

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

November 2, 2018



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Welcome

Welcome to the November 2, 2018, edition of the SOMD Area Memo!

If there are any members of your Area's leadership who are not currently receiving the Area Memo, please send their names and email address to dweddle@somd.org to have them included in future distributions.

(NEW) Welcome New Area Directors

I am happy to announce 3 new Area Directors starting joining our team this fall and upcoming winter!

- Jeff Hagen- St. Mary's County
- Sue Taylor- Harford County
- Justin Byram- Frederick County

After spending time and speaking with each of them, I know they'll be great leaders to continue all of the good progress being made in their respective areas. Special thanks to Nancy Schmidt, Pat Neary, Kirk Degler, Ruth Vickers, and their management team members for their leadership and ensuring a high-quality program continued for Athletes, Partners, Family Members, and Volunteers!

(UPDATED--TIME SENSITIVE) REGISTER TODAY: Area Leaders Webinar & Meeting

Our Q4 Area Leaders meetings and webinars are next week! It seems like we just had our July meeting...those 4 months went by so fast! Our webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 7:00pm and the Area Leaders meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, Nov. 10 at the Ramada Plaza in Hagerstown, MD**. Remember, Area Directors unable to attend can always invite another member of their leadership team to attend the meeting to represent their program.

Agenda topics include:

- Development and Fundraising, including Polar Bear Plunge Opportunities.

- Sports and Competition including updates from the Swimming, Bocce, and Basketball feedback sessions.
- Pilot Program Updates

To register for the webinar, visit: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1983891000162945537>

To register for the Meeting, visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018NovAd>

(UPDATED – TIME SENSITIVE) SONA Coach of the Year Nominations Open

DON'T WAIT!

Nominate a deserving coach today!

The Maryland Coach of the Year Selection Committee is seeking your input in selecting the Maryland nominee for the

2018 Special Olympics North America Coach of the Year.



This award is given annually to an outstanding Special Olympics coach who has made a significant impact and demonstrated exceptional commitment to both the Special Olympics Program, his/her athletes and the Movement. He or she also has high expectations for his/her athletes and himself/herself to reach their maximum potential.

Please take time to present this opportunity to your network/Management Team, including Athletes, discuss, determine, and nominate qualified candidate(s). Please include Athletes in the process as their input is vital. **Nominations MUST be submitted on-line via** - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PD28NKH>.

NOTES/REMINDERS:

- **Nomination deadline ~~EXTENDED – Monday, October 29, 2018 at 5pm~~. Friday, November 16 at 5pm**
- A downloadable version of the survey is available at - <https://goo.gl/WzWfRq>. This document is intended to aid the person submitting the nomination as s/he prepares to complete the nomination. **Nominations MUST be submitted on-line via** - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PD28NKH>.
- Only **one nominee** may be submitted per North American Accredited Program. A Maryland selection committee will be assembled, selecting one nominee to put forth for consideration by North America.
- If you had a 2017 nominee that was not selected you can re-submit them as your 2018 nominee. You can simply ask me for a copy of the 2017 nomination, which can then be used to update their work this past year.
- The criteria for the nominee, as indicated by SONA, are as follows:
 - 1) Be an active, certified Special Olympics coach with at least 3 years of coaching experience.
 - 2) Trains athletes at least twice a week during the sport season.
 - 3) Provides at least 5 competitions for his/her athletes.
 - 4) Provides other opportunities for athlete(s) with the purpose of improving their health, fitness, well-being and integration with the community.
 - 5) Exhibits sportsmanship qualities.
 - 6) Has made a **significant impact** to his or her athletes, the Program and the Movement.

Welcome to Two New Members of the SOMD Sports Department

It is our great pleasure to announce that SOMD will be welcoming two new staff members to our team, both having their official start date as Monday, November 5, 2018.

Zachary Cintron will be joining SOMD as a Sports Director, filling the role vacated by Kristen Mullins. Zachary graduated from Drexel University with a Bachelor's degree in Sports Management and comes to us with Special Olympics experience. He previously worked as a Sports Manager with SO-Southern California where he was responsible for overseeing all sports competitions, coaches' education and games

management teams in the Inland Empire area. Prior to that Zachary interned with SO-Pennsylvania for two years, learning and working under their Competition Director. Zachary has a true passion for Special Olympics and our athletes. Though he will not officially be relocating to Maryland from New York to join SOMD's staff until November 5th, Zach will be part of the team at the cycling venue during this weekend's Fall Sports Festival.

Cara Maronek will be joining SOMD as the Director of Interscholastic Unified Sports Programs.



Cara has been a special education teacher for the past 14 years, has a Master's degree in Special Education and a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Northern Colorado. She is currently pursuing an Educational Doctorate in EC Special Education. Additionally, Cara also has earned her Principal's License. During her time as a teacher, Cara has had several opportunities to interact with Special Olympics activities. She participated in Special Olympics state Fall, Winter and Summer games as an assistant coordinator and head coach in Wyoming and has been a part of Unified Sports in Colorado. Cara has also been either the head or assistant coach for volleyball, basketball, and track and has experience coaching unified basketball, soccer, softball, flag football, and swimming. Cara's obvious passion for education, sports and helping individuals with special needs promises to be a great asset to SOMD in further developing our school programs. Cara will be relocating her family from Colorado and joining SOMD's staff on November 5th.

(Updated) Over the Edge



Over the Edge is TOMORROW! Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Bethesda Metro Center! Even if you aren't rappelling down 16 stories, you can still join us on Saturday to support the BRAVE participants, and enjoy the food and atmosphere. [Check out](#) the coverage of last year's event on Fox 5.

And...

Did you know that **Area Leaders Shelly and John Bogasky** are both going **Over The Edge** in support of **Special Olympics Maryland- Montgomery County**? They are in a close fundraising competition for 1st and 2nd place! Are you #TeamShelly or

#TeamJohn? **The first 5 who email Jeff Abel (jabel@somd.org) and tell him if they are #TeamShelly or #TeamJohn will get a prize!**

Visit www.overtheedgemd.com for more information

Any questions? Feel free to email me or call Jessie Thompson at jthompson@somd.org or 646-573-6964.

(UPDATED) 5th Annual Maryland Rockfish Open

Due to weather conditions on October 27th the Rockfish Open has been rescheduled to November 10, 2018!

Register today

\$400 for 4 Anglers

\$100 for each additional Angler

Includes a T-shirt and entrance to weigh –in party for each angler

Largest Fish by Weight:

First Place \$5,000

Second Place \$2,500

Third Place \$ 1,000

Location: Mike's Crab house Riva, MD

Young Athletes Upcoming Fall Schedule

The Young Athlete Program 'YAP' Fall Season is underway! This year we have 6 local area programs running YAP across the State. YAP provides an opportunity for our youngest athletes and their families to experience the joys of sport and play. To get involved in a program near you, please see attachment for the YAP Fall schedule!

Howard County Adds Young Athletes Program to Sports Programs

Last year a school based Young Athletes Program (YAP) was started in Howard County. This fall, Special Olympics Howard County will hold its first community based Young Athletes Program (YAP) from September 29th – November 17th. The program will be held at Rockburn Elementary School on Saturday mornings for eight weeks. A second session is planned for the spring. Spearheading the program are new YAP Coordinators Ashley and Mike Murphy and Katie Boggs. In addition, students from Howard County's Leadership U program have decided to "adopt" YAP for their project and will be actively involved in volunteering, fundraising and documenting the program.

New Athlete Leadership Registration System

The Athlete Leadership Program will be using VolunteerHub to have athletes sign up for ALPortunities that happen all the time including talking to the media, speeches, advocacy, state championships, special events, and local program events in their area! Just to name a few. It will also allow athletes to build a personal schedule of events and offers immediate confirmations when you sign up.

Because it is a new system, new users will be asked to build a volunteer/Athlete Leader profile. It only takes a minute or two to fill out so even if you do not see an event for you now feel free to get ahead of the game and build your VolunteerHub account.

To sign up go to <http://alps.somd.volunteerhub.com>

Join us now on VolunteerHub and take advantage of all the great ALP-ortunities ahead of you.

You DO NOT have to be certified in any athlete leadership classes to join this new system. Just interested in sharing your story and leading Special Olympics Maryland into the future.

Important Note: Please *do not direct any of your Area volunteers to renew or submit their volunteer forms or other certifications via VolunteerHub*. While that option will be available at some point in the future it is not available now and their volunteer certifications will not be updated in GMS. You will receive formal written notification once this option is available for Area volunteers.

(NEW) ALP-ortunity Report

Each month, we'll provide an update on our state-wide Alp-ortunity activity! So far this year we have engaged the following:

Unique Athletes	437
Unique opportunities	332
Total ALP-ortunities	3061
Hours invested by Athlete Leaders to date	379 hours

Have you hosted an event that used an athlete leader as a speaker, EMCEE, photographer, or other role? So that we can keep an accurate account of ALP-ortunities across the state, please submit those to Jason Schriml (jschriml@somd.org) to be counted! Please include the name of the athlete(s), event name, and how many hours (approx.) the athlete spent in the leadership role.

Cruise with us – May 2019 Carnival Cruise

We're excited to announce the first ever 7-day cruise to the Eastern Caribbean aboard the **Carnival Pride to benefit Special Olympics Maryland!** Our partners at Carnival Cruise will be donating a portion of the proceeds from each cabin sold for the May 12th, 2019 cruise stopping in in Grand Turk, Half Moon Cay, and Freeport.

[Booking information here](#) – contact Janice Colbert directly at janice_colbert@yahoo.com or 410-446-7465. Or, [contact us](#) to learn more!

Carroll County Designer Bag Bingo

The Annual Fall Designer Bag Bingo is on November 10, 2018 at the Shipley Arena at the Carroll County Ag Center in Westminster. Lots of Coach, Michael Kors, Vera Bradley and so many more. We have some great new vendors and some of our returning vendors. The doors open at 4:00 for shopping (If you choose not to play bingo, you can still shop our vendors and we just ask for \$5.00 donation) Bingo starts promptly at 7:00 (doors close at 6:45) Get there early and enjoy the shopping and all the good food available. For tickets call Donna at (443)507-6010 to reserve them, Don't Wait they go really fast. The cost is \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door.

(UPDATED) Pre-Season and Pre-Competition Webinars

The dates and time for Pre-Season and Pre-Competition webinars have been set for the upcoming seasons. Please share this info with your coaches and sports volunteers.

Pre-Season Coaches Webinars

Sport	Date/Time	Registration / Recording Link
Bowling	Tue 09/11	Recording: https://youtu.be/vztw3CWB_8
Alpine Skiing	Tues 11/27 8:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2530254826095169025
Snowshoeing	Thu 11/29 7:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4861453673316230659
Basketball	Wed 11/28 7:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8211076264736104451

Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars

Sport	Date/Time	Registration / Recording Link
Bowling – Pre-Regional	Tue 11/06 7:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7945981808521735427
Bowling – Pre-Finals	Tue 11/27 7:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3026318185107792387
Alpine Skiing	Mon 2/18 7:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5246817105667384065
Snowshoeing	Mon 2/18 8:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4469867005170353155
Basketball	Wed 3/20 7:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1676123407491333891

(UPDATED) Community Sports Registration Deadlines Set Through Summer Games 2019

Registration Deadlines for community sports through the end of 2018 have been set and are incorporated into the Sports Calendar included with this email. They are summarized below for your convenience as well. We expect to have similar deadlines set for the remainder of 2018 in the next several weeks and will share them as soon as they are available.

<i>Event/Sports</i>	<i>State Championship</i>	<i>Training Registration</i>	<i>Outstanding Forms</i>	<i>Competition Registration</i>
Bowling	11/11/2018 <i>(regionals)</i> 12/02/2018 <i>(finals)</i>	9/24/2018	10/12/2018 <i>(adjusted)</i>	10/18/2018
Winter Games	2/24-26/2019 <i>(includes time trials)</i>	1/10/2019	1/21/2019	2/7/2019
Basketball	3/30-31/2019	1/24/2019	2/4/2019	2/14/2019
Summer Games	6/7-9/2019	4/25/2019	5/6/2019	5/16/2019

(UPDATED) Sports Directors – Assigned Sports

As reviewed during the Area Leader webinar and in-person meeting in mid-July, SOMD HQ has undergone some staff restructuring in support of driving the developing strategic initiative of improved and increased sports programming and competitions as well as building the capacity for overall growth in the number of athletes we serve. One step in the process was the change in the role of the former “Regional Sports Directors” into positions focused strictly on sports programming. Here is their contact information and their sport assignments (some have changed)

- ***Melissa Anger, Sports Director***

- manger@somd.org, 410.979.5112
 - Basketball
 - Cheerleading
 - Flag Football
 - Soccer
 - Softball
 - Tennis
 - Locally Popular Sports: Cross Country Skiing, Duckpin Bowling

- ***Kendall Zeswitz, Sports Director***

- kzeswitz@somd.org, 717.341.4621
 - Alpine Skiing
 - Athletics
 - Bocce
 - Distance Running
 - Golf
 - Powerlifting
 - Locally Popular Sports: Dance, Equestrian Sports, Floor Hockey

- ***Zach Cintron, Sports Director (starting November 5, 2018)***

- zcintron@somd.org, 410.242.1515
 - Bowling (10 pin)
 - Cycling
 - Kayaking
 - Snowshoeing
 - Swimming
 - Locally Popular Sports: Figure Skating, Sailing, Short Track Speed Skating, Volleyball

Staff Support for Area Leaders

Attached to this Area Memo is an **Updated Area Leader Resource Guide**, as of 11/2/2018. **All updates from the guide previously distributed are highlighted in YELLOW.** The staff members listed with corresponding responsibilities will be your best point of contact with related questions or concerns. As always, any general questions or ones you're not sure who should be contacted, Ron, Jeff, and Ryan are here to assist!

- **Jeff Abel, Vice President of Local Program Development**
 - jabel@somd.org, 410-242-1515 ex. 121
 - All Areas with the exception of the Baltimore Region and Western Maryland
- **Ron Freeman, Baltimore Region Director**
 - rfreeman@somd.org, 410.598.1027
 - Baltimore City and Baltimore County
- **Ryan Kelchner, AmeriCorps Western Region Coordinator**
 - rkelchner@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Western Maryland (Frederick, Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties)

Sports Calendar

As a regular feature of the bi-weekly Area Memo, an updated copy of the SOMD Sports Calendar is attached. As always, this most up-to-date edition of the Sports Calendar may be found on MySOMD under "Documents" in both the Field Services and Coaches sections.

The Sports Calendar reflects the most up-to-date information we have at the time of its publication. Please be certain to provide your Regional Sports Director with information on any upcoming competitions and any coach trainings that you will be holding so that they can be included on the sports Calendar. If you notice any errors, please contact your Regional Sports Director with the corrected information.

Questions?

If You Have Any Questions On Any Other Sports-Related Issues, please contact a member of the new Local Program Development department for assistance

- **Jeff Abel, Vice President of Local Program Development**
 - jabel@somd.org, 410-242-1515 ex. 121
 - All Areas with the exception of the Baltimore Region and Western Maryland
- **Ron Freeman, Baltimore Region Director**
 - rfreeman@somd.org, 410.598.1027
 - Baltimore City and Baltimore County
- **Ryan Kelchner, AmeriCorps Western Region Coordinator**
 - rkelchner@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Western Maryland (Frederick, Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties)

2018 Special Olympics Maryland Sports and Competition Calendar - UPDATED 11/02/2018

Type	Event	Location	Facility	Competition Date(s)	Pre-Season Webinar Date(s)	Pre-Competition Webinar Date (s)	Training Registration Deadline (in GMS)**	Last Date To Submit Missing Forms**	Competition Registration Deadline (in GMS)**
IUS	Unified Tennis Championships	Baltimore	Loyola University	11/7/2018	N/A	10/24/2018	TBD	TBD	TBD
Community	Bowling - Regional Tournaments	Ellicott City Frederick Gaithersburg Glen Burnie	Brunswick Zone (<i>Ellicott City</i>) Terrace Lanes (<i>Frederick</i>) BowlAmerica Gaithersburg BowlAmerica Glen Burnie	11/11/2018	9/11/2018	11/6/2018	9/24/2018	10/12/2018 (adjusted)	10/18/2018
Community	Bowling - State Championships	Gaithersburg, MD	Bowl America Gaithersburg	12/2/2018	9/11/2018	11/27/2018			11/19/2018
IUS	Unified Strength & Conditioning Invitational	Wye Mill, MD	Chesapeake College	2/05/2019	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
IUS	Unified Indoor Bocce Championships	Hagerstown, MD	Hagerstown Community College	2/12/2019	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Community	2019 SOMD Winter Games (<i>incl Time Trials</i>)	Mercersburg, PA	Whitetail Resort	2/24-26/2019	Alpine 11/27/2018 Snowshoe 11/29	Alpine 2/18/2019 Snowshoe 2/18/19	1/10/2019	1/21/2019	2/7/2019
Community	2019 World Games	Abu Dhabi, UAE	Various locations	3/14-21/2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Community	2019 Basketball Tournament	Frederick Area (<i>tentative</i>)	TBD	3/30-31/2019	11/28/2018	3/20/2019	1/24/2019	2/4/2019	2/14/2019
IUS	Unified Outdoor Bocce Championships	Chestertown, MD	Washington College	April 30	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
IUS	Unified Track & Field Invitational	Hyattsville	Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex	5/14&15/19	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Community	2019 Summer Games	Towson, MD	Towson University and other locations	6/7-9/2019	TBD	TBD	4/25/2019	5/6/2019	5/16/2019

Questions or additions?

If you have any questions regarding this calendar, additions of local/regional competitions, or any other sports related issue, please contact the appropriate Sports Director:

- Melissa Anger (manger@somd.org): Basketball, Cheerleading, Flag Football, Soccer, Softball, Tennis
- Zach Cintron (zcintron@somd.org): Bowling, Cycling, Kayaking, Snowshoeing, Swimming
- Kendall Zeswitz (kzeswitz@somd.org): Alpine Skiing, Athletics, Bocce, Distance Running, Golf, Powerlifting
- Cara Maronek (cmaronek@somd.org): All Interscholastic Unified Sports (IUS)

**These are the dates by which entries must be entered into GMS or medical/volunteer forms submitted to SOMD HQ. Coaches must have this information to their Area Leadership a minimum of one week prior to these dates to allow for timely submission. (No athlete may participate in any way in a Special Olympics program without an up-to-date medical; no volunteer may participate in any way in a Special Olympics program without an up-to-date volunteer application and completed background screening.)
aThese dates are also the deadlines for Coaches to have completed the requirements for Special Olympics Coach Certification and to have submitted the required documentation to SOMD HQ.

2018/2019 Coach Training Events

Date	Course/Sport	Location	Facility	Comments	To Register
11/10/2018	Alpine/Snowshoeing Coach Classroom Training	Towson	Towson University	9:00 a.m. - noon	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SM88TDT
	<i>Areas Interested in Hosting - Please Contact your Regional Sports Director</i>				

2019 Area / Regional / District Competitions & Events

Type	Event	Location	Facility	Competition Date(s)	Sport	Notes
Community	On-Snow Race Training Day #1 (AS & SN)	Mercersburg, PA	White Tail Resort	1/12/2019	Alpine, Snowshoeing	Date tentative
Community	On-Snow Race Training Day #2 (AS & SN)	Mercersburg, PA	White Tail Resort	2/9/2019	Alpine, Snowshoeing	Date tentative
Community	Loyola University Swim Competition	Baltimore City	Loyola University	4/14/2019	Swimming	TBD
Community	Baltimore City Spring Games	Baltimore City	Poly-Western High School	5/7-9/2019	Athletics	

2018 Event Calendar

Special Olympics
Maryland



2018 Kayaking Championships
August 25th 2018
Washington College
www.somd.org

Interscholastic Unified High School Team Tennis
November 7th 2018
Loyola University
www.somd.org

State Golf Championships
September 30th 2018
Queenstown Harbor Golf, Queenstown Md
www.somd.org

5th Annual Maryland Rockfish Open
October 27th 2018
Mike's Crabhouse South-Riva
www.somd.org

Cops on Rooftops
August – October 2018
Dunkin Donuts Locations in Md
www.somd.org

State Regional Bowling Tournaments
November 11th 2018
Various Locations in Maryland
www.somd.org

10th Annual Tunnel Run
September 16th 2018
Fort McHenry Tunnel Baltimore, Md
www.tunnelrun.org

State Bowling Championships
December 2nd 2018
Bowl America, Gaithersburg, Md
www.somd.org

10th Annual Big Bats Open
September 27th 2018
Queenstown, Md
www.somd.org

St. Mary's Splash
December 8th 2018
Point Lookout State Park, Scotland, Md
www.somd.org

Fall Sports Festival
October 20th 2018
Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Md
www.somd.org

2019 MSP Polar Bear Plunge
January 24th, 25th & 26th 2019
Sandy Point State Park
www.plungemd.com

State Soccer Tournament
October 28th 2018
Crown Sports, Fruitland Md
www.somd.org

2019 Deep Creek Dunk
February 23rd 2019
Deep Creek Lake
www.dunkmd.com

Over The Edge
November 3rd 2018
Bethesda, Md
www.somd.org

2019 Winter Games
February 24th – 26th 2019
Whitetail Resort
www.somd.org

2019 Basketball Tournament
April 2019
Hood College and FCPS Sites
www.somd.org

2019 Summer Games
June 7th – 9th 2019
Towson University
www.somd.org