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### **BSSG ANNOUNCES THE OSBORNE VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Big Sky State Games 2011 Osborne Volunteers of the Year are Kelly Duneman, Mary Jane Kelly, Terry Smith, Ekkie Wedul and Jackie Yamanaka. The award is named after Tom Osborne and his family; Tom was the Big Sky State Games founder and Executive Director from 1986-1996. It was the vision and volunteer spirit of the Osborne Family that initiated and sustained the early years of the Big Sky State Games. The Osborne Volunteer of the Year award provides the opportunity to reward volunteers who follow through with that same spirit of service, commitment, and enthusiasm for the Big Sky State Games. Kampgrounds of America provides the Volunteer of the Year awards.

**Kelly Duneman of Billings** has been an MOA basketball official for 29 years and has been involved with the Big Sky State Games for 26 years as either the officials coordinator or volunteering to officiate basketball. For the last six years, Kelly has served as the Big Sky State Games Head Basketball Official which annually entails coordinating the Big Sky State Games Official's Clinic, coordinating evaluators of officials and scheduling over 100 basketball officials in 254 basketball games. Throughout the three day State Games Basketball schedule Kelly also officiated when needed.

Kelly officiates both high school and college basketball. In 2007, he was named the National Officials Association Boys Basketball Official of the Year. Kelly is dedicated to his family and friends and whenever someone needs extra help he is there to lend a hand. Kelly is a Health Enhancement teacher at Lewis and Clark Middle School in Billings where he coaches football and track.

**Mary Jane "MJ" Kelly of Billings** has been a Big Sky State Games volunteer for over 7 years. Her talents have assisted with Road Race, Triathlon and new for 2011 she volunteered in the State Games office and during the Dance Sports competition, held in April. MJ is an active member and volunteer of the Yellowstone Rimrunners and volunteers with Habitat for Humanity. This year MJ was a tremendous help in the office volunteering at least three days a week.

**Terry Smith of Billings** has been a volunteer for the Big Sky State Games Shooting events for 25 years and for the last six years has been the Shooting Rifle Pistol Commissioner. Terry has been a member of the Yellowstone Rifle Club since moving to Billings in 1977 and has spent many hours volunteering at the club. He has been the Executive Officer for YRC, and has held a variety of offices in the club since 1983, including stints as pistol director & air gun director. He is a past president and secretary of the Montana Rifle and Pistol Association. He is a certified NRA Instructor and Training Counselor (instructor trainer). Terry has been one of the principal instructors in the Nite Owls Handguns: Selection, Use, & Care class since 1985. Professionally he is a Registered Professional Engineer in Montana, and certified as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer nationally. He works for the City of Billings.

**Exel “Ekkie” Wedul of Billings** has served as the Big Sky State Games Road Race Commissioner for 21 years. She is the chief volunteer of the 5k held on Friday followed by the 10k and Half Marathon on Saturday. In preparation for this year’s Big Sky State Games Ekkie faced the added challenge of working with the location change of the 10K and Half Marathon due to the oil spill near Thiel Road in Laurel. With critical support from the City of Billing, Montana Cycling and Ski and ExxonMobil; Ekkie and the road race volunteers were up for the challenge. The competition went off flawlessly.

Ekkie has participated in many Big Sky State Games Half Marathons, winning numerous medals along the way. In 1994, Ekkie was named the Big Sky State Games Athlete of the Year. Ekkie is also the Administrative Coordinator of the Montana Women’s Run and is a member of the Yellowstone Rim Runners.

**Jackie Yamanaka** has served as the Big Sky State Games Cycling Road Race Commissioner for four years. She coordinates a 12 mile, 25 mile and 40 mile cycling race. Jackie’s credentials as a licensed USA Cycling Official has enhanced the quality of the State Games Cycling events.

Jackie truly is passionate about cycling, she races the Montana Off-Road (mountain bike) series and Montana Bicycling Racing Association cyclocross series for Velo Bella-Kona, a multi-discipline cycling team based in Wastonville, CA. She is also president of the Montana chapter of Velo Bella, sponsors of the annual Women’s Tour. The group is always looking to share its love of laughter and all things cycling with

others. Jackie also plans weekly no drop rides to for all levels of cyclists. When she's not out biking, or running, she is the news director at Yellowstone Public Radio and serves as an EMT for the Blue Creek Volunteer Fire Department.

Major sponsors of the Big Sky State Games are First Interstate Bank, Kampgrounds of America, and Montana Cycling and Ski. Wendy's sponsors Opening Ceremonies.