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## Special Olympics Michigan Athlete Tapped to Serve on Coaching Staff for Red Wings Alumni Game

*Two-time poly hockey state champion will lead The Original Six Matchup featuring retired Red Wings greats and NHL Hall of Fame players*

FRASER, Mich. – [Special Olympics Michigan](#) (SOMI) is thrilled to announce that long-time poly hockey athlete, Scott Decker, has been selected to serve as an assistant coach for [The Original Six Matchup](#) featuring a number of Detroit Red Wings legends and NHL Hall of Fame inductees. This honor recognizes Decker’s dedication to the sport, his leadership, and his unwavering commitment to Special Olympics athletes.

A decorated poly hockey player from Grosse Pointe Woods, 38-year-old Decker has been an integral part of SOMI for nearly a decade, earning two state championships in 2023 and 2024 for the sport. Decker is best known amongst players and coaches for his pre-game motivational speeches, inspiring teams to push themselves out of their comfort zones in pursuit of victory. In addition to poly hockey, Decker participates in basketball, bowling, and track and field.

“I am beyond honored to have this opportunity to coach in The Original Six Matchup alumni game,” said Decker. “Hockey has always been a huge part of my life, and being able to represent Special Olympics Michigan on such a prominent stage is a dream come true.”

Red Wings Alumni and alumni from the Montreal Canadiens will face off on the ice this weekend in Fraser for the charity event. Decker will serve under head coach, Dave Lewis, a former Detroit Red Wings Player and coach, known for helping secure three Stanley Cup Titles in 1997, 1998, and 2002.

“We are proud of Scott and all that he has accomplished,” said Tim Hileman, President & CEO of Special Olympics Michigan. “His journey is an example of how sports can inspire, empower, and break down barriers. Scott’s role on the coaching staff will not only showcase his abilities but elevate awareness for Special Olympics and its mission of inclusion for all.”

The Original Six Alumni Matchup will take place Saturday, March 15 at Big Boy Ice Arena. First puck drops at noon featuring sled hockey athletes, with The Original Six Matchup scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

In addition to the matchups, the Stanley Cup will be on display, there will be an interactive exhibit from the Hockey Hall of Fame, and more. The event – presented by the [G.H. Pastor Foundation for Kids](#) – benefits a number of children’s charities.

Decker’s involvement in The Original Six Matchup serves as another milestone in the continued partnership between Special Olympics Michigan and the broader sports community, reinforcing the power of sports to unite and inspire individuals of all abilities.

For more information about Special Olympics Michigan and Scott Decker’s achievements, please visit [www.somi.org](http://www.somi.org) or contact [Lourin.Sprenger@soi.org](mailto:Lourin.Sprenger@soi.org) for media interviews and collateral.

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### **About Special Olympics Michigan**

Special Olympics Michigan Inc. (SOMI) provides year-round sports training and athletic competition to more than 20,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities and Unified partners (athletes without intellectual disabilities). Athletes develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy while participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship among their families, Special Olympics athletes, and the community. SOMI is a non-profit organization supported almost entirely by corporate and individual gifts and events. The generosity of Michigan organizations, individuals, and statewide businesses enable the program to continue.

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