

# **Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo**

## **4/13/2024**



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### **Welcome & What happened to the Hyperlinks?**

Where did the hyperlinks in the articles list go?

Recently Special Olympics Maryland conducted a data migration to M365 which affected how our hyperlinked bookmarks in the Area Memo function. Those of you who tried to click links in the last memo received error messages that you didn't have access to view them.

So while we work with tech to figure out the best solution, we hope you don't mind the extra scrolling!

All other links in the Area Memo- those that go to websites- seem to be working fine, but as always, if you encounter any challenges, please let Jeff know ([jabel@somd.org](mailto:jabel@somd.org))

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...

Jamie Valis, coach and unified teammate for Baltimore County, who planned an awesome BC Brewery Fundraiser for our athletes! This event continues to be a highlight for our families and the community!

Marilyn Miceli and Tracy O'Connor and the Howard County team for recognizing Volunteer Appreciation Month and highlighting the work of SOMD-Howard County volunteers on social media throughout the month!

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!

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

**(NEW) 2024 Summer Games Shirt for Delegations**

Once again, by popular demand, Special Olympics Maryland is planning to send the t-shirts to each Area Program in advance of the Summer Games.

We need your assistance in order to accomplish this process. Below is the link to complete the survey for ordering your t-shirts. The survey needs to be completed by **May 1, 2024 at 3:00pm** for us to place the order and have them shipped to each of the Area Programs in time for Summer Games.

Link to place your order: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/24SGTShirtOrder>

Thank you in advance!

**Volunteer Appreciation Week 2024- Shout out a Volunteer!**

We are excited to celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Week in a little over a month! As part of National Volunteer Appreciation Week (April 21-27, 2024), SOMD will be highlighting some volunteers and their work on social media. If you have a program volunteer that you'd like to nominate as one of our highlighted volunteers, use the link below!

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

If you have any questions, contact Sam Boyd at [Volunteers@somd.org](mailto:Volunteers@somd.org)

**Reminder- MinuteClinic & Women's Health Services Voucher**

As programs prepare for spring sports seasons, it's a good time for a reminder about the national partnership with MinuteClinic!

Special Olympics North America has renewed the partnership with MinuteClinic, and, will once again be offering discounted sports physicals at a discounted rate. The attached voucher must be presented at the time of the physical AND athletes and families should bring the Special Olympics Maryland registration packet with them to ensure the correct paperwork is completed and can be submitted to their area program.

**\*New\***

Also attached to this email is a voucher for discounted Women's Health Services through Minute Clinic for Special Olympics athletes.

***Reminder: Athletes are not required to use MinuteClinic, but those who do not have a primary care physician may find this discount helpful.***

**Spring into Tennis with JTCC!**

**PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR ATHLETES & FAMILIES**

Don't wait until fall tennis season to get back on the court! JTCC in College Park continues their free Special Olympics Maryland tennis program this spring.

Dates: 4/7, 21, 28, 5/5, 19, 6/2, 9: No Class on May 12 (Mother's Day) or May 26 (Memorial Day Weekend)

See the attached flyer for info

Registration:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-297mhKha3ADd9w7rxUwsodyunMueaxvACdRnRpG8E5Mhgg/viewform>

**(UPDATED) Spring Competition Calendar Getting Set**

Areas are working diligently to prepare for their Spring sports seasons, including scheduling competitions. To assist in that planning, we're sharing the events with known dates that **have typically been open to multiple Area programs**. These are also included in the attached sports calendar.

Loyola Swim Qualifier	Baltimore, MD	Loyola University	4/13/2024	Swimming
AA Spring Games Day 1	Annapolis, MD	Pasadena YMCA	4/20/2024	Swimming
AA Spring Games Day 2	Annapolis, MD	US Naval Academy	4/28/2024	Athletics (T&F), Bocce
PG Swim Meet	Laurel, MD	Fairland Aquatic Center	4/28/2023	Swimming
CH Spring Games	Indian Head, MD	Lackey High School	5/4/2024	Athletics (T&F), Bocce, Swimming
HA Swimming Qualifier	Joppa, MD	Magnolia Middle School	5/4/2024	Swimming
AL Spring Games	Frostburg, MD	Mountain Ridge HS Frostburg State (SW)	5/11/2024	Athletics (T&F), Bocce, Swimming
BA Athletics (T&F) All Comers Meet	Owings Mills, MD	McDonogh School	5/11/2024	Athletics (T&F)
MO Swim Meet	Bethesda, MD	Stone Ridge School	5/11/2024	Swimming
CR Athletics (T&F) and Bocce All Comers	Westminster, MD	Westminster High School	5/18/2024	Athletics (T&F), Bocce
Softball Required Qualifier	Ellicott City, MD	Kiwanis Wallas Park	5/19/2024	Softball
MO Spring Games	Bethesda, MD	Landon School	5/19/2024	Athletics (T&F), Bocce
HO Track Meet	Columbia, MD	Wilde Lake High School	6/1/2024	Athletics (T&F)
HO Swim Meet	Columbia, MD	Steven's Forest Pool	6/2/2024	Swimming

Contact info is included on the sports calendar. Please note that each of these events has a maximum capacity and cannot accommodate an unlimited number of competitors (except for the Softball Required Qualifier). In addition, some may already have other Area programs signed up for the event, so be sure to reach out to the designated contact (found on sports calendar) if you are interested in having your athletes attend.

If your Area is hosting a competition that is open to other programs, please complete and submit the sanction form (available on the CRP) and we will include it in the next Area Memo.

**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](mailto: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.](#)

### **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](#)
3. **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

4. **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) Finance Corner**

A great big **THANK YOU** to everyone for jumping on the In-kind for 2023! We are ready for the auditors! **Invoices & Credit Cards** – Please make sure that the Memo/Description that you are providing tells the story of what was purchased. No need for proper grammar, tell it like it is. "25 Basketballs", "Uniforms for Bowling", "Facilities for Pickleball July & Aug 23". It is important to be brief and clear so someone outside of the transaction understands what was purchased. For Credit cards, **please include the vendor** "Amazon – 100 Flag football Flags"; "Jersey Mikes – 347 lunches for Spring Games".

**Alert to suspicious charges** – If Truist sees suspicious charges on your credit card – a spending pattern that doesn't match your habits, or charges to unusual websites, or charges on your card that happen one right after the other – the fraud department will temporarily suspend the card to stop the activity.

The fraud department will call you on the phone number that was used to sign you up for a card. When Truist calls, the phone number, that comes up on your caller ID, may not be familiar to you. I am in the process of getting a secondary phone number on everyone's account so that Truist will also call me. If you have changed your phone number since you signed up, please let me know.

**Direct Deposit** – HQ is moving in the direction of Direct Deposit/ACH/EFT for all Stipends, Vendors, and other payments. Anyone issued a physical check is given a sign-up form with that check. We are asking that you strongly encourage the use of Direct Deposit/ACH/EFT. No more lost payments in the postal mail. It is a bank-to-bank transaction, so the person or company is paid faster. The form to sign up for EFT is attached to this memo. When working with current, and especially new vendors, ask them to sign up. Thank you! If you have any questions about this update, please reach out to Joanne.

**(UPDATED) Pre-Season and Pre-Competition Coach 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)

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Registration / Recording Link</i>
Basketball	Thu, 11/16	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/JV4npXAvRu0">https://youtu.be/JV4npXAvRu0</a>
Athletics (T&F)	Tue, 3/26	Recording: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-Sr8Yf6Rfq">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-Sr8Yf6Rfq</a>
Bocce	Mon, 3/25	Recording: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKi05ssqpw8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKi05ssqpw8</a>
Cheerleading	Wed, 3/20	Recording: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXWxcnK3uIA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXWxcnK3uIA</a>
Softball	Wed, 3/20	Recording: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZtc15UZofQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZtc15UZofQ</a>
Swimming	Tue, 3/19	Recording: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euixUvfBvVc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euixUvfBvVc</a>

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

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Registration / Recording Link</i>
Basketball (5v5 Trad & Unif)	Wed, 03/27 6:00-7:00p	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsdO2grTluHNyHb4aDiJQFTOVhOn6UbfR0">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsdO2grTluHNyHb4aDiJQFTOVhOn6UbfR0</a>
Basketball (ISC, all 3v3, 5v5PDU)	Wed, 03/27 7:00-8:00p	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlscO2rpzljGtRkJd13X4zqneBx-ccYB0No">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlscO2rpzljGtRkJd13X4zqneBx-ccYB0No</a>
Athletics (T&F)	Tue, 6/4 6:00-7:00p	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/j/84616489303?pwd=je5aGNpNzuH5TFwg0LcRCmtb8R81pS.1">https://somd.zoom.us/j/84616489303?pwd=je5aGNpNzuH5TFwg0LcRCmtb8R81pS.1</a>
Bocce	Wed, 6/5 6:00-7:00p	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/j/88104320430?pwd=omzcSayMbwkuqfKKcdg4CLZiukAdAb.1">https://somd.zoom.us/j/88104320430?pwd=omzcSayMbwkuqfKKcdg4CLZiukAdAb.1</a>
Cheerleading	Tue, 6/11 7:30-8:30p	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlodOivrjgvGtyOPMoGuQ8yUBZX54YVGZi7">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlodOivrjgvGtyOPMoGuQ8yUBZX54YVGZi7</a>
Softball	Tue, 6/11 6:00-7:00p	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocOqurz8sHdxJupj2u0IJOH6eDnKEcf43">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocOqurz8sHdxJupj2u0IJOH6eDnKEcf43</a>
Swimming	Thu, 6/6 6:00-7:00p	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsd-2rrDsuGdS_FdBmcglkLj0R9Y6kGF8y">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsd-2rrDsuGdS_FdBmcglkLj0R9Y6kGF8y</a>

**(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](mailto:manger@somd.org), 410.979.5112
    - Basketball
    - Cheerleading
    - Flag Football
    - Softball*Locally Popular Sports: Volleyball*
  
- **Casey Collins, Sports Director**
  - [ccollins@somd.org](mailto:ccollins@somd.org), 240.994.2631
    - Athletics
    - Distance Running
    - Golf
    - Powerlifting
    - Snowshoeing*Locally Popular Sports: Equestrian Sports, Floor Hockey*
  
- **Elizabeth Kramer, Sports Director**
  - [ekramer@somd.org](mailto:ekramer@somd.org), 443.716.8384
    - Alpine Skiing
    - Cycling
    - Kayaking
    - Swimming*Locally Popular Sports: Cross Country Skiing, DanceSport, Figure Skating, Sailing*
  
- **Jake Novick, Sports Director**
  - [jnovick@somd.org](mailto:jnovick@somd.org), 774.276.5861
    - Bocce
    - Bowling (10 pin)
    - Soccer
    - Tennis*Locally Popular Sports: Duckpin Bowling, Pickleball, Short Track Speed Skating,*

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

- **Steve Bennett, Senior Director, Competitions**
  - [sbennett@somd.org](mailto:sbennett@somd.org), 304.991.1421
    - Summer Games
    - Winter Games
    - Fall Sports Festival
    - USA 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](mailto:zcintron@somd.org), 973.862.0414
    - IUS Athletics (T&F)
    - IUS Outdoor Bocce
    - IUS Indoor Bocce
    - IUS Strength & Conditioning
    - IUS Tennis
    - IUS Flag Football
  
- **Tyler Harrell, Manager, High School Unified® Sports**
  - [tharrell@somd.org](mailto:tharrell@somd.org), 410.251.0331
    - IUS High School program logistics and coordination with Districts and Local School Systems

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

- **Dottie Rush, Registration Manager**
  - [drush@somd.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jabel@somd.org), 410-242-1515 ex. 121
  - Any general question
- **Melissa Kelly, Senior Director, Unified® Champion schools**
  - [mkelly@somd.org](mailto:mkelly@somd.org), 410-979-5839
  - Unified® Champion Schools, Youth Leadership, and School Engagement, Middle School Sports
- **Julie Martin, Manager, Unified Champion Schools Consultant**
  - [jmartin@somd.org](mailto:jmartin@somd.org)
  - Unified Champion Schools Grant, Youth Leadership and Whole School Engagement
- **Mackenzie Irvin, Senior Director, Inclusive Health & Fitness**
  - [mirvin@somd.org](mailto:mirvin@somd.org), 857-939-4867
  - Young Athletes Program, Elementary School programming
- **Kayla Shields, Director, Inclusive Health and Fitness**
  - [kshields@somd.org](mailto:kshields@somd.org), 410-404-4115
  - Healthy Athletes, Fitness Programs, Unified® Physical Education
- **Abi Bauman, Manager, Young Athletes Program**
  - [abauman@somd.org](mailto:abauman@somd.org), 802-881-4623
  - Young Athletes Program in school, community, and home
- **Sue Snyder, Unified® Physical Education Consultant**
  - [ssnyder@somd.org](mailto:ssnyder@somd.org)
  - Unified® Physical Education
- **Sam Boyd, Volunteer Director**
  - [sboyd@somd.org](mailto:sboyd@somd.org), 443-766-9245
  - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Mike Myers, Sr. Director, Area Programs**
  - [mmyers@somd.org](mailto: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](mailto:hdickerson@somd.org)
  - Baltimore City, Prince George's County
- **Allie Boyd, City Schools Coordinator**
  - [aboyd@somd.org](mailto:aboyd@somd.org), 223-848-1210
  - Baltimore City Schools APE Sports Program
- **Kyler Mellott, Region Director- East**
  - [kmellott@somd.org](mailto:kmellott@somd.org), 814-470-9474
  - Harford, Cecil, Kent, Upper Shore, Lower Shore
- **Matt Deal, Region Director- West**
  - [mdeal@somd.org](mailto:mdeal@somd.org), 240-329-1801
  - Carroll, Frederick, Washington Allegany, Garrett