

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

July 19, 2021



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Welcome

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 jabel@somd.org.

(NEW) *Special Online Tennis Session- Hello, From Tokyo!*

Professional tennis player and friend of Special Olympics Maryland, Gaby Dabrowski is in Tokyo ready to play for Team Canada! As she prepares to represent her country, she asked if she could do a Zoom Call with Special Olympics athletes to give them a behind the scenes look at the Tokyo Olympics...live from the Tokyo Olympics!

What: Hello, from Tokyo! with Team Canada's Gaby Dabrowski

When: Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Time: 7:00-8:00pm EST

Zoom Registration

Link: https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEsdOitpjovGdQDR_wXDqWohFD8UejTclnT

Come with questions that you have about being an Olympian, the Tokyo Games, and representing one's country in an Olympic event.

(NEW) Unified Maryland MOVE Challenge Winners

Congratulations to all of our school teams that participated in our SOMD Unified MOVE Challenge. This was a 6/week MOVEment challenge that measured minutes of exercise and intentional physical activity each week. Winners were based on average minutes of physical activity for each team...congratulations to our winners and participants!

1	Southern Garrett MS Rams	2623.9
2	Crofton HS- We Have Fun Team	226.17
3	Crofton HS- Team Belle	1788.83
4	Wicomico County HS	1440
5	Crofton HS- Team Purple Dogs	1384
6	Crofton HS- Team Ice Magic	1062.17
7	Glen Avenue Elementary	810
8	Pinehurst Elementary	810
9	CMS Retrievers	360
10	High Point CRI	360
11	THS Best Buddies 1	360
12	THS Best Buddies 2	260
13	Mountain Ridge Miners	264.3
14	Hubs Unified Track	120

(NEW) Super Plunge Registration is OPEN!

The hot weather has me thinking of the beach...in January! We are looking forward to being back at Sandy Point State Park for the 2022 Polar Bear Plunge! Super Plunge Registration is open. Reminder that Local Programs can recruit Unified Super Plunge Teams! Made up of a Special Olympics Maryland athlete from their local program and a coach, volunteer, family member, program leader or other ‘friend of the program,’ each Unified Team must raise a combined \$15,000. Local Programs that recruit unified teams will receive 70% net revenue of their team’s fundraising.

All Plunge related events will be pushed back 1 week from prior years due to additional week added to NFL schedule.

Super Plunge will begin morning of Friday 1/28 and run through Saturday morning 1/29.

Go to PlungeMD.com and click on the Super Plunge link to learn more. If someone is interested they can fill out the pre-registration on the site and their information will be sent to Sharon, who will provide them with a registration code or they can email Sharon directly. sperfetti@somd.org

(NEW) State Disabilities Plan

Governor Hogan, with the Maryland Department of Disabilities released the 2020-2023 State Disabilities Plan. To learn more about the 5 key principles of self-direction, financial well-being, accessible communication, maximizing resources, and health and wellness, and see the full plan, please follow this link: [http://mdod.maryland.gov/pub/Documents/MDOD_StateDisabilitiesPlan_062321_COPY%20\(1\).pdf](http://mdod.maryland.gov/pub/Documents/MDOD_StateDisabilitiesPlan_062321_COPY%20(1).pdf)

(NEW) Health Impact Grant Information

Special Olympics Maryland is looking forward to continuing to grow our health program thanks to support from Special Olympics Health Impact Grant. As part of the global health strategic plan, we will be focusing on the following:

Play to Prevent	Assess to Address	Train to Treat	Rise to Reform
SOMD Athletes increasing physical activity and other healthy habits!	Providing access to health screenings and coordinated follow up care.	Equip the healthcare workforce to better serve, and be more inclusive of, people with IDD.	Support a more inclusive healthcare system and the local and state level.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 75 New children in YAP- 500+ Athletes in structured fitness programming- 20+ sports coaches trained in fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 200 Healthy Athletes Screenings (including MedFest!)- 20 athletes receiving referrals confirmed to receive follow up care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-25 students/health care professionals trained at a Healthy Athletes event-10 professionals/students trained outside of Healthy Athletes.-5 Health Messengers trained and activated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-5 local partners providing prevention and healthcare services to people with IDD.

Be on the lookout for great opportunities for athletes to improve their health, fitness, and overall well-being! If you have any questions, please contact SOMD’s Health Communities Director, Kayla Shields (kshields@somd.org).

(NEW) Finance Corner

BUDGET 2022 – The schedule for completing the 2022 budget has been set. This schedule was shared during the AD Webinar but will also be send out via email. In order to make sure that the budget packet is ready for the Board in December, please keep to the schedule.

The Budget memo email will be coming out next week on or about July 23rd. Just like last year, each Area will receive a budget worksheet in Excel to complete. For this year, each Area will see additional information - the actual 2019 & 2020 expenses in columns and the 2021 budget. Start in the column for the 2022 Proposed budget. In that worksheet, the colored cells represent the 2019 actual expenses for you to use as a guide. Build the 2022 budget in the colored cells. If there is a value from 2019 that is not relevant for 2022, don’t keep it in the worksheet. Remember that all cells need a value, even if it is a \$0. And don’t forget about In Kind.

Budget worksheets are due back to Darlene on or before September 6th. If you need any assistance please reach out to Darlene (dtaylor@somd.org)

ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE – SOMD is working on a project to move to a cloud-based accounting software solution. Over the past few months, Maureen, Darlene, Rhonda and I have been reviewing proposals from three recommended vendors. Our focus is to leverage the software to improve efficiency and our ability to push out real time data using dashboards. Areas will be able to log into the system and access their own dashboard space for area program management. Payables will be automated from invoice to payment. Similar to how the credit cards are processed, invoices will be input directly, without having to fill out paper

forms. The approvals will be routed using workflows. Stay tuned to the Finance Corner for updates as the process moves forward.

CORP. CREDIT CARDS – just a quick reminder, as we have some new card holders. Please remember to complete your credit card transaction coding and receipting in the SunTrust portal by the 3rd business day after the close of the month. Coded transactions need to be approved by the 6th business day. Thank you for continuing to support this process.

If you have any questions about this update, please reach out to Joanne- Jengler@somd.org

(NEW) Congratulations Maryland Banner Schools

The Maryland Banner Recognition Program recognizes Unified Champion Schools throughout the state who demonstrate excellence in Unified Sports, Whole School Engagement, and Inclusive Youth Leadership.

Congratulations to our inaugural class of Maryland Banner Schools!

- Broadneck HS- Anne Arundel County
- Crofton HS- Anne Arundel County
- North County HS- Anne Arundel County
- Severna Park HS- Anne Arundel County
- South River HS- Anne Arundel County
- Tuscarora HS- Frederick County

(NEW) Call for Clinical Directors

Special Olympics Maryland is looking for Clinical Directors to round out our team of medical professionals who lead Healthy Athletes clinics. Do you know of a medical professional in the following disciplines who would be interested in volunteering? Email Kayla Shields- kshields@somd.org

Opening Eyes	Optometry
Special Smiles	Dentistry
Fit Feet	Podiatry
Fun Fitness	Physical Therapy
Strong Minds	Social/Emotional Health
Health Promotion	Nursing, Nutrition, Dietetics
Healthy Hearing	Audiology
MedFest	Physicians, Nurses

(UPDATED) Return to Play Protocol Updates

SOMD is now **operating in PHASE 3!** Please see the attached slide deck to learn about the exciting changes which get us back to a more typical environment at practices and competitions.

While this is exciting, we understand that our participants may have varying degrees of comfort with the loosening of restrictions. Some may continue to wear masks and some may prefer to avoid direct contact, but we will work to ensure that individuals can make their own decisions of health and safety without concern of judgement or questioning.

Registration Request

We have a whole new roster of people working with Area Directors to send certifications to HQ. This is a very good thing! When you email the Registration Manager, please include your Area in your signature. This would be especially helpful when you email certifications to her or are following up on matters. Whether you're emailing her directly at drush@somd.org or emailing coaches@somd.org, if you can remember to include your Area, that would make our process here at HQ more efficient. Thank you for your kind attention to this request.

SOMD is HIRING- AmeriCorps and Sport Director

Special Olympics Maryland is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

- AmeriCorps Young Athletes Coordinator
- AmeriCorps Unified Champion Schools Coordinator (2 positions)
- AmeriCorps Western MD Region Coordinator
- AmeriCorps Metro Programs Coordinator

For more information, please visit: <https://www.somd.org/connect/employment-opportunities/>

Summer Games – Updates and Reminders

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for either of our two 2021 Summer Games weekends. It was incredible to see our athletes competing for the first time in 15 months. Thank you for your support and for doing everything you could to have our athletes back and training under such challenging circumstances. We are certainly looking forward to having our athletes training and competing under more “typical” circumstances in coming months. Results for the Summer Games competitions are available on the Coach Resource Page (<https://www.somd.org/coach/coach-resources/summer-games/>).

As always we have a brief evaluation survey for Summer Games participants and attendees. We review every response and while we may not be able to act on every written suggestion, the Games Management Team and SOMD Staff does review and consider all input received. If you were at the 2021 Summer Games and haven't yet responded to the evaluation, please take a couple minutes and do so (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021SGEval>).

Coaches Training – Principles of Coaching Available as Free On-Demand Online Course

We are very pleased to announce that coaches can now complete the Principles of Coaching course online on their own schedule via the version of the course available through CoachTube. The course is free and combines both videos and activities that coaches engage in on their own and can be completed in one or more sittings. Coaches who complete the course and pass the course test are provided with a certificate that they can send to coaches@somd.org for course credit and to earn their Advanced Coaching Level status. Specific instructions will be available shortly on the Coach Education & Development section of the SOMD Coach Coach Resource Page (<https://www.somd.org/coach/coach-resources/coach-education/>).

Community Sports Registration Deadlines Set Through End of 2021

With a somewhat better picture of what the remainder of 2021 will likely look like, we have set the registration deadlines for community sports through the end of year and have been set and are incorporated into the Sports Calendar included with this email. They are summarized below for your convenience as well.

Event/Sports	State Championship	Training Registration	Outstanding Forms	Competition Registration
Kayaking	8/14/2021	7/7/2021	7/14/2021	7/27/2021
Golf	9/26/2021	8/12/2021	8/19/2021	9/2/2021
Fall Sports Festival (CY, TN, PL, FF, LDR)	10/16/2021 (Tentative)	8/30/2021	9/8/2021	10/1/2021
Soccer	10/31/2021	8/30/2021	9/8/2021	10/1/2021
Bowling – Regionals	11/7/2021	9/23/2021	10/1/2021	10/18/2021
Bowling - Championships	12/5/2021			11/19/2021
Winter Games	2/27/22 -- 03/01/22	1/7/2022	1/14/2022	2/15/2022

Pre-Season and Pre-Competition Webinars

The dates and time for Pre-Season 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
Kayaking	Thu 4/29	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHdVc0gOgEE
Golf	Thu 6/17	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51PEAzsAHXk
Cycling	Tue 7/20 6:30-8:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwlc--srDkvG920K713v4vP52RPxLw4wlt3
Distance Running	Tue 7/27 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwof-ihqjzpEtwziFSYRWC00R5KaWgguEAu
Flag Football	Wed 7/21 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0lde2gqzsrEtTpJ4J-IO3jPN3RSCHuIDI7
Power-lifting	Thu 7/22 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlIf-igpz4qGtAtmQY5nDt0mcAVSpPOMk7F
Soccer	Wed 8/04 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvcOCprzguE9QNKpMx8O0pOhbNgexn-hVR
Tennis	Wed 7/28 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvd-qtrTwrGtSdp1LKn4DUTbPy_gjEvFrI
Bowling	Thu 8/05 6:30-8:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJArduChrDMuGNPXuGZWMew16s0U5BoVuyY

Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars

Sport	Date/ Time	Registration / Recording Link
Kayaking-Trials	Thu 7/29 6:00-7:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpcemqgT4sGt0nXEptNOgRbGX-jt9Gxnf
Kayaking-Finals	Tue 8/10 6:00-7:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUocOyqz0vHtEzMQAQJY1SW2UshrEaplWOS

Sports Directors – Assigned Sports

If you have questions regarding a specific sport, coach education, or competition, please work with the corresponding Sport Director.

- **Melissa Anger, Sports Director**
 - manger@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x122
 - Basketball
 - Cheerleading
 - Flag Football
 - Soccer
 - Softball
 - Tennis
 - Locally Popular Sports: Volleyball, Cross Country Skiing
- **Vacant (Steve Bennett in the interim), Sports Director**
 - sbennett@somd.org, 410.242.1515
 - Bowling (10 pin)
 - Cycling
 - Kayaking
 - Snowshoeing
 - Swimming
 - Locally Popular Sports: Figure Skating, Sailing, Short Track Speed Skating, Duckpin Bowling
- **Ryan Kelchner, Sports Director**
 - rkelchner@somd.org, 410-242-1515 x171
 - Alpine Skiing
 - Athletics
 - Bocce
 - Distance Running
 - Golf
 - Powerlifting
 - Locally Popular Sports: Dance, Equestrian Sports, Floor Hockey

Questions?

If You Have Any Questions on Any Other Non-Sports-Related Issues, please contact a member of the Local Program Team

- **Jeff Abel, Vice President. Local Program Development**
 - jabel@somd.org, 410-242-1515 ex. 121
 - Any general question
- **Melissa Kelly, Sr. Director, Unified Champion schools**
 - mkelly@somd.org, 410-979-5839
 - School engagement & partnerships
- **Mackenzie Irvin, Young Athletes Program Director**
 - mirvin@somd.org, 857-939-4867
 - Young Athletes Program, Elementary School programming
- **Veronica Smaldone, Unified Champion Schools Coordinator (Western MD)**
 - vsmaldone@somd.org
 - Inclusive Youth Leadership & Whole School Engagement
- **Emma Bush, Unified Champion Schools Coordinator (Eastern Shore)**
 - ebush@somd.org
 - Inclusive Youth Leadership & Whole School Engagement

- **Sam Boyd, Volunteer Director**
 - sboyd@somd.org, 443-766-9245
 - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training

- **Kayla Shields, Healthy Communities Manager**
 - healthyathletes@somd.org
 - Healthy Athletes, Fitness Programs

- **Mike Myers, Baltimore Region Director**
 - mmyers@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore County and City

- **Tyler Martin, Western Region Coordinator**
 - tmartin@somd.org, 717-321-3642
 - Frederick, Washington, Allegany, Garrett Counties