

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

April 21, 2023

**Special
Olympics
Maryland**



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Welcome

Happy Volunteer Appreciation Week! As we celebrate the 5,229 Volunteers throughout the state and their many meaningful contributions, please know how much we value YOU and all that you do to provide high-quality experiences for our **15,588 Athletes and Unified Teammates!** On behalf of our Athletes, Unified Teammates, Family, and SOMD Staff...THANK YOU!

If there are any members of your area’s leadership who are not currently receiving the Area Memo, [please fill out this form](#)

Shout out a volunteer

This memo’s shot outs go to...

Katy Schieman, Michelle Pena, Byron Pena, Carol Camacho, The Jaycees, The Staff of the Y of Central Maryland, and the US Naval Academy on an exciting Spring Games Part 1! Thank you for your work planning and putting on a great competition to start the Swim Season for our athletes!

Shoutout to the Lower Shore volunteers for their efforts in finding new ways to get more athletes and families involved in their program. In an effort to combat geographical challenges, this team has been working on new local sports offerings, and have already seen increased interest. They continue to listen to feedback from the community and work towards opportunities for sustained growth to better serve their athletes. We can't wait to see Lower Shore athletes competing in both state level and local level events in the near future! Keep up the great work!

Carolyn Roney, Marva Davis, and the Washington County Team for a successful spaghetti dinner in support of your athletes last weekend!

The Swim Management Team and the Staff and Students of Loyola University Maryland for an excellent swim qualifier last weekend at Loyola!

Shoutout to the entire Cecil team on all the work they've done to grow their program opportunities. In the past year they have added golf and bocce, and by the end of Summer Games, will have had

athletes compete at state level competitions in golf, bowling, and bocce. These are great accomplishments reflective of the efforts of the volunteer base in Cecil. Thank you all!

Scott Geist, Trish Miles, Jeff LaManca and the rest of the Prince George's County Management Team for their Inspiration Walk Planning! Tomorrow's event is going to be great!

Shoutout to the team in Kent County for their continued efforts and perseverance as they work to grow program opportunities for their athletes. Kent's team has been great to work with on both state level and local level training opportunities. They've continuously adapted to the needs of their community and have been involved in conversations on how the program can continue to expand. We appreciate all your work, thank you!

Shoutout to the great volunteer group in the Upper Shore program that has done a wonderful job in providing sports training and competition opportunities for their athletes! The entire team has been very involved in discussions and actions to improve their offerings. They always step up for their peers whenever needed. This spring, they've added 11 new athletes between their spring sports, swimming and bocce. We're excited to see more growth in the Upper Shore program! Thank you all for making this

Jeff Hagen and the St. Mary's County Management Team who offered another great St. Mary's County Spring Games! I know the student-athletes, educators, and families appreciate your work in providing a meaningful experience as they close out the school year!

Shoutout to all the Harford County volunteers who work so hard to offer 13 sports training and competition opportunities in their local program. Whether they are managing, coaching, fundraising, or inputting data, they stay on top of it all to ensure quality experiences for their athletes. Thank you all very much for your commitment to the program!

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LV88QG9>

(NEW) Area Program Fundraiser Info Form

As we discussed in our Area Director meeting and on Monday's call, we'd like to get a better idea of the many fundraisers taking place around the state in support of Special Olympics Maryland. This will also help us advertise your events while also consolidating state office requests for credit card machines, Classy Pages, and more.

[Moving forward, please fill out this form when you are planning a fundraiser.](#)

Area Directors- Please send Jeff 1 email address that will receive a confirmation email when a fundraiser is submitted for your local program (thanks to those who already have...you'll receive an activation email from Monday.com)

(NEW) Uniform and Apparel Artwork and Logo Use- Reminder

As was discussed during the Area Director webinar on 3/27, we want to provide better support in ensuring uniforms meet Special Olympics logo use and branding standards. Moving forward, please send all logo/art work that will be used on uniforms (including coach apparel) to Jeff (jabel@somd.org) BEFORE printing. Thanks to those programs who have done this for spring sports.

Remember, Jeff is checking to make sure art work and logo use meet brand guidelines, so you only need to send logo and artwork files. Please make sure actual uniform items meet the sport-specific requirements before ordering, or check with the appropriate sports director if you're not sure.

Additions to what was originally talked about talked about: *Because our branding in the larger community is important, moving forward, please also send Jeff the artwork for volunteer t-shirts, event t-shirts (Spring Games, Inspiration Walks, etc), and merchandise.*

This is not meant to be a hinderance to your programs, we want this to be a helpful resource in making sure consistent branding guidelines are met in our programs across the state!

Summer Games Sports – Training Registration Deadline Extended

Based on input from Area leaders at the April 1 Area Director meeting, SOMD has extended the Training Registration and Missing Forms deadlines to better accommodate those programs which may be starting a little later in the season due to the later dates for Summer Games.

The Training Registration Deadline is now Sunday, April 30, 2023. All training program participants must be registered in GMS as training in their particular sports by this date. Anyone added after this date may participate in training, but will not be eligible to [participate in the 2023 Summer Games.

The Missing Forms Deadline is now Friday, May 12, 2023. All individuals participating in a Summer Games sport must have their forms and certifications (valid through June 25 2023) at SOMD HQ in order to be eligible for the 2023 Season for that sport. Anyone without fully complete forms and certifications for their role will be deleted from competition for that sport.

Note: The Competition Registration Deadline (June 1) is unaffected by these changes.

Summer Games – Only Fully Certified Coaches with Sport Certification To Be Credentialed as Coaches

Areas are advised that only those individuals who are fully certified as coaches will be credentialed as coaches at the 2023 Summer Games (and at all future SOMD competitions). "Fully certified" includes a sport-appropriate up-to-date Special Olympics Sport Certification valid thru June 25, 2023, in addition to up-to-date volunteer application, protective behaviors, communicable disease waiver (CDW) and concussion certification.

Individuals who do not meet these certification requirements will not receive credentials as coaches and will not be eligible for the access granted coaches and any other coach benefits. They will be eligible to be registered as volunteers or sports volunteers, provided they meet the requirements for those roles.

As always, coach sport certification status is available on the Coach Education and Development section of SOMD's Coach Resource Page (CRP) at <https://www.somd.org/coach-resources/>.

Forms for ALL Training Participants Must Be Submitted to SOMD HQ – Even Those Not Going to "States"

Just a friendly reminder that forms and certifications for everyone participating in your sports training programs must be valid and up-to-date through the end of the season (June 25 for Summer Games sports) AND must be submitted to SOMD HQ even if they are not attending the state championship. We've found that at the end of each season there are still several individuals who participated in various Area programs but whose medical, volunteer application, CDW, etc. were never submitted to SOMD HQ. Please be certain to submit those forms and certifications for ALL of your training program participants.

2023 Brave in the Attempt Talks

Six speakers from Special Olympics Maryland and other external agencies will take to the stage on June 20th, 2023 from 6pm-8pm for the First Lady presents Brave in the Attempt Talks.

The talks are 5-7 minute TED-Talk style presentations around a common theme.

This year's theme is "**Lead the Way**" where speakers will share their experience in leadership and how they or others Lead the Way.

This year's speakers include Clara Scholz, Charles Gaines, Alexea Wentz, Matt DiGilio, Abby Knight and Dominique Palmer.

We are happy to host this year's talks at the Jim Rouse Theatre 5460 Trumpeter Rd, Columbia, MD 21044 in Howard County. There will a short reception at 6pm followed by the talks at 7pm.

Tickets are FREE but we request that you reserve them through our ticketing system to help us have a better understanding of size of crowd that night.

Ticket sign up available here <https://support.somd.org/event/2023-brave-in-the-attempt-talks/e458207>

(UPDATED) Finance Corner

I want to encourage all Area programs to start using the Activity Code 2023 indicating the year when recording the revenues and expenses for various events. Examples would be Inspiration Walks, Golf Tournaments, and Over the Edge. By using the fiscal year 2023 instead of the default activity code of 3000, we can better track events. There will be times when it isn't feasible to do this when the activity segment is needed for another code. No worries. There have been times when a 'late' donation is received and it gets captured in the next event held instead of the prior event. Let's fix that. Please start using the year with your next upcoming event as you are able.

Congratulations to Carolyn Roney who won a gift card for being the first to answer Dashboard Trivia question #3 correctly!

Year-to-Date Revenue

\$4,626

this year to date



-\$8,850 vs. budget

A red frowny face means that you have an unfavorable budget variance.

There were several people who also knew the correct answer, so great job everyone.

Dashboard Trivia Q#4 -

Using the Dashboard, and looking at the Bank General Ledger report, how would you go about finding the Check number for a paid transaction that has the amount listed under the credit column? (*Note: Not all vendors are paid using a physical check*)

The correct answer wins a gift card.

If you have any questions about this update, please reach out to Joanne.

(UPDATED) 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 (slides from recorded sessions are available on the respective CRP)

Sport	Date/Time	Registration / Recording Link
Athletics (T&F)	Wed, Mar 22	Recording: https://youtu.be/XtB6GcKyyME
Bocce	Wed, Mar 22	Recording: https://youtu.be/5e9Ud9jjE2l
Cheerleading	Mon Apr 17	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eolH7mbUWek
Softball	Tue Apr 18	Recording: https://youtu.be/_s_c4PvcPTc
Swimming	Mon Apr 10	Recording: https://youtu.be/kTODwkRur7w

Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars (slides from recorded sessions are available on the respective CRP)

Sport	Date/Time	Registration / Recording Link
Athletics (T&F)	Thu Jun 15 7:00-8:00 pm	https://somed.zoom.us/join/register/tZcucO6tpi0oHdXEnETohS0iPlxb8XvF5OyS
Bocce	Thu Jun 15 6:00-7:00 pm	https://somed.zoom.us/join/register/tZcvcuugri0qHdCluXQZWHnCWuc-9yQHPhR
Cheerleading	Wed Jun 14 7:00-8:00 pm	https://somed.zoom.us/join/register/tZMrd-mhrTlqEt2dfYaty_BD-BP8-0G8De6R
Softball	Wed Jun 14 6:00-7:00 pm	https://somed.zoom.us/join/register/tZAqcOmspj4iG9z3KU3hYVqUdw59K15Ebkgi
Swimming	Tue Jun 13 6:30-7:30 pm	https://somed.zoom.us/join/register/tZYpceCrrzguG9K7y9aORLHxZG61W3bSeLkj

Sports Department Contacts – Assigned Sports

Your Area Director and Area Leadership should always be your first point of contact. However, should you have questions regarding a specific sport, coach education, or competition, please work with the corresponding Sport Director.

• **Melissa Anger, Senior Sports Director**

- manger@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x122

Basketball	Soccer	<i>Locally Popular Sports: Volleyball, Cross Country Skiing, Pickleball</i>
Cheerleading	Softball	
Flag Football	Tennis	

• **Ryan Kelchner, Sports Director**

- rkelchner@somd.org, 410-242-1515 x171

Athletics	Golf	<i>Locally Popular Sports: Dance, Equestrian Sports, Floor Hockey</i>
Bocce	Powerlifting	
Distance Running	Snowshoeing	

• **Elizabeth Kramer, Sports Director**

- ekramer@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x127

Alpine Skiing	Kayaking	<i>Locally Popular Sports: Figure Skating, Sailing, Short Track Speed Skating, Duckpin Bowling</i>
Bowling (10 pin)	Swimming	
Cycling		

If you have questions regarding multi-sport events, or USA/World Games, please contact:

• **Steve Bennett, Senior Director, Competitions**

- sbennett@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x102

Summer Games	Fall Sports Festival	USA Games
Winter Games		World Games

If you have questions regarding High School Unified Sports (IUS) training and competition, please contact:

- **Zach Cintron, Senior Director, High School Unified Sports**
 - zcintron@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x161
 - IUS Athletics (T&F) IUS Outdoor Bocce IUS Tennis
 - IUS Indoor Bocce IUS Strength & Conditioning

Overall Sports Leadership (any sports/competition questions that aren't related to a specific sport)

- **Mike Czarnowsky, Vice President, Sports**
 - mczarnowsky@somd.org, 410.241.6280

Questions?

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

- **Jeff Abel, Vice President. Local Program Development**
 - jabel@somd.org, 410-242-1515 ex. 121
 - Any general question, COVID Protocol
- **Melissa Kelly, Senior Director, Unified Champion schools**
 - mkelly@somd.org, 410-979-5839
 - Unified Champion Schools, Youth Leadership, and School Engagement
- **Megan Larson, Coordinator, Unified Champion Schools**
 - mlarson@somd.org
 - Unified Champion Schools, Youth leadership, and School Engagement
- **Mackenzie Irvin, Senior Director, Inclusive Health & Fitness**
 - mirvin@somd.org, 857-939-4867
 - Young Athletes Program, Elementary School programming
- **Kayla Shields, Director, Inclusive Health and Fitness**
 - kshields@somd.org, 410-404-4115
 - Healthy Athletes, Fitness Programs, Unified Physical Education
- **Abi Bauman, Young Athletes Program Coordinator**
 - abauman@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Community Young Athletes Programs
- **Sue Snyder, Unified Physical Education Consultant**
 - ssnyder@somd.org
 - Unified Physical Education
- **Sam Boyd, Volunteer Director**
 - sboyd@somd.org, 443-766-9245
 - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Lindsey Maritzel, Volunteer Coordinator**
 - LMaritzel@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Mike Myers, Baltimore Region Director**
 - mmyers@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore County and City

- **Allie Boyd, City Schools Coordinator**
 - aboyd@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore City Schools APE Sports Program

- **Kyler Mellott, Region Director- East**
 - kmellott@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Harford, Cecil, Kent, Upper Shore, Lower Shore

- **Lily Bean, Region Director- West**
 - lbean@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Carroll, Frederick, Washington Allegany, Garrett