



Photo Credit: Michael Dill Photography

# GOING FOR GOLD

## HILL WALLACK LLP PUTS IN A GOLD WINNING EFFORT AT THE 2014 SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA GAMES

In addition to the Winter Olympic and Paralympic games held in Sochi, Russia in early 2014 and FIFA's World Cup held in Brazil, another important athletic competition took place much closer to home this year. The 2014 Special Olympics USA Games were held June 14-21, 2014 throughout Mercer County, New Jersey. CAI Platinum Partner, Hill Wallack LLP, was honored to serve as a Bronze Partner and Presenting Sponsor of Spectator Services for the national event.

"Hill Wallack LLP is proud to support the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games," Managing Partner Robert W. Basco said. "The dedication and determination of the athletes is truly inspiring and heartwarming. On behalf of all my partners and the entire firm, we are proud to support this wonderful organization."

As the Presenting Sponsor of Spectator Services, Hill Wallack LLP provides an integral function for the 2014 USA Games, providing information such as schedules and maps to all event visitors at each of the ten competition venues. In addition to contributing \$100,000 to the Special Olympics, Hill Wallack LLP attorneys and staff volunteered their time at the Games. Their duties included assisting with setup and registration, airport greeters and escorting athletes. The firm also held a wine and cheese networking fundraiser at their Princeton office on Thursday, March 13. Donations were collected to further support the Games.

Prior to the Games, TJ Nelligan, Chairman and CEO, 2014 Special Olympics USA Games, said, "The 2014 Special Olympics USA Games is going to be the largest, most inspiration gathering of Special Olympics athletes at a national event with an anticipated 70,000 spectators throughout the week. Our partnership with Hill Wallack allows us to provide a first-class

event to not only the nearly 3,500 athletes competing, but to all who attend with the most up-to-date information. Spectator Services will be instrumental in making all attendees' experience an enjoyable one by

(Continued on page 26)

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2/14

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On the left: Hill Wallack LLP staff members at the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games in New Jersey. Top row (from left to right): Maria Pugliese, Samantha Hirthler, Traci Hirthler, Nancy Hubsch; bottom row: Jack Levy, Adina Mammen, and Shawn Mammen. Photo credit: Adina Mammen.

(Continued from page 23)

always having access to current daily information as well as the ability to provide local information about the Mercer County area.”

Since 1968, Special Olympics has been offering men, women, and children with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to participate in year-round training and competition in more than 30 individual and team sports, culminating in the Special Olympics USA Games. Eunice Kennedy Shriver – sister of President John F. Kennedy – founded the games as a way to honor her intellectually disabled sister, Rosemary, and to provide a way to support and encourage intellectually disabled persons.

At the Opening Ceremony of the first Special Olympics games in Chicago, IL, Kennedy Shriver said that the Special Olympics was created to prove that “through sports [the intellectually disabled] can realize their potential for growth” and that the games would offer people with intellectual disabilities “the chance to play, the chance to compete, and the chance to grow.”

The 2014 USA Games featured nearly 3,500 athletes competing in 16 Olympic-style team and individual sports, including: aquatics / swimming, athletics / track and field, baseball, basketball, bowling, cycling, flag football, gymnastics, powerlifting, softball, tennis, and volleyball. Over 1,000 coaches, and tens of thousands of volunteers, spectators, family, and friends were on hand for the games held throughout Mercer County, NJ, including competitions held at Princeton University, Rider University, The College of New Jersey, and at Mercer County Park. Opening Ceremonies were held at the Prudential Center in Newark, home of the NHL’s New Jersey Devils hockey franchise.

Congratulations to the Special Olympians for their efforts and achievements and to the entire team at Hill Wallack LLP for their support of this worthy cause.

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