

# Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

## October 17, 2022

**Special  
Olympics  
Maryland**



### Contents

- Welcome
- [Shout out a volunteer](#)- **UPDATED**
- [Monthly Area Director Call](#)- **NEW**
- [November Area Director Webinar and Meeting](#)- **NEW**
- [Discounted MinuteClinic Medicals](#)- **NEW**
- [Towson University Unified Intramurals- Flag Football Registration- LAST CALL!](#)- **UPDATED**
- [Congratulations Team MD Tennis! SONA Tennis Championships Results](#)- **NEW**
- [JTCC Tennis Clinic Registration](#)- **NEW**
- [Registration Due Dates Through End of 2023 Set](#)
- [Coach Resource Page \(CRP\) – Where Is It??](#)
- [Summer Games Dates Set through 2025](#)
- [COVID Protocol Update- Vaccination Requirements](#)
- [Pre-Season and Pre-Competition Webinars](#) - **UPDATED**
- [Sports Directors – Assigned Sports](#)
- [Questions?](#)

### 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](mailto:jabel@somd.org).

### Shout out a volunteer

This memo's shout outs go to...

#### *Greta Harrison*

Greta stepped into the Head Coach role for the Tennis NIT in Hilton Head. This was Greta's first time coaching at an advanced competition and she did great!

#### *Craig Robillard*

Craig organized an excellent Golftoberfest Outing for SOMD-Frederick County! A great day raising money for our athletes in Frederick County!

#### *Jamie Peterson and the Towson Women's Tennis Team*

Thank you, Coach Peterson and your team for an awesome tennis qualifier on 10/8! We appreciate your work in support of our tennis players!

#### *Eva Tucholski*

Thank you, Eva, for organizing Midshipmen volunteers at the required soccer qualifier at the Severn School!

Do you have a volunteer who has gone above and beyond to support our athletes and mission? Consider sending them an SOMD Shout Out! Recognize your program's coaches, area leaders, management team members, or other volunteers for outstanding contributions to your program! Shout outs will be compiled and added to the Area Memo to be sent out every 2 weeks.

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!

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

**(NEW) Monthly Area Director Call- THIS WEEK!**

Please remember that we'll be holding our Monthly Area Director Call this **Wednesday (10/19/2022) from 6:30-7:30pm**. Please use the link below to join and register

<https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvcO-urjstHtNtbBqLnO4cYLCViATPMSVZ>

One topic we will be discussing is the updates to the SOMD webpage and the inclusion of local program pages and resources, so please join us!

**(NEW) November Area Director Webinar and Meeting**

***It's really happening! An in-person Area Director meeting!***

We are less than a month away from our November Area Director Webinar and Meeting...the last one of 2022! Please use the link below to register:

Webinar	Mon 11/7 @ 7:00pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlVfu-vpzloGdxjJDUzPAv6v6ppqj3Q3nESd">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlVfu-vpzloGdxjJDUzPAv6v6ppqj3Q3nESd</a>
Meeting	Sat 11/12 @ 9:30am	<a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B2QQRGK">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B2QQRGK</a>

**(NEW) Discounted MinuteClinic Medicals**

**Please share with your athletes and families!**

Special Olympics has continued their nation-wide partnership with **MinuteClinic!** Attached is the updated voucher for discounted medicals at all MinuteClinics for Special Olympics participation! Please make sure you bring Special Olympics medical forms with you as they may not have them there.

**(Updated) Towson University Unified Intramurals- Flag Football Registration- LAST CALL!**

**Please share with your athletes and families!**

We are excited to offer our 2<sup>nd</sup> Unified Intramural Season with Towson University Campus Recreation... we will be offering **Unified FLAG FOOTBALL!** Special Olympics Maryland athletes will play on Unified Flag Football Teams with Towson Students as part of their Campus Recreation Intramural program. All games will take place at Burdick Field at Towson University from on **Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm**

SOMD athletes must arrive on time, ready to play. These teams will not practice; this is a 'show up and play' opportunity.

SOMD Athletes must commit to playing all games on the following dates:

- 10/26/2022
- 11/2/2022
- 11/9/2022
- 11/16/2022
- 11/30/2022
- 12/7/2022

Please note that we will NOT be playing the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (11/23)  
 SOMD Athletes must be pre-registered and have up-to-date paperwork filed with SOMD.  
 This is a recreational league. While competitive, there will not be opportunities for advancement to local/state/national competition.

Register Here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DKKHPD8>

**(NEW) Congratulations Team MD Tennis! SONA Tennis Championships Results**

Congrats to Mike Schmidt, Adam Hays, Dan Schmidt, and Jeff Harrison on a great week at the SONA Tennis Championships in Hilton Head! Results from the tournament are below. And thank you to our official team cheering section of Nancy and Mike Schmidt!  
**Go Team MD!**



Mike Schmidt	Level 4 Singles	Bronze
Adam Hays	Level 3 Singles	Gold
Mike Schmidt Dan Schmidt	Level 4 Unified Doubles	4th
Adam Hays Jeff Harrison	Level 3 Unified Doubles	Gold

**(NEW) JTCC Tennis Clinic Registration**

**Please share with your Athletes, Families, and Unified Teammates**

Did you know...our Special Olympics Tennis Clinics at JTCC are open to all SOMD athletes and Unified Doubles partners...even if they don't train in tennis during the regular season?

Join the fun, learn a great sport...or keep those tennis skills sharp in the 'off season'!  
 Clinics are held on Sundays from 4-5:30pm at the JTCC in College Park, MD

Register through the JTCC Site using the link below!

<https://jtcc.clubautomation.com/calendar/event-info?id=72463&style=0&isFrame=0>

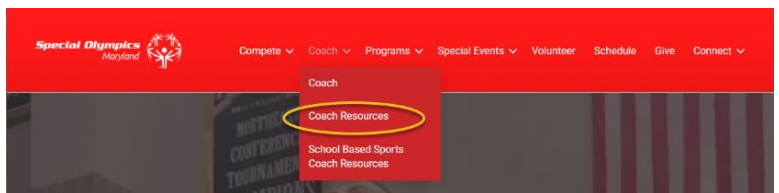
**Registration Due Dates Through End of 2023 Set**

Registration Deadlines for community sports through the end of 2023 have been set and are incorporated into the Sports Calendar included with this email. They are summarized below for your convenience as well. Please keep in mind that **these dates are when the information/certifications must be to SOMD HQ.** Coaches/coordinators must get this information to their Area Leaders 1 to 2 weeks prior to those dates so they may have time to get them to HQ.

Event	Competition Date(s)	Training Registration Deadline (in GMS)	Last Date To Submit Missing Forms	Competition Registration Deadline (in GMS)
Fall Sports Festival ( <i>cycling, distance running, flag football, powerlifting, tennis</i> )	10/22/2022	9/7/2022	9/16/2022	10/03/2022
Soccer Championships	10/30/2022	9/7/2022	9/16/2022	10/03/2022
Bowling (Regionals)	11/13/2022	9/30/2022	10/10/2022	10/24/2022
Bowling (Championships)	12/04/2022			11/23/2022
Winter Games ( <i>alpine skiing, snowshoeing</i> )	02/26-28/2023	01/03/2023	01/13/2023	02/06/2023
Basketball	03/25-26/2023 (TENTATIVE)	01/12/2023	01/23/2023	02/06/2023
Summer Games ( <i>athletics, bocce, cheerleading, softball, swimming</i> )	06/23-25/2023	04/21/2023	05/05/2023	06/01/2023
Kayaking	08/19/2023 (TENTATIVE)	07/06/2023	07/17/2023	08/02/2023
Golf	09/24/2023 (TENTATIVE)	08/11/2023	08/21/2023	09/01/2023
Fall Sports Festival ( <i>cycling, distance running, flag football, powerlifting, tennis</i> )	10/21/2023 (TENTATIVE)	08/29/2023	09/11/2023	10/03/2023
Soccer Championships	10/29/2023 (TENTATIVE)	08/29/2023	09/11/2023	10/03/2023
Bowling (Regionals)	11/12/2023 (TENTATIVE)	09/27/2023	10/09/2023	10/24/2023
Bowling (Championships)	12/03/2023 (TENTATIVE)			11/22/2023

**Coach Resource Page (CRP) – Where Is It??**

With the launch earlier this week of the temporary SOMD website, there have been some temporary changes to the Coach Resource Page. It is now accessible directly from the “Coaches” Menu.



In addition, we currently only have the sport-specific pages for the community sports of Kayaking thru Bowling on the temporary site as we anticipate the new SOMD website will be launched within the next four to six weeks. If that launch timeframe is adjusted, we will add the next season of community sports to the temporary site. (CRPs for all five IUS HS sports are on the CRP for School Based Sports.)

Please also note that we are still in the process of getting our team renewed access to make edits/updates to the CRPs so, for a short period, updates may be slightly delayed.

### **Summer Games Dates Set through 2025**

Thank you to all Area leaders who provided input as we considered the possible shift in dates of future SOMD Summer Games. Based on that input and several other factors, along with input gathered earlier in 2022 from additional stakeholders SOMD has made the decision to shift Summer Games to the weekend immediately following Fathers' Day for at least the next three years:

- June 23-25, 2023
- June 21-23, 2024
- June 20-22, 2025

This shift affords our athletes, programs and SOMD overall several advantages including

- More training time for the spring season (*and lessening of impact from inclement weather*)
- More competition opportunities with two additional weeks to spring season
- All five Summer Games sports can be contested on the same weekend (*softball won't need to be a week or two later*)
- Sports Gala can continue to be co-located with Summer Games
- Has Summer Games after schools should be out for the year

Thank you again to all for your support.

### **COVID-19 Protocol Update- Vaccination Requirements**

After feedback from many stakeholders, we are making the following changes to our COVID-19 protocol **through the Bowling State Finals (12/4/2022)**:

- At this time, there will be no sport-specific vaccination requirements for fall sports and activities that previously required full vaccination for participation in events and competitions with multiple area programs (flag football team, soccer team, volleyball, powerlifting, bowling).
- At this time, there will be no requirement for full vaccination for overnight housing provided by SOMD, including the local program.
- At this time, a negative COVID test is no longer required to return to activities after a positive COVID test. Individuals must follow CDC recommendations for isolation and masking found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

Some notes about these changes:

- 1) As noted, ***these changes are only in effect through the Bowling State Finals (12/4/2022)***. Protocol changes to future sports seasons, sports, and activities will be communicated at a later date.
- 2) We will continue to follow state/local/venue restrictions for all COVID-19 Protocol, so if there is a venue (for local or state activities) that requires proof of full vaccination for participants and/or spectators, we will follow their protocol.
- 3) As a reminder, local programs cannot require vaccinations in sports and activities in which SOMD does not require full vaccination for participation.
- 4) Protocol changes will also be communicated in tomorrow's Area Memo (sent by Jeff) and the upcoming Coach Memo (sent by Mike Czarnowsky)
- 5) As always, COVID-19 protocol is subject to change based on the current COVID-19 situation. Should we need to make further changes to protocol, those will be communicated directly.

We recognize that there are a variety of viewpoints around our protocol change, I want to reinforce how important it is that our Athletes, Unified Teammates, Coaches, Volunteers, and Families continue to make in the best interest of their own comfort and well-being. And while we are rolling back vaccination protocol for

our fall sports season, we continue to encourage individuals to talk with their doctor about receiving COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters.

**Many thanks to our COVID-19 Protocol Task Force-** Justin Hunsinger, Adam Hays, Jeff Hagen, Bob Signor, Pam Greenwood, Mike Czarnowsky, and Rhonda Garrison for their continued efforts in providing an informed, thorough, and practical COVID-19. And as always, THANK YOU, Area Leaders, Coaches, and volunteers for providing feedback as well as safe and meaningful sport experiences for our athletes and Unified Teammates!

**(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**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
Cycling	Tue, July 26	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/NKrMTB6SvJk">https://youtu.be/NKrMTB6SvJk</a>
Flag Football	Wed, July 27	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/flel3m6kuBk">https://youtu.be/flel3m6kuBk</a>
LDR	Mon, July 25	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/-D7NG8YwMkQ">https://youtu.be/-D7NG8YwMkQ</a>
Power-lifting	Mon, July 25	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/RIBxRZJcRAk">https://youtu.be/RIBxRZJcRAk</a>
Tennis	Wed, July 27	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/bXbA9HM6n_k">https://youtu.be/bXbA9HM6n_k</a>
Soccer	Wed, Aug 3	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/ugJNDWpyUZs">https://youtu.be/ugJNDWpyUZs</a>
Bowling	Thu, Aug 11	Recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/-VjjkYv4XJw">https://youtu.be/-VjjkYv4XJw</a>

**Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
Cycling	Tue, Oct 11 6:00-7:00 pm	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdiwbAqSwpw&amp;feature=youtu.be">www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdiwbAqSwpw&amp;feature=youtu.be</a>
Flag Football	Wed, Oct. 12 7:00-8:00 pm	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttPMJ1xBWcE">www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttPMJ1xBWcE</a>
LDR	Thu, Oct 6 6:30-7:30 pm	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-oaUgP7fYSc">www.youtube.com/watch?v=-oaUgP7fYSc</a>
Power-lifting	Thu, Oct 6 7:30-8:45 pm	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmBRLaY8WLk">www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmBRLaY8WLk</a>
Tennis	Wed, Oct. 12 6:00-7:00 pm	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZVh2FI9EQk">www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZVh2FI9EQk</a>
Soccer	Tue, Oct. 18 6:00-7:00 pm	<a href="https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkdOGvri0vGt1Zm1d6vMU6UTydvqFkvA4z">https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkdOGvri0vGt1Zm1d6vMU6UTydvqFkvA4z</a>
IUS Tennis	Wed, Oct 26 6:30-8:00 PM	<a href="https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMlcuusrD8pE9VYH5v5qBeSAYshaj3GXNOp">https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMlcuusrD8pE9VYH5v5qBeSAYshaj3GXNOp</a>
Bowling – Regionals	Wed, Nov 2 6:30-7:30 pm	<a href="https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZctcOCrQDsqHdBkGveMJM9DReZDDDqKGI3A">https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZctcOCrQDsqHdBkGveMJM9DReZDDDqKGI3A</a>
Bowling - Finals	Wed, Nov 30 6:30-7:30 pm	<a href="https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpd--qpzliEtecKwbJIGXR7Nt5jWHhKRts">https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpd--qpzliEtecKwbJIGXR7Nt5jWHhKRts</a>

### **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), 410.242.1515 x122

Basketball	Soccer
Cheerleading	Softball
Flag Football	Tennis

*Locally Popular Sports: Volleyball,  
Cross Country Skiing*

- **Ryan Kelchner, Sports Director**

- [rkelchner@somd.org](mailto:rkelchner@somd.org), 410-242-1515 x171

Athletics	Golf
Bocce	Powerlifting
Distance Running	Snowshoeing

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

- **TBD, Sports Director (interim contact: Steve Bennett)**

- [sbennett@somd.org](mailto:sbennett@somd.org), 410.242.1515 x102

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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 Program Development**

- [jabel@somd.org](mailto:jabel@somd.org), 410-242-1515 ex. 121
- Any general question, COVID Protocol

- **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

- **Megan Larson, Coordinator, Unified Champion Schools**
  - [mlarson@somd.org](mailto:mlarson@somd.org)
  - Unified Champion Schools, Youth leadership, and 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, Young Athletes Program Coordinator**
  - [abauman@somd.org](mailto:abauman@somd.org), 410-242-1515
  - Community Young Athletes Programs
- **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
- **Lindsey Maritzel, Volunteer Coordinator**
  - [LMaritzel@somd.org](mailto:LMaritzel@somd.org), 410-242-1515
  - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Mike Myers, Baltimore Region Director**
  - [mmyers@somd.org](mailto:mmyers@somd.org), 410-242-1515
  - Baltimore County and City
- **Kyler Mellott, Region Director- East**
  - [kmellott@somd.org](mailto:kmellott@somd.org), 410-242-1515
  - Harford, Cecil, Kent, Upper Shore, Lower Shore
- **Lily Bean, Region Director- West**
  - [lbean@somd.org](mailto:lbean@somd.org)
  - Carroll, Frederick, Washington Allegany, Garrett