

**Dear Empire State Winter Games Qualified Athlete:**

Congratulations on qualifying for the 2008 Empire State Winter Games, to be held in Lake Placid, February 22-24! For a complete competition schedule, please visit the [Schedule page](#).

To compete at the Finals in Lake Placid, **you must complete** an [ESG registration form](#) and make sure it is on file with the ESG office prior to your competition. (Note: This ESG form may be in addition to any other forms required by your sport's governing body. Scroll down to your sport to determine if any other forms are necessary.)

There are 3 ways to submit your form, and ensure that you will be permitted to participate in the Games. You may:

**1** drop it off at the ESG Lake Placid Office (located at the Comfort Inn & Suites on Saranac Ave, Lake Placid - the ESG Office opens on Monday, February 18);

**or**

**2** drop it off at ESG Registration (locations and times as indicated below);

**or**

**3** deliver it to your sport's representative at competition day check-in or when you pickup your racing bib on competition day.

If we do not have your ESG registration form on file (**via one of the 3 ways noted above**), you will not be permitted to compete or receive other ESG materials. Please note that if you have already submitted a registration form to the ESG office in

In addition, your sport may have its own registration form or other requirements you must meet to officially be registered for the Games. **Scroll down this page to your sport to determine what additional items may be required for your sport.**

**ESG Registration**, at which you will pickup the ESG ID card, hat and (if eligible) sweatsuit, will take place as follows:

**All Registration** will be conducted at the **Olympic Center in the Hall of Fame Room** (enter the Center at the Box Office)

**Thursday, February 21** - 4:30pm - 8:30pm

**Friday, February 22** - 10:30am - 5:30pm

**Saturday, February 23** - 4:30pm - 6pm

At registration, all qualified athletes will receive a complimentary ESG hat and sweatsuit. Materials will not be mailed and only the qualified athlete with photo ID may pickup items at registration (no proxy).

**Please note that while it is not necessary to pick up the ESG ID tag or sweatsuit prior to your competition, you must wear the ESG ID tag and sweatsuit to participate in the Opening Ceremony Parade of Athletes.**

Athletes who accept a sweatsuit and/or hat and fail to compete must return the items or they will be banned from future Empire State Games (winter and summer Games), unless the athlete is injured during the period of the Games and sufficient medical proof is provided.

**All participants must present government or school issued PHOTO ID** at ESG registration (i.e. driver's license, non-driver ID, school ID, NGB photo ID, Passport, etc). THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS PHOTO ID REQUIREMENT. The athlete must appear in person at ESG registration - materials will not be given to proxies.

Please check the Empire State Games [Schedule](#) for the most up to date information for the dates and times of your event.

## **Other Weekend Events!**

### **Empire State Winter Games Merchandise! Help support the Games!**

Official ESG Merchandise will be available in the Olympic Arena (2nd level near the Box Office entrance) as follows:

[Thursday, February 21](#) -- 4pm - 9pm

[Friday, February 22](#) -- 10am - 8:30pm

[Saturday, February 23](#) -- 10am - 7:30pm (with an additional location outdoors at the "**Chill Out**" event from 5pm - 7:30pm)

[Sunday, February 24](#) -- 9am - Noon

**Opening Ceremonies** will be held on Friday, February 22, beginning at 6pm in the Herb Brooks Arena at the Olympic Center, Main Street, Lake Placid; admission is free. The traditional parade of athletes, video presentation, and torch lighting will highlight the ceremony. Athletes who wish to march in the Parade of Athletes must wear their 2008 ESG sweatsuit, hat, and ESG issued Athlete ID tag, and assemble in the USA Rink at the Olympic Arena by 5:30pm.

Immediately following the Opening Ceremonies on Friday evening will be the **12th Annual Winter Festival** sponsored by the [New York Lottery](#). Throughout the Olympic Center, there will be activities, games, and music until 8:30pm.

On Saturday, February 23rd, join in the fun with the **Winter Games Chill Out** join us for an evening of fun at the "**Chill Out**", with live music, food, games, fireworks and some great prizes! It's a terrific evening of fun for the entire family! Olympic Drive and Main Street in Lake Placid (next to the [Olympic Center](#)), 5pm - 7:30pm.

*Participants, athletes and spectators are discouraged from bringing packs, packages, bags or containers into the Olympic Arena or any other ESG venue or event. Any items of this sort brought into the Arena or other venues will be subject to search and any items left unattended will be confiscated. Please tell your parents and friends who plan to attend Games events about this policy.*

If you have any questions about the Games, please call our Albany office at 518-474-8889.

We hope that you and your family will join in the fun as Lake Placid welcomes the Games!

## **Please scroll down to find any additional registration information for your sport.**

[.....and for other general information about your sport, please visit the Winter Games home page.](#)

### **Alpine Skiing:**

Athletes that have qualified for the Games will be listed on the ESG Roster at the NYSSRA-Alpine website ([www.nyssra.org](http://www.nyssra.org)), and there will be a link at that website to an information letter and ESG registration form. Qualified athletes may obtain their official ESG registration form from either the NYSSRA website, or from this website. Only one ESG registration form per athlete need be submitted. Click here for an official [ESG registration form](#).

Final rosters will be posted on this website by 3pm on Wednesday, February 20.

Please note that the ESG registration form is **in addition** to any other forms and fees required by

New York State Ski Racing and/or Whiteface Mountain. If you plan to mail your race voucher and payment - send it to: NYSEF-WF, P.O. Box 300, Wilmington, NY 12997. **DO NOT** send your **NYSSRA** entry card/fee to the Empire State Games office.

In addition to completing the necessary forms noted above, please be aware of the ESG Alpine rule that in order to participate in the Games, **you must accept** this invitation to compete by emailing the NYSSRA Office no later than **4pm on Thursday, February 14, 2008** to the email address: [conniew@nyssra.org](mailto:conniew@nyssra.org). Athletes who fail to confirm their participation by February 14 will be removed from the start list and ESG registration list. **Exception:** Those qualifying at the Winter Carnival Series must notify NYSSRA office by 4 pm Monday February 18, 2008.

Athletes who accept the invitation to race and subsequently fail to compete without notifying NYSSRA or the Games office will be banned from the Empire State Games for one year.