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Higgins Classic Golf Outing to Celebrate 20th Anniversary Raising Money for Special Olympics New Jersey

By [Mel Fabrikant](#) Saturday, March 27, 2010, 06:30 AM EDT

June 7th golf tournament continues tradition of supporting free access to year-round Olympic-type sports and programs for children and adults with intellectual disabilities

– The Higgins Classic, one of the most prestigious golf tournaments in New Jersey, will celebrate its 20th Anniversary on Monday, June 7th, at the Fiddler's Elbow Country Club in Far Hills, NJ. Throughout its history, the tournament has supported Special Olympics New Jersey (SONJ), which has, since its start, enabled more than 21,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities to train and compete year-round in 24 Olympics-type sports, completely free of charge. Last year's Higgins Classic raised over to \$140,000 for Special Olympics New Jersey.

This year's Higgins Classic will offer golfers advice, anecdotes and helpful golf tips from the NJPGA and professional golfers. Other activities include a silent auction and a raffle that includes trips and prizes, such as Continental Airlines tickets, foursomes at top New Jersey golf courses, pro shop gift certificates, golf bags, and more.

Named after former Special Olympics New Jersey President Mike Higgins, The Higgins Classic is one of numerous golf tournaments that SONJ depends on to support its ever-expanding organization.

The Higgins Classic is a big draw for business professionals, particularly those in the real estate industry.

"We are thrilled to participate in this wonderful event that supports very special athletes," said John C. Giordano, Higgins Classic committee chair and Executive Vice President of Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc. "It is a great opportunity for the leaders of our community to come together in support of one common goal while enjoying a great day of golf."

In addition to the round of golf itself, The Higgins Classic includes a number of hole-in-one contests, One lucky golfer may go home with a brand new vehicle, sponsored by Audi of Bernardsville/Mendham. The event will also include a wine tasting during the evening reception with guest speaker, Chris Cree, owner of 56 Degree Wine, located in Bernardsville.

SONJ provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympics-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympic athletes and the community.

For more information about the Higgins Classic, please go www.sonj.org , e-mail mr@sonj.org or call Special Olympics New Jersey at 609-896-8000.

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