

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

May 5, 2023

**Special
Olympics
Maryland**



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Welcome

This past week was Educator Appreciation Week! Special Olympics Maryland is so fortunate to have so many educators as part of our programs in schools and the community! Thank you, teachers and administrators, for your efforts and commitment to our athletes.

...and...

Because we won't have an Area Memo going out next week, **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY** to all of our SOMD Moms, Grandmothers, Aunts, Sisters, Godmothers, and Mother Figures to our Athletes and Unified Teammates! Thank you for your non-stop support on and off the field!

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 shout outs go to...

Trish Miles, Scott Geist, and team on an awesome Bob Janus Spring Games in Prince George's County!

Katy Schieman, Mike Janis, Miriam Stanicic, Commander Earp, USNA, and the Jaycees for their work on Anne Arundel Spring Games--- we're sorry it was rained out, but we appreciate our efforts in planning a great event and are looking forward to 2024 ahead

Laurie Brewer and the Carroll County management team on a successful Bag Bingo Fundraiser!

Liam Gilbert and the BCPSS APE Team for their work on a great City Schools Spring Games

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!

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

(NEW) 2023 Torch Gala- Lend us your voice

As we work to engage our Gala Attendees in the mission and power of Special Olympics Maryland, we'd like to include the perspectives of as many athletes and coaches as possible! Please distribute the links below to your athletes and coaches.

Please Distribute this link to our ATHLETES:

<https://forms.gle/HmUn1AmJEDPxEYi28>.

Please Distribute this link to our COACHES:

<https://forms.gle/cxvDUA2b2DStRzCs5>

Thanks for your help!

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)

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 – 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

There wasn't a winner from last time, so let's re-run this one again!

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=eoIH7mbUWek
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://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcucO6tpj0oHdXEnETohS0iPlxb8XvF5OyS
Bocce	Thu Jun 15 6:00-7:00 pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvcuugrj0qHdCluXQZWHnCWuc-9yQHaPhR
Cheerleading	Wed Jun 14 7:00-8:00 pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrd-mhrTlqEt2dfYaty_BD-BP8-0G8De6R
Softball	Wed Jun 14 6:00-7:00 pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqcOmspj4iG9z3KU3hYVqUdw59K15Ebkgi
Swimming	Tue Jun 13 6:30-7:30 pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/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
Cheerleading Softball
Flag Football Tennis

*Locally Popular Sports: Volleyball,
Cross Country Skiing, Pickleball*

• **Ryan Kelchner, Sports Director**

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

Athletics Golf
Bocce Powerlifting
Distance Running Snowshoeing

*Locally Popular Sports: Dance,
Equestrian Sports, Floor Hockey*

• **Elizabeth Kramer, Sports Director**

- ekramer@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x127

Alpine Skiing Kayaking
Bowling (10 pin) Swimming
Cycling

*Locally Popular Sports: Figure Skating,
Sailing, Short Track Speed Skating,
Duckpin Bowling*

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 Marinzel, Volunteer Coordinator**
 - LMarinzel@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