

# Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

## January 13, 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 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...

Scott Geist, Trish Miles, Jeff LaManca and the PGCPs APE Team for their commitment to hosting Special Olympics Maryland's first MedFest!

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!

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

### **(NEW) Monthly Area Director Call- Reminder!**

Our first monthly Area Director call of 2023 is this Wednesday, 1/18/2023 at 6:30pm. Please use this link to register and join:

<https://somd.zoom.us/j/81789995337?pwd=TGxIZkJOY1BOcFRsZ1NRNUhDcDBoZz09>

### **(NEW) JTCC Tennis Clinics are back!**

#### **PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR ATHLETES!**

Registration for JTCC's Special Olympics tennis program for the winter and spring sessions is OPEN! Located in College Park, MD, the tennis center's mission is "Tennis for Everybody" and is proud to partner with Special Olympics MD to offer year-round tennis clinics. The clinics focus on building a strong athletic foundation while learning tennis stroke and strategy fundamentals through an engaging game-based format. Additionally, JTCC has a low coach-to-player ratio to ensure athletes are getting individualized, level-based instruction that they need to take their game to the next level, whether they are beginner Level 1, high-performance Level 6, or anywhere in between!

The clinics are held on Sundays from 4-5:30pm at JTCC (5200 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740). Winter Session runs January 29-April 2 and the Spring Session runs April 16-June 11. You do not need to attend all clinics within a session to participate and benefit from the program! To register for the program, visit <https://jtcc.clubautomation.com/calendar/event-info?id=72463&style=0&isFrame=0> and contact Gabby Hesse at [ghesse@jtcc.org](mailto:ghesse@jtcc.org) with any questions.

### **Plunge and Dunk Reminder**

Remember, there's still time to sign up your local program teams and recruit new teams! And we are committed to the 70/30 net revenue split with new teams recruited by local programs for any of the plunge properties!

Visit: [www.plungemd.com](http://www.plungemd.com) and [www.dunkmd.com](http://www.dunkmd.com) to register!

### **(NEW) Winter Games 2023 – Information/Input Web Meetings**

SOMD is very excited to have Winter Games return to Wisp Resort in Garrett County. Given the significant amount of change that this involves, we have scheduled several additional briefing and input sessions so we can work to get folks as much information as possible and provide an opportunity for suggestions far enough in advance of the Games that we may be able to implement them for 2023. Please see the list of sessions below and join us for the one(s) that match your role with Winter Games.

We are also very pleased that our relationship with Whitetail Resort continues and that we were able to hold a limited but valuable on-snow training date for Alpine skiers on January 7. We look forward to seeing skiers out on the snow again on February 11 and are hopeful that our snowshoers will be able to join them.

### **Information and Input Sessions**

These optional sessions will provide the latest information on what the Winter Games Management Team has planned related to Winter Games. Much of this information will NOT be complete or final, but will provide an idea of what to expect as well as offer the opportunity for coaches and Heads of Delegations to provide thoughts and suggestions at a time when there is a possibility of implementing the suggestions for this year's games.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
COACHES - Alpine	Thu, Jan 19 7:00-8:00 pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/join/9tZckcuisrzvE9Dxo3R-1IbcIKiyACwcSPPb">https://somd.zoom.us/join/9tZckcuisrzvE9Dxo3R-1IbcIKiyACwcSPPb</a>
COACHES - Snowshoeing	Thu, Jan 19 6:00-7:00 pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZlIdumvrz0vGNeqTuHvcaEmYNPDUtVSPktJ">https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZlIdumvrz0vGNeqTuHvcaEmYNPDUtVSPktJ</a>
Heads of Delegation (HODs ONLY)	Thu, Jan 26 6:00-7:00 pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZYvf-2tqzliGNJM9st3bG0U4dhf_U7CqTDA">https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZYvf-2tqzliGNJM9st3bG0U4dhf_U7CqTDA</a>

### **Pre-Competition COACHES Webinars**

These sessions are the "traditional" pre-season webinars for Coaches which will review the specifics of the sport competitions for Alpine and Snowshoeing as well as some basic information related to Winter Games.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
Alpine	Mon, Feb 20 6:00-7:00 pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZUldOCupzkgEtXvnzt8Zfah8pirrZiAZ4dx">https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZUldOCupzkgEtXvnzt8Zfah8pirrZiAZ4dx</a>
Snowshoeing	Thu, Feb 23 6:30-7:30 pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZMoceuoopljGdLh-WXsRFkRGpN6EH-sd37I">https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZMoceuoopljGdLh-WXsRFkRGpN6EH-sd37I</a>

### **Other Information / Briefing Sessions**

These sessions will be briefings for HODs and Athletes/Families for general aspects of Winter Games. This is an opportunity to learn the latest about Winter Games prior to your arrival.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
Heads of Delegations (HODs ONLY)	Thu, Feb 16 6:00-7:00 pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZ0qfu2vqzkrH9W4m3C4fJtlzEYbH64nnIIA">https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZ0qfu2vqzkrH9W4m3C4fJtlzEYbH64nnIIA</a>
Athletes and Families	Tue, Feb 21 6:00-7:00 pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZMocO-srzsvGtFYnBAnfZ7d3hhgEOPAJthL">https://somd.zoom.us/join/tZMocO-srzsvGtFYnBAnfZ7d3hhgEOPAJthL</a>

**(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>
Alpine	Wed, Nov 30	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEDme1liaeg">www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEDme1liaeg</a>
Snowshoeing	Wed, Nov 16	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhOK0vbwKxE">www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhOK0vbwKxE</a>
Basketball	Tue, Dec 6	Recording: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZSK6DkTYQI">www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZSK6DkTYQI</a>

**Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
Alpine	Mon, Feb 20 6:00-7:00pm	<a href="https://somed.zoom.us/join/registration/tZUldOCupzkgEtXvnzt8Zfah8pirrZiAZ4dx">https://somed.zoom.us/join/registration/tZUldOCupzkgEtXvnzt8Zfah8pirrZiAZ4dx</a>
Snowshoeing	Thu, Feb 23 6:30-7:30pm	<a href="https://somed.zoom.us/join/registration/tZMoceupiljGdLh-WXsRFkRGpN6EH-sd37I">https://somed.zoom.us/join/registration/tZMoceupiljGdLh-WXsRFkRGpN6EH-sd37I</a>
Basketball	Wed, Mar 15 6:00-7:00pm	<a href="https://somed.zoom.us/join/registration/tZMvdeCurT0uGt3BEiBXVP8qGTmqr--X8usF">https://somed.zoom.us/join/registration/tZMvdeCurT0uGt3BEiBXVP8qGTmqr--X8usF</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*

• **Elizabeth Kramer, Sports Director**

- [ekramer@somd.org](mailto: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](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
  
- **Allie Boyd, City Schools Coordinator**
  - [aboyd@somd.org](mailto:aboyd@somd.org), 410-242-1515
  - Baltimore City Schools APE Sports Program
  
- **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), 410-242-1515
  - Carroll, Frederick, Washington Allegany, Garrett