



# OPERATION TRACKSHOES

c/o Camosun College, 3100 Foul Bay Road, Victoria, BC V8P 5J2

General Inquiries: [info@trackshoes.ca](mailto:info@trackshoes.ca)  
Web site: [www.trackshoes.ca](http://www.trackshoes.ca)  
Fax (toll free): 1-888-317-2826

**Welcome!** We are excited to announce that Operation Trackshoes will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary **Friday June 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. We look forward to welcoming you to this milestone event to take place at the University of Victoria.

**Receiving further information:** This is our first mailing for our 2023 June event. If you plan to attend Operation Trackshoes this year or are interested in receiving further information, *please reply to this email indicating you wish to receive the next mailing* [competitors@trackshoes.ca](mailto:competitors@trackshoes.ca)

**If you are you new to Operation Trackshoes.** Please see the “Additional Information” section at the bottom of this letter which includes a link to our video.

**Registration Options.** There are two registration packages at Operation Trackshoes. (For the purposes of this document, a coach is defined to be anyone accompanying a competitor.)

1. **The Overnight Package.** This is for people staying in a dorm at the university. The package includes meals and accommodation from Friday supper to Sunday lunch. Fees in 2019 were \$295 for overnight competitors and \$205 for overnight coaches. With 3 years having passed, there will be an increase in fees which will be set by February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
2. **The Day Package.** This is for competitors, many of whom are local, who will go home at night. Competitors will pay a meet fee which in 2019 was \$55.00. There may be an increase for upcoming year, though there will continue be no charge for coaches. Bag lunch on Saturday is free for coaches and competitors. In addition competitors and coaches may purchase one or more of the following:
  - a) A ticket for dinner & festivities Friday evening.
  - b) A ticket for the Saturday banquet and dance.
  - c) A Sunday lunch ticket

Note: these prices will be set by mid-February.

## **Subsidies:**

1. We are committed to continuing our travel equalization plan. If you live in the northern part of Vancouver Island or on the Mainland, we will again be able to help you with your travel costs. This is an automatic subsidy – there will be no need for you to apply.
2. Additional subsidies are also available to *individuals* needing additional financial assistance. We encourage you to apply by sending a letter outlining your situation. Please do not do this until you receive our *Invitation to Reserve* mailing (see below).

**Our reservation mailing** will be sent out around February 15, which is when you will receive the necessary forms for you to make a reservation. There may be more competitors applying for the overnight package than we will have spaces, therefore it is best to respond as soon as possible after you receive these reservation documents. *(If you are not already on our mailing list, please send us your postal address and other contact information before then.)*

**For further information** have a look at our web site, [www.trackshoes.ca](http://www.trackshoes.ca). To contact our registrar Cathy Macauley, send her an email at [competitors@trackshoes.ca](mailto:competitors@trackshoes.ca).

We hope to see you next June.

Yours sincerely,

Judith Armstrong  
President

---

### **Additional Information on Operation Trackshoes**

Operation Trackshoes is an annual sports festival for BC residents with a developmental disability. It offers a full-length competitive track and field meet for trained athletes; family picnic type games for those who just want to have fun; as well as swimming, softball, basketball, dances, concerts and banquets.

Participants from children aged 6 up to adults aged 80 are welcome. All events and activities are designed for specific age groups: elementary/middle school children (Juniors), teens, young adults and older adults. They compete and attend activities with others in their own age category (Juniors, Teens and Adults). Overnight competitors are assigned to dorms in the same age groupings. Included in the sporting activities are specific events for individuals with multiple disabilities who are also wheelchair users.

Operation Trackshoes' counsellor system is a key component in creating an inclusive environment at this event. Competitors are matched with volunteers who, in a role similar to camp counsellors, provide support, assistance and friendship. Relationship building is a key element of this role and we try to ensure that the number of counsellors allows maximum opportunity for fun and interaction. To this end we actively recruit volunteer counsellors. Some of the sporting activities are open to counsellors as well, and everyone participates in the leisure and social activities together.

Our Junior Program (ages 6 – 14) is specifically focused on inclusion, with children without disabilities participating with similar age competitors in all aspects of the program, providing friendship and encouragement throughout the weekend. Adult counsellors support these peer relationships.

For more information and a glimpse of Operation Trackshoes in action, click on <https://vimeo.com/drywall/review/90096387/bc00cfb6ce> to view a video which will give you an idea of what an this fun weekend involves.