

# Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

## 06/30/ 2023

**Special  
Olympics  
Maryland**



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### Welcome

And just like that, Summer Games is over! We hope that you enjoyed an exciting week, kicking off with Brave in the Attempt Talks and all the way through the Torch Gala, Opening Ceremonies, great competition, impactful health screenings, and one heck of a dance! I think this year's Summer Games was really \*out of this world\*...and that's not just because of the space theme! Thank you to our Area Program volunteers, coaches, family members, athletes, and unified teammates who join us for this fun event bringing our spring sports season to a close.

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 Summer Games HODs: THANK YOU for all you did for your athletes and delegations at Summer Games!

Our Summer Games Management Team: Thank you to this very dedicated group of volunteers who come out year after year (after year...after year...after year...) to create a high-quality competition and fun event for our athletes and Unified Teammates!

Our Healthy Athletes Clinical Directors who provided over 600 health screenings in 7 disciplines at Healthy Athletes this year! Wow!

Our Law Enforcement Partners who were on site throughout the Summer Games weekend encouraging athletes and presenting at awards venues!

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!

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

**(NEW) Unified Bocce Summer Events**

Please share with your athletes and families

Throughout the summer, Special Olympics Maryland will be teaming up with Community Partners to host Unified Bocce events! These fun events are a great way for our partners to get hands-on experience with our many programs. Special Olympics Maryland is looking for athletes to play Unified Bocce---athletes do not have to have played bocce during the typical bocce season to join us!

Opportunity #1: Aston Carter Unified Bocce- July 19, 2023 from 5:00pm-6:00pm  
7317 Parkway Drive S., Hanover, MD 21075

Opportunity #2: Maryland Leadership Workshop Unified Bocce- July 21, 2023 from 2:00-4:30pm  
Washington College- 300 Washington Ave, Chestertown, MD 21620

Please use the link below to sign up for one or both of these fun events:

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/c7df495d01bb47f7ac718f18b5a0b554?r=use1>

**(NEW) 2023 Athlete Leadership Training Weekend.**

**July 15th and 16th, 2023**

**Registration is LIVE!**

Session 1 classes are for athlete leaders who wish to become Certified Athlete Leaders.

**Saturday, July 15th, 2023**

9:00am Understanding Emotions

10:30am Engaging with Others

1:30pm Managing Time

**Sunday, July 16th, 2023**

9am Leading Discussions

11am Unified Leadership

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Session 2 is for athletes who are interested in storytelling, improv, and becoming more confident in their personal presentations.

**Saturday, July 15th, 2023**

9am-12:30pm Improv/Acting to become a better leader (Emma Shipley)

1:30pm-3pm Storytelling tactics - (Mandy Murphy)

3:30pm-5pm How to write a joke or a funny story (Justin Schlegel)

**Sunday, July 16th, 2023**

10am-1pm Media interviews practice (Kira Northrop)

2pm-4pm How to Tell Your Story (Alexandra Hewett)

Sign up here

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ALPS\\_July\\_2023](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ALPS_July_2023)

Trainings will take place at the SOMD Office, 3701 Commerce Drive, Suite 103, Halethorpe (Baltimore), MD 21227

### ***(NEW) Summer Games – Follow-up***

Thank you to everyone for making one of the more challenging (thank you, Mother Nature) recent Summer Games a success. A couple quick follow-ups:

**Results:** Results for all competitions have been posted to the respective Sport-specific CRPs (Coach Resource Pages). These can all be linked to through the main SOMD CRP (<https://www.somd.org/coach-resources/>) or the Summer Games CRP (<https://www.somd.org/coach-resources/summer-games-coach-resources/>).

**Games Evaluation:** All delegation members (with a valid email address in GMS) were sent an invitation to complete the Games Evaluation and we're pleased to have more than 250 responses so far. A couple more reminders will go out prior to the closing of the survey on July 20, but we would greatly appreciate you encouraging members of your Area's delegation to take the time to complete the survey (it typically takes 3 minutes or less to complete). And we do, absolutely, read every response. Survey link is

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SG23\\_Eval](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SG23_Eval)

### ***Area Leader Quick Guide***

Attached to this memo is the most up-to-date version of the Area Leader Quick Guide. With the number of new staff members on our team, we wanted to make sure this got updated and distributed. While not comprehensive, this list is organized by content/question/area of concern and will help you identify the best SOMD staff member to contact.

For ease, we will include this attachment on the area memo moving forward and will highlight if/when updates are made.

### ***Reminder: July Area Director***

Reminder for upcoming Area Director Meetings and calls:

Summer Area Director Webinar and VIRTUAL Meeting: As a reminder, we are moving the dates to July 17 (Webinar) and July 22 (Virtual Meeting) to accommodate the summer SONA Unified Champion Schools meeting! Thank you for your flexibility.

Please use the links below to register:

Webinar: <https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqf-Chpz4pGdNMnwFFNFU85nH-eFyf6PsL>

Virtual Meeting: <https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqd-yvqzgtH9dbQvr30VCN7tZgzoS8Li16>

### ***SOMD AmeriCorps Positions***

For the past 7 years, Special Olympics Maryland has partnered with Frostburg State's ASTAR AmeriCorps program to host AmeriCorps members for a year of meaningful service to our athletes and programs! AmeriCorps Members serve with Special Olympics Maryland from August 15, 2023-August 14, 2024 and receive:

- A bi-weekly stipend
- End of service Segal Education Award (can be used for existing Student Loans, and/or future education expenses)
- Interest-free student loan forbearance during term of service
- Health Insurance and Childcare reimbursement are available

We are currently working to fill the positions of:

- AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator
- AmeriCorps Interscholastic Unified Sports Coordinator
- AmeriCorps Unified Champion Schools Coordinator

If you know of anyone who may be interested in serving as an AmeriCorps member for Special Olympics Maryland, please have them email Jeff ([Jabel@somd.org](mailto:Jabel@somd.org)) for more information and next steps on how to apply.

**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)

**(UPDATED) Finance Corner**

This is a reminder everyone that Special Olympics Maryland has several Corporate Tax Exempt accounts set up with equipment vendors – REI, Amazon Business, etc. Please order through our corporate accounts. You must place your orders by phone and ask for the Special Olympics Maryland account. Communicate the shipping address for your location for your order. If you place an order online, we will be charged sales tax, which for some items can get expensive and is an unnecessary cost. If there is an equipment vendor that you use that is not set up yet with a tax exempt corporate account, please reach out to Joanne so that we can establish an account.

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)*

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
Kayaking	Wed, 05/24	Recording: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0nkj5W7_LQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0nkj5W7_LQ</a>
Golf	Wed, 07/19 6:30-7:30pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocyqtjliH9GxAHra58zGQCOBnAXdlh7w">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocyqtjliH9GxAHra58zGQCOBnAXdlh7w</a>

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

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Registration / Recording Link</b>
Kayaking - Trials	Tue, 08/08 6:00-7:00pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkdOyrpz8iEtTEIEgo-F1Lyo0owhXQRVpF">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkdOyrpz8iEtTEIEgo-F1Lyo0owhXQRVpF</a>
Kayaking - Finals	Tue, 08/15 6:00-7:00pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpfuyqqTsuHNf---LIU7odG1IDjsG9NsNz">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpfuyqqTsuHNf---LIU7odG1IDjsG9NsNz</a>
Golf	Tue, 09/19 6:30-7:30pm	<a href="https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqcumhpszpEtDmWdRycUfWPvKnxLBLEFxc">https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqcumhpszpEtDmWdRycUfWPvKnxLBLEFxc</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, Pickleball*

- **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
- **Jake Novick, Manager, Unified Recreation**
  - [jnovick@somd.org](mailto:jnovick@somd.org)
  - College Unified Champion Schools Programs, Unified Intramurals, Community Unified Rec Options
- **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, Sr. Director, Area Programs**
  - [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