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2025 Opening Ceremonies to Start Off the State Games- Free Admission

The Big Sky State Games Opening Ceremonies will kick-start the 40th Anniversary Games on Friday, July 18, 2025, at a new location, Lockwood High School Stadium. The Annual Soaked Fun Run will start at 5:15 p.m. at Lockwood High School. Athlete Fun Zone will start at 5:00 p.m. for the pre-Games Festival featuring a climbing wall, family entertainment and games, food trucks, and souvenirs. Opening Ceremonies will start at 7:00 p.m. with the Parade of Athletes, which will include representation of athletes in all 40 sports of the Games, the Montana Mile, the Montana 100m, and traditional torch lighting. Admission is free!

The Food Truck Olympics are back this year. Enjoy your favorite local food and don't forget to vote for your favorite food truck using the QR code! Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded!

The Food Truck Olympics will feature the following vendors:

- Sweet Tooth Ice Cream Bus
- Bailey's Frozen Novelties
- Taste of Asia Inc
- Fingers and Fries
- Summer Snow
- Totally Whipped
- Lil' Red Wagon
- All Brewed Up

FREE games at the Athlete Fun Zone include: Balloon animals, free throw contest, axe throwing, photo booth, climbing wall, face painting, food trucks, and more.

The evening's program includes: State Games National Anthem Contest Winner, Sommer Green; the Rimview Dance Studio, the Mascot Race, the Montana Mile, NEW Montana 100 Meter, the Parade of Athletes, the 2024 Athletes of the Year, and the Torch Lighting. All participants walking in the Parade of Athletes receive a commemorative bag tag!

State Games Character Counts Scholarship Winners are: Kamdyn McFarland of Billings West High School, Isaac Mosser of Skyview High School, Addison Hansen of Bainville High School, Joshua Campbell of North Star High School.

The 2025 Torchlighter Karen Sanford Gall, former BSSG Executive Director, will light the torch with Track and Field Olympians at the 40th Anniversary Big Sky State Games Opening Ceremonies. Olympians include Duncan Atwood (2 X Javelin Olympian), Willie Banks (Former World Record Holder Triple Jump and 3 X Olympian), Erin Shean (High Jump Olympian), Andre Phillips (400 Meter Hurdles Olympic Gold Medalist), Mac Wilkins (Discus Olympic Gold and Silver Medalist) and Julie Brown (Marathon Olympian 1984 and Big Sky State Games first Torch Lighter).

Major sponsors of the Big Sky State Games are Kampgrounds of America, First Interstate Bank, Rebel River Creative, and BlueCross BlueShield of Montana. Opening Ceremonies are sponsored by Wendy's.

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