

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

07/14/2023

**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 shot outs go to...

Joyce Powell:

Doing an amazing job this year in her role as communication director, supporting the recruitment of new athletes and volunteers to coordinating SOBA's Summer Games efforts and serving as HOD!

From: Mike Myers

Upper Shore Coaches:

Shoutout to all of the Upper Shore coaches and volunteers on a great season for bocce and swimming! Bocce made its return to Summer Games this year, and swimming added new athletes and Unified teammates to the mix. Even through the learning curves and challenges, the Upper Shore teams had great training experiences, ending with competition at Towson. Thank you all for your hard work all season!

Pam Grosz

The Lower Shore made a big return to Summer Games this year! This couldn't have been possible without the work of head softball coach, Pam Grosz. Pam was determined to get softball back to Towson this year. Pam recruited athletes and Unified teammates and trained the team all season in preparation for this past weekend. Thank you, Pam, for all your efforts in making this possible!

Jack Brosius

Shoutout to Jack Brosius on having four Kent County swimmers ready for Summer Games this past weekend! Although mother nature didn't quite cooperate and Kent wasn't able to attend, Jack still provided these

swimmers with quality training throughout the season. Thank you, Jack, for all your work with the swim program this year!

Chris King and Mike Malinoski

Thank you to Chris and Mike for bringing Cecil County back to Summer Games! The Cecil bocce program trained all season and sent a 4-person team and doubles team to Towson this past weekend. Thanks for all your work in making this possible!

Harford County Coaches

A big shoutout to all the coaches in Harford County for Athletics, Bocce, Softball, and Swimming. The work you all put in to allow athletes to compete in FOUR different sports at Summer Games does not go unnoticed. Congratulations on a tremendous season. Thank you all!

Marva Davis

Over 50 years of involvement in Special Olympics Washington Co, most of it as Area Director.

Please use the link below to submit your shout outs!

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

(NEW) Welcome to the (different) team, Kelven Spriggs

We are excited to announce that we have filled the Director, Metro Region position!

Please join me in congratulating SOMD staff member Kelven Spriggs, who will be moving from his current role as Manager, Partnership Sales to this new opportunity on the Local Program Development team. We are appreciative of the work Kelven has done as a member of the Development team and look forward to his continued success in this new role.

As the Director, Metro Region Kelven will provide leadership and support to key leaders in Baltimore City and Prince George's County focused on achieving the mission, vision, and strategic direction of the organization. Key responsibilities include working with the local program team of leadership volunteers to recruit and retain more athletes and deliver more frequent, high quality competition opportunities throughout Baltimore City and Prince George's County. Kelven will also engage key stakeholders to grow awareness and raise more revenue to support the local programs.

This change is effective as of Monday, July 17th. Kelven will now report to Mike Myers, Senior Director, Local Program Development. His contact information will remain the same-kspriggs@somd.org

(NEW) Thank you, Marva Davis

On June 28, SOMD- Washington County celebrated Marva Davis, who is stepping down from her role as Area Director for SOMD-WA after more than 50 years supporting our athletes and leading our programs! Marva has been a constant presence and support for our programs in Washington County and across the state, and has been a strong advocate for athlete-centered programming at all levels of our organization.

Below are 2 pictures from the celebration. The first is Marva and her original SOMD-WA Management Team (who she bribed with dinner to get them involved 53 years ago), and the 2nd is one of her gifts from the program- a quilt made up of some of the SOMD t-shirts from over the years! Please join me in thanking Marva for her many years of service to our athletes and being such an important part of our history!



(NEW) CSOA and PoC Coaching Courses Offered Live and In-Person at SOMD HQ

We're very pleased to announce the return of Coaching Special Olympics Athletes (CSOA) and Principles of Coaching (PoC). These courses, offered free of charge, will serve to renew any existing Coach Sport Certification for 3 years.

Also, as you no doubt know, CSOA is a required course for ALL coaches (no coach will earn a sport certification or have an existing certification renewed/extended unless they have completed CSOA once; only exception is for coaches who work exclusively with Unified sports, in which case they must complete the online Coaching Unified Sports (CUS) course).

We must have a minimum of 7 registrants signed up at least 2 days in advance of each course due to the heavily "discussion-focused" nature of these courses. There will be a cap of 25 registrants per session.

Registration is required at least 2 business days in advance of the course so we can be sure we have a sufficient number to hold each class and to have an adequate number of packets and refreshments available.

Coaching Special Olympics Athletes (CSOA)

Sunday, August 27, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Saturday, September 30, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Each session noted above is the complete CSOA course – you should not sign up for both.

Principles of Coaching (PoC)

Sunday, September 10, 9:00am – 2:00pm

Session will include a working lunch (lite lunch provided)

PoC requires previous competition of CSOA as well as a minimum of 2 years Special Olympics coaching experience

To register for any of these sessions, please complete the following online registration survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSOA_PoC_Reg_2023

(NEW) Tennis Growth Grant Available

Thanks to our friends at the [WTA](#) and TennisWarehouse, funds are available to programs interested to starting a new tennis program or expanding their existing program. Funds can be used to purchase equipment (racquets, balls, ball hoppers, and other teaching equipment) to help make your program successful.

If you are interested in adding/growing a tennis program and need equipment, please reach out to Jeff!

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!

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>

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

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

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

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

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) 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

BUDGET 2024 – The schedule for completing the 2024 budget has been set. This schedule will be shared during the AD Webinar and has been emailed to everyone. In order to make sure that the budget packet is ready for the Board in December, please keep to the schedule.

The Finance Team found a suitable budgeting software that works with Sage Intacct called MARTUS. The finance team, a subset of senior staff members and a subset of Area Directors vetted the program. It is easy to use, integrates with Sage Intacct, and will eliminate the need for Excel worksheets that upload. The kickoff will be July 25th. We anticipate training sessions to be held the week of Aug 21st for all users. The training schedule has not been set yet.

MARTUS software will provide actual expense data from FY2023 in a trailing 12-month format for reference as you build out your 2024 budgets. Budgets will still require the January through December budget spread. And please don't forget about In-Kind.

Budgets are due on or before September 15th. If you need any assistance, please reach out to the finance team.

BANKING – SOMD instituted sweeps with our bank accounts. Our funds are 'swept' out of checking overnight into Money Market vehicles that earn interest – currently 3.85%. This reduces our risk under FDIC rules and provides additional interest on our accounts. To accommodate the accounting for the sweeps, there is a new account in the Cash & Cash Equivalents section of your balance sheet.

Remember to continue to monitor your cash balances between checking, savings, and the investment portfolio. The end of a quarter is a great time to assess your positions. Currently, savings is yielding 4.65% interest.

CORP. CREDIT CARDS – just a quick reminder, as we have some new card holders. Please remember to complete your credit card transaction coding and receipting in the Truist ESP portal by the 3rd business day after the close of the month. Coded transactions need to be approved by the 6th business day. Thank you for continuing to support this process.

Joanne & Kim will be on vacation July 16th through July 22nd. Reach out to Darlene during this time if you have any questions.

(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
Kayaking	Wed, 05/24	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0nkj5W7_LQ
Golf	Wed, 07/19 6:30-7:30pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocuytqjliH9GxAHra58zGQCOBnAXdlh7w
Cycling	Tue, 08/01 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtcu6vrz4rH9MBlrGT-2i9APMM16Af2wls
Dist. Run.	Mon, 08/14 7:00-8:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0lf-yvqz0pHN1X2MbQeMumxnG4P29b4VfR
Flag Football	Wed, 08/09 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdeqtqTwiHNwb7r6adFK4cGajGsS-1stV
Powerlifting	Mon, 08/14 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pf-2gqTotG9YF9J7C-HPSjYyIZBWl2uz0
Soccer	Thu, 08/17 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvc-mrqjouHdTkmYMFLD9Cgfnlktw8QTKP
Tennis	Wed, 08/09 7:00-8:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcodOyrrj4tGdXWYg8TMI49kIQEXgWGifHb
Bowling	Thu, 09/07 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAvcuGuqjwrHdZh88vtahIBDc1lqM39ljum

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

Sport	Date/Time	Registration / Recording Link
Kayaking - Trials	Tue, 08/08 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkdOyrrp8iEtTEIEgo-F1Lyo0owhXQRVpF
Kayaking - Finals	Tue, 08/15 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlPfyqqTsuHNF---LIU7odG1IDjsG9NsNz
Golf	Tue, 09/19 6:30-7:30pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEcumhpzwpEtDmWdRycUfWPvKnXLBLFXuc
Cycling	Thu, 10/12 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqdOurrDMtGdNlJ8zNzWMnXllzaNx9WG9e
Dist. Run.	Wed, 10/11 7:00-8:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrdOggqT8uHdaMdlvPHhZnUkocHHvb67Bp
Flag Football	Tue, 10/10 7:00-8:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ufu2qqTMtHtcYEEic1cJdOs7Pt4KgayZP
Powerlifting	Wed, 10/11 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcocuupqTsrE9VznaCqZSf5aX4Dudy4tWjg
Soccer	Tue, 10/24 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpf-yrqDMuGNbir12T_JkMboM2egRy-UHu
Tennis	Tue, 10/10 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkuivqjrsHNH8xOq58FL_dXTYQdIT3Jw3
Bowling - Regionals	Thu, 11/02 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZctf-GvqDoiGdTPAe6MQhPdfyWlLwbGrAyr
Bowling - Finals	Tue, 11/28 6:00-7:00pm	https://somed.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAsdeytrispHtBoFx18GPTcbB5OPlYqTlCn

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*

- **Ryan Kelchner, Sports Director**

- 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, 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 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, 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, 410-242-1515 ex. 121
- Any general question, COVID Protocol

- **Melissa Kelly, Senior Director, Unified® Champion schools**

- mkelly@somd.org, 410-979-5839
- Unified® Champion Schools, Youth Leadership, and School Engagement

- **Megan Larson, Coordinator, Unified® Champion Schools**
 - mlarson@somd.org
 - Unified® Champion Schools, Youth leadership, and School Engagement
- **Jake Novick, Manager, Unified Recreation**
 - jnovick@somd.org
 - 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, Young Athletes Program Coordinator**
 - abauman@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Community Young Athletes Programs
- **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
- **Lindsey Maritzel, Volunteer Coordinator**
 - LMaritzel@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Mike Myers, Sr. Director, Area Programs**
 - mmyers@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore County and City
- **Kelven Spriggs, Region Director- Metro Programs**
 - KSpriggs@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore City, Prince George's County
- **Allie Boyd, City Schools Coordinator**
 - aboyd@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore City Schools APE Sports Program
- **Kyler Mellott, Region Director- East**
 - kmellott@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Harford, Cecil, Kent, Upper Shore, Lower Shore
- **Lily Bean, Region Director- West**
 - lbean@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Carroll, Frederick, Washington Allegany, Garrett