

Name: Claire Mynear

Date: 6/10/2020

Age: 28 years old

City: Nicholasville

Sports: basketball, track and field, and softball

Teams: Lexington Torpedoes, Lexington Dazzlers, Fayette County Track and Field

This year COVID -19 made us not able to do track and field and softball.

We did get to play basketball games but missed out on the state games in Louisville, KY. I was disappointed that we had to miss out on summer games at ECU. I really miss Olympic town, my friends, my coaches, and seeing athletes from all over the state. It was also disappointing to not go to miss the healthy lifestyle booth with the people who come to the summer games. I missed watching the opening ceremony, eating ice cream sandwiches, and all of the fun things in Olympic town.

Life is different now with COVID-19. Since there are no Special Olympic activities, I am focusing on being healthy and safe at home. I go for walks in my neighborhood 3-4 times a week, drink water, participate in zoom meetings with Lexington Parks and Recreation, complete my to-do list, and visit with my family/friends. We always make sure to safe social distance and wear masks. I also wash my hands many times a day.

A lesson I have learned is that spending time with my family and keeping them safe at home is very important to me. We have gone for walks, watched TV/movies, played games, and have gotten curbside dinners to help local restaurants. We get to have more free time together and have nice conversations. I like how I can also have "me time" to do what I enjoy.

When we can play sports again I am looking forward to seeing my friends in person and not on Zoom. I will be looking forward to seeing the coaches, volunteers, and especially my boyfriend Cory. I'm also excited about playing games and competing against other teams.

Hopefully we can see each other in the fall for basketball and be able to play in the state games in Louisville, KY next year. I love Special Olympics and playing sports against other teams. If it wasn't for Eunice Kennedy Shriver starting Special Olympics, I would have not gotten to make friends and have special memories with them. Thank you to all who make Special Olympics so special.