, March 18, through Friday, March 24, via this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xlx02a6qxg9d4gx/AABMSvftawdfZljr2W319s2Ra?dl=0>

NOTE: A shot log will accompany each day's VNRs.

OPENING CEREMONY PARADE OF ATHLETES

After the conclusion of Opening Ceremony on March 18, ESPN producers will make available clips of each delegation that took part in the Parade of Athletes. These video clips will be available -- starting at approx. 4 p.m. ET/9 p.m. CET -- via this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/v86c787s1qeor67/AAANEMgMfBTyUYqiF2X8faqma?dl=0>

FOR ALL OTHER VIDEO, CHECK OUT OUR YOUTUBE CHANNELS:

AUSTRIA 2017 World Games:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCINUn5XSkiATCsKj0ejZMUg>

Special Olympics:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIHbm7j-AXsVBNxBfN81bFtm20ldf_67

GOT VIDEOS ?!

If you have World Games videos or video clips that you would like to share to increase awareness about Special Olympics and our athletes, please use this link to upload footage:

<https://www.hightail.com/u/SpecialOlympics-KMcKenna>

Questions? Contact kmckenna@specialolympics.org



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Delegations from all over the world arrived in Austria

Welcome! Most of the delegations participating in the Special Olympics World Winter Games (SOWWG) 2017 in Graz, Schladming und Ramsau arrived today in Vienna, Graz or Salzburg Airports. Immediately after their arrival, they were picked up by their „Host Town Program“-representatives and taken to the various towns where they will stay and experience the local culture for the next two days. 17 delegations traveled to their Host Towns directly by bus. We know that all of them will get to know Austria and become familiar with the local culture.

On Thursday, March 16, the delegations will be taken to the various venues, and on Friday, March 17th, divisioning will begin.

**In case the countries Bharat and Serendib do not sound familiar to you: „Bharat“ is India's name in Sanskrit, „Serendib“ is Sri Lanka's old Persian name.

Pictures of the delegations' arrivals:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/sowwg2017/albums/72157681407478085>

Lists of

- Team Austria
- Delegations and
- Nations and athletes can be found at

<http://www.austria2017.org/en/games-2017/the-athletes>

A Host Town-list can be found at

<http://www.austria2017.org/en/sei-dabei/host-town-program>

Your accreditation for the Games

During the accreditation application process, you decided WHERE you would pick up your accreditation: in Graz or in Schladming.

Today, media begin picking up their credentials! As a reminder, credentials are available for pick-up beginning at 9:00 a.m. in both Graz and Schladming.

- in Graz at the media center in the Stadthalle Graz, first floor
- in Schladming at the media center in the congress Schladming, first floor

Stadthalle Graz, Messeplatz 1, 8010 Graz

congress Schladming, Europaplatz 800, 8970 Schladming



Please note that it's no longer possible to change your pick up location.

The media centers in Graz and Schladming are opened daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m

Bibs for photographers: colours changed!

Due to the high number of photographers the system of bib-colours was changed to:

red: photographers

yellow: videographers

green: ESPN, ORF, SOI

The bibs can be picked up together with the accreditations in the media centers in Graz and Schladming.

„Austria 2017“ – the official App of the SOWWG 2017

You can now download the official app of the World Winter Games free of charge. You can find it in various app stores, it is called "Austria 2017". The app provides all essential information about the Games, including timetables and results.

The fan-app „Special FotoApp“ can be loaded free of charge from various app stores, too. This fan FotoApp encourages fans to take photos at each venue, being a reporter for the Games and sharing photos with everyone interested in the Games.

Click link here to learn more:

<https://specialolympics.snapshotboard.com/>

Demonstration sport Dancing attracts a huge crowd

Dancing will be a demonstration sport in the SOWWG 2017. All athletes participating will take part in two competitions, the Pre-Dance Contest and the World Dance Contest.

The participants can choose between three categories: Solo, Pair (phantastic for unified) and Crew (four to twelve persons, more than half of the dancers must be athletes with intellectual disturbance).

Location Change: Due to the strong interest from the public around the Pre-Dance Contest on Tuesday, March 21st, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., the event has been transferred from Hall A to the larger Hall B of Messe Graz. There will be no evaluation of the performances on this evening. The World Dance Contest scheduled for the following day was sold out within a few hours.



Journalists who want to watch the World Dance Contest on Wednesday, March 22nd (6.30 p.m. - 9 p.m.) are asked to send an e-mail to media@austria2017.org by March 16th. We will do our best to accommodate all requests, however there is very limited space at the Orpheum, so please reach out now if you are interested in attending the event. The SOWWG media team will inform you if you can attend the event by **Sunday, March 19th**.

For the Pre-Dance Contest there will be no limitations on space; each journalist holding a media credential is invited to come and see the performances.

Please refer to page 34 of your media guide on how you can get to the Orpheum by public transport.

****As a reminder, your media credentials enable you to use public buses and trams in Graz free of charge during the SOWWG 2017.**

More Information about the demonstration sport Dancing at:

<http://austria2017.org/en/games-2017/die-spiele/sportarten/dancing-demonstration-contest>

Three top-footballers produced video for the SOWWG

VIDEO: Top European Footballers give their backing to Special Olympics World Winter Games

'It was never their disability that mattered, it is their passion, their determination,' Kevin De Bruyne, Manchester City and Belgian national football team.

With the official start of the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria today, some of Europe's leading footballers have shown their support for the Games in a stirring new video.

The video – released today – features Austrian national and Bayern Munich player David Alaba, Manchester City and Belgian national player Kevin De Bruyne, along with former Slovakian international star Filip Sebo.

Each of the footballers represent a Special Olympics athlete from their home country that is set to compete at the World Winter Games in Austria.

The message of the video is one of recognising ability over disability and achievement against the odds, something which is demonstrated by all 2,700 athletes competing at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria.

Click and share the video!

<https://www.facebook.com/SOEuropeEurasia/videos/10155165076674711/>



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Let's Change the Game: Ending Exclusion for People with Intellectual Disabilities

Featuring the Golisano Health Leadership Awards

On Sunday, March 19th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Rohrmoos Room, Congress Hall, in Schladming, key influencers will gather to celebrate successes, share challenges and make commitments to inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities (ID) through sport and health. Additionally, seven will be honored for their global health work with the first-ever Golisano Global Health Leadership Awards! Interview opportunities will be possible with the Golisano Global Health Leadership Award Honorees, the Golisano Foundation Executive Editor, Ann Costello and Special Olympics leadership. **You are invited to attend this event! Attendance is booking up fast. If you are interested in attending, please send your RSVP by Friday March 17th to media@specialolympics.org.**

Singer Helene Fischer: no interviews

Please note that we are not able to accommodate any media requests for interviews for Helene Fischer on Saturday, March 18th. We will share another update if Helene Fischer is available for media interviews on the day of Closing Ceremony on Friday, March 24th.

Important addresses

- Homepage: www.austria2017.org (Special Olympics World Winter Games 2017)
www.specialolympics.at (Special Olympics Austria)
www.specialolympics.org (Special Olympics International)
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/austria2017
www.facebook.com/specialolympics (Special Olympics International)
www.facebook.com/soeuropeeurasia (Special Olympics Europe)
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/sowwg2017 & www.twitter.com/2017austria
www.twitter.com/specialolympics (Special Olympics International)
www.twitter.com/SpecOlympicsEU (Special Olympics Europe)
- Instagram: www.instagram.com/austria2017
www.instagram.com/specialolympics (Special Olympics International)
www.instagram.com/special_olympics_eu (Special Olympics Europe)
- Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/sowwg2017/ & www.flickr.com/photos/hosttownprogramm
www.flickr.com/photos/soi-photo-stream/albums (Special Olympics International)





YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/SpecialOlympicsWorldWinterGames2017
www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIHbm7j-AXsVBNxBfN81bFtm20ldf_67 (SOI)

Important hashtags

#HeartbeatForTheWorld
#Austria2017
#SpecialOlympics
#ChangeTheGame
#PlayUnified

Calendar

- March, 14th Delegation arrivals in Austria and Host Town Program begins
Ankunft der Delegationen in Österreich und Beginn des Host Town Programms
- March, 16th Delegation arrivals in Graz, Schladming and Ramsau am Dachstein
Ankunft der Delegationen in Graz, Schladming und Ramsau am Dachstein
- March, 17th First day of Divisioning
Erste sportliche Bewerbe (Divisionings = Einteilungen in Leistungsstufen)
- March, 18th Opening Ceremony in Schladming (7:00 p.m.)
Eröffnungsfeier in Schladming (19:00 Uhr)
- March, 18th – 24th Sports competitions, Award Ceremonies and Non-Sports Events
Sportwettkämpfe, Siegerehrungen und Rahmenprogramm
- March 19th First Award of the Games (Ramsau, 5:00 p.m.)
Erste Siegerehrungen (Ramsau, 17:00 Uhr)
- March, 24th Closing Ceremony in Graz (7:00 p.m.)
Schlussfeier in Graz (19:00 Uhr)
- March, 25th Delegation departures
Abreise der Delegationen

