

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

12/3/2023

**Special
Olympics
Maryland**



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Welcome

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...

Our 2023 Bowling Coaches! Congratulations on a great season that wrapped up today..thank you for providing your athletes a high-quality experience!

Jeff Hagen and the St. Mary's County Management Team on a successful St. Mary's Splash! Always a well run and fun event! Thanks for arranging temps in the 60s!

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LV88QG9>

(NEW) Plunge and Dunk Reminder- Sign Up Your Teams

Between now and the end of the month, many people will be looking to make year-end donations. This is a great opportunity to recruit people for your Plunge and Dunk Teams. If you haven't already set up Area Program teams for Plunge or Dunk, please visit www.PlungeMD.com or www.DunkMD.com . If you need any assistance setting up your team pages, please contact Jeff (jabel@somd.org) .

(NEW) Program Staff Winter Holiday Leave

As we come up on the winter holiday season, SOMD Staff Members may be taking time off. Please use the grid below to see if the staff member you need to contact is on or off. If you need anything, Jeff will not be taking time off, so if the staff member you need to reach is off, please reach out to Jeff and he will do his best to answer questions.

	Working
	Off
	SOMD Closed

Staff Member	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	1	2
Jeff Abel	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working
Melissa Anger	Off	Working	Working	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Abi Bauman	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Steve Bennett	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Allison Boyd	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Sam Boyd	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Zach Cintron	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Casey Collins	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Mike Czarnowsky	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Matt Deal	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Horace Dickerson	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Tyler Harrell	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Mackenzie Irvin	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Off	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Melissa Kelly	Working	Working	Working	Working	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Elizabeth Kramer	Off	Off	Working	Working	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Julie Martin	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Kyler Mellott	Working	Working	Working	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Mike Myers	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Jake Novick	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working
Dottie Rush	Working	Working	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Jason Schriml	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Working	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off
Kayla Shields	Working	Working	Working	Working	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Off	Off	Off	SOMD Closed	SOMD Closed	Working

(NEW) BRRRAVE Rave: Athlete Dance- 1/28/2023

Please Share with your athletes and families

DiGilio Knight Djing will be supplying the tunes.

WHEN: Sunday, January 28th, 2024 from 3pm-6pm.

WHERE: Sandy Point State Park-Hospitality Tent, 1100 East College Parkway, Annapolis, MD

TICKETS:

Tickets are FREE and open to all athletes in Special Olympics Maryland and their friends.

You can sign up for tickets [HERE](#) and bring a +1 with you.

You must sign up to get in the door.

THEME: The theme is Winter Wonderland so feel free to dress for the part.

Any questions? Email Jason Schriml at jschriml@somd.org

Please share this with any athletes you know.

T2025 – 2025 World Winter Games in Torino – SOMD Slots Received

As we mentioned at various Area Leader Meetings, SOMD was expecting to get one, maybe two, slots for the SO USA Team for the 2025 World Winter Games in Torino, Italy during the country-wide draft this week.

What a great surprise that we were able to secure 4 (four) slots!! Maryland will nominate the following:

Alpine

Male Intermediate Level Skier

Female Advanced Level Skier

Snowshoeing

2 Female Level Two Snowshoers (races 100+ meters)

Area leaders with athletes (selectees and initial alternates) drawn for these spots from our pre-vetted pool will be contacted shortly by Steve Bennett with details on the very quick turnaround on acceptance and the initial registration steps.

Coaching Special Olympics Athletes (CSOA) – New Process For Accessing Online Course

CSOA is the core baseline course required for virtually all Special Olympics coaches. A coach is only required to complete this specific course one time, however coaches must renew their Coach Sport Certifications at least every three years through completion of other coach education and development options.

Human Kinetics, a premiere provider of coach education resources, is retiring this course from its online catalogue over the next 12 months and, as such, it no longer appears on its public website. However, SOMD has arranged to pre-purchase "licenses" for this online course that can be completed between now and October 31, 2024. **Coaches needing to complete CSOA should send an email to coaches@somd.org to request a license and directions on completing the course.**

Additional Notes:

- This new arrangement means that *coaches no longer need to pre-pay for the course and then request a reimbursement from SOMD.*
- Coaches should expect that obtaining a license may take up to 2 business days from the time of request.

- Given the large but limited number of pre-paid licenses, and the inability for SOMD to obtain more from HK, licenses will be provided only to those prospective coaches who have not already completed CSOA and only one license will be issued per person.
- Special Olympics North America anticipates having a new online version of CSOA hosted on the SO Learn portal available at some point during the third quarter of 2024.

GMS Training Registration for 2024 Now Open To Areas

As many Area programs are starting to register participants in their winter season training programs (Alpine Skiing, Snowshoeing, Basketball, etc.), we are pleased to let you know that the “2024 Community Training Program Participant Registration” games is now open. You should be using that “games” to register any athletes, coaches, unified teammates, volunteers, etc. for any of your training programs that will either continue into 2023 or will start in 2023. Any training that will be solely conducted in 2023 should continue to be added in the “2023 Community Training Program Participant Registration” games.

Area Program Sport & Activity Information Form

To more effectively capture the many programs and activities taking place in the community, we have put together a Training Program Information Form.

This form will help our state office stay more organized with up-to-date information on what programs are happening, where they’re happening, and when they are happening.

Please submit 1 form for each sport/activity from your program using the link below:

<https://wkf.ms/3Kqg0Zp>

To avoid duplicate submissions, Coaches, Sport Volunteers, and Sport Coordinators, please work with your Area Leadership on submitting this form as they may have done so already.

We ask that this is submitted by the registration deadline during each sport season.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Abel (jabel@somd.org).

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.](#)

(UPDATED) Finance Corner

END OF YEAR REMINDER – This is a reminder to continue to reach out to any vendors that have supplied the program with In-Kind contributions during the calendar year. This is very important. In kind is used for organizational match for our grants and is reported in the annual audit.

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

Donation Information Corner

1. **Area Donation Tracking Link:** please use this link to provide information to SOMD about any anticipated gifts that may come directly to the SOMD office or bank account:

[Area Donation Tracking Report](#)

2. **Private Donation Link for Honor/Memorial Donations and specific gifts from donors:** If you have an individual donor or sponsor that has reached out to you and wants to make a donation to support your

program directly, or if you would like to include a link for memorial donations, you can provide this PRIVATE donation link, but please remember, **this link cannot be included on your local area website or sent out as an email blast**. Please encourage donors to fill out the “Direct My Gift to” dropdown in the form.

[Private Giving Link Request](#)

- Stock Giving Option:** please provide the information below to anyone who would like to make a gift of stock to your local area program. You can also notify SOMD that a gift is coming to support your program by adding this information to the [Area Donation Tracking Report](#).

To make a gift of stock, please share this information with your financial advisor:

Morgan Stanley LLC
DTC #0015

For the benefit of Special Olympics Maryland/633-117478

c/o: Morgan Stanley
650 S. Exeter Street, Suite 1100
Baltimore, MD 21202

- Matching Gifts:** Many companies generously offer to match their employees’ charitable contributions. Some even provide matching funds to support employee volunteer hours. Most of these programs match contributions dollar for dollar, and some will even double or triple the amount of your gift!

[Click Here](#) to enter your employer’s name to see if they participate in the matching gift program, and if they do, get a link to the matching donation page.

If you are aware of any matching gifts that may be coming in for your local area program, please notify SOMD that a gift is coming to support your program by adding this information to the [Area Donation Tracking Report](#)

(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
Bowling	Thu, 09/07	Recording: https://youtu.be/TfyGQhftCk
Alpine Skiing	Tue, 11/14	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swlErWY-qLA
Snowshoeing	Wed, 11/15	Recording: https://youtu.be/uLhrew2o8WU
Basketball	Thu, 11/16	Recording: https://youtu.be/JV4npXAvRu0

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

Sport	Date/Time	Registration / Recording Link
Bowling - Regionals	Thu, 11/02	Recording: https://youtu.be/DIK0YtzqCS0
Bowling - Finals	Tue, 11/28	Recording: https://youtu.be/83UFe52bb00
Alpine Skiing	Thu, 02/15 6:00-7:00pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pdO2sqjMvHdH5izDtkgUblI5Rf2_GTu5
Snowshoeing	Thu, 02/15 7:00-8:00pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAldu-orjsoEtXykkFdAdw4oK5cDW65ox73
Basketball (5v5 Trad & Unif)	Wed, 03/27 6:00-7:00pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsdO2grTIuHNYHb4aDiJQFTOVhOn6UbfR0
Basketball	Wed, 03/27	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlscO2rpzljGtRkjdI3X4zqneBx-ccYB0No

(UPDATED) 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*

- **Casey Collins, Sports Director**

- ccollins@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 Indoor Bocce	IUS Tennis
IUS Outdoor Bocce	IUS Strength & Conditioning	IUS Flag Football

If you have questions regarding training/competition registration certifications or the processing of forms, please contact:

- **Dottie Rush, Registration Manager**

- drush@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x111

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 Programs**
 - jabel@somd.org, 410-242-1515 ex. 121
 - Any general question
- **Melissa Kelly, Senior Director, Unified® Champion schools**
 - mkelly@somd.org, 410-979-5839
 - Unified® Champion Schools, Youth Leadership, and School Engagement, Middle School Sports
- **Julie Martin, Manager, Unified Champion Schools**
 - jmartin@somd.org
 - Unified Champion Schools Grant, Youth Leadership and Whole School Engagement
- **Jake Novick, Manager, Unified Recreation**
 - jnovick@somd.org, 774-276-5861
 - College Unified Champion Schools Programs, Unified Intramurals, Community Unified Rec Options
- **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, Manager, Young Athletes Program**
 - abauman@somd.org, 802-881-4623
 - Young Athletes Program in school, community, and home
- **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
- **Mike Myers, Sr. Director, Area Programs**
 - mmyers@somd.org, 443-799-5335
 - All Area Programs- Primary POC for BA, HO, MO, AA, SM, CH, CL
- **Horace Dickerson, Region Director- Metro Programs**
 - hdickerson@somd.org
 - Baltimore City, Prince George's County
- **Allie Boyd, City Schools Coordinator**
 - aboyd@somd.org, 223-848-1210
 - Baltimore City Schools APE Sports Program
- **Kyler Mellott, Region Director- East**
 - kmellott@somd.org, 814-470-9474
 - Harford, Cecil, Kent, Upper Shore, Lower Shore
- **Matt Deal, Region Director- West**
 - mdeal@somd.org, 240-329-1801
 - Carroll, Frederick, Washington Allegany, Garrett