

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo

October 30, 2020



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Welcome

Welcome to the SOMD Area Memo!

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.

(UPDATED) *Sports Updates From AD COVID Web Mtgs – Alpine, Snowshoeing, Basketball & Summer Games*

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us at the October 21, 2020, AD COVID mtg where we further discussed possible scenarios for Winter Sports/Winter Games, Basketball & Summer Games. As was the case with the discussion on October 7, we truly appreciate how thoughtful and broadmindedly folks addressed the following issues:

- *Winter Sports/Winter Games: Revisit the possibility of a one-day Winter Games – is this truly a realistic option or should we focus exclusively on training opportunities this season (including gate runner, training on courses)?*
- *Basketball: Is it realistic to keep the possibility of a “traditional” state basketball tournament as an option?*
- *Summer Games: Is it realistic to keep any “overnight stay” as a component of Summer Games or instead look at some version/model of a one-day Summer Games?*

Following the discussion that evening, we determined that we needed to gather input from a few additional stakeholders before making a final determination on these issues. Following the completion of that work, we will share the final decision (sometime within the next couple weeks).

(NEW) Athlete Trading Cards- Last Call!

LAST ROUND OF TRADING CARDS ORDER IN 2020 GOING IN NOVEMBER 13TH, 2020

Due to popular demand we are submitting a second order for the 50th Anniversary Trading Cards for those athletes who did not get in on the first round.

Athletes need not have attended a training but you should have shown leadership skills and traits within your county. Maybe accepting a check, being a captain on a team, fundraising, emcee at an event, team manager, etc.

Athletes will receive 100 cards in the pack.

Deadline is November 13th, 2020 by 5pm.
This is the last order for 2020.

Email Jason Schriml (jschriml@somd.org) to order.

The information we need is...

- **Name** (Name as you want it on the card)
- **Years Participated**
- **Area/County**
- **Sports (Pick up to 5 only)** –if you pick more than 5, Jason will choose which five go on your card)
- **Quote** (If no quote is chosen you will get the Athletes Oath on your card for a quote)
- **HI RESOLUTION PHOTO of you in action in one of your sports.**

Deadline is November 13th , 2020 by 5pm.

Please also include your mailing address where you want the cards to be mailed to.

November Area Director Webinar and WebConference

We are just about 2 weeks away from our last AD Webinar and Meeting of 2020! Please use the links below to register. The current plan for the meeting will be to run 2 sessions with an hour break in between... 9-12 and 1-3. We may modify those times (shorten the meeting) based on content.

Webinar	11/9/20	7pm-9pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/vpQsc-mvqD8tF8w2XpVmpFD7UXdUTgVAFQ
Web Conference	11/14/20	9am-12pm 1pm-3pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqcOqtqD4tH9crRWnAlonK7onaP24oykEP

(UPDATED) Friendly reminders on Screening Logs and Acknowledgement of Risk Forms

As covered in the protocol for returning to activity:

Screening Logs – Must be submitted within one week of the activity

Acknowledgement of Risk Forms Must be submitted within one week of first session (AOR forms for folks subsequently joining, within one week of their first session)

Both forms are submitted into the folders in the Area's folder on the SOMD network. Please refer to the attached document (included in several previous Area Memos) for more direction.

As fall seasons wind down, it is a good opportunity to check in with your coaches and sport coordinators to ensure all paperwork has been submitted.

Phase Movement Tracking Document

As was discussed on last week's AD Covid Call, protocol has been laid out for programs to progress (or regress) in phases!

The requirements for programs to move into Phase 2 include:

- 2 weeks in Phase 1
- 7 consecutive days at a 'yellow' or 'green' risk level defined by the Harvard multi-metric covid risk map.
- Site Assessment done by SOMD Staff member

Jeff will be tracking risk levels daily--- and you can keep track of your program by visiting:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1s4Y3v_-yH6WBXcM1AsI7YR4_eJgxrwmITLhTufGM_vU/edit?usp=sharing

Remember, coaches and Area Leaders should work together to determine when they feel comfortable moving into a less-restrictive phase. Additionally, programs MUST continue to operate in their current phase until they receive written approval to progress from Jeff.

Return to Activities Website

Please use the site below as a resource for your Athletes, Coaches, Volunteers, and Families! SOMD's Return to Activities Website is filled with resources to help our state successfully and safely get our athletes back on the field!

<https://virtualso.md.com/return-to-play/>

(UPDATED) COVID-19 Area Directors Call

Our Bi-Weekly Call will **NOT** take place this week (11/4) due to the upcoming AD Webinar and Meeting. Any necessary content will be covered the following Monday (11/9) on our Webinar.

(UPDATED) Coaches Training –CSOA and PoC Sessions

Coaching Special Olympics Athletes (CSOA) -- SOMD is pleased to offer in-person training sessions for Coaching Special Olympics Athletes, a requirement for all Coaches. (*Due to the conversational and interactive nature of this course, we must have a minimum of 7 registrants at least 3 business days prior to the course in order for it to be held.*)

Sunday, November 15, 2020, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In-person Training session at SOMD HQ (limit of 20 participants) (*Note: We will make a determination no later than November 2, 2020, whether this session will be held as an "in-person" or "virtual" course.*)

To register for either of these sessions, [please click here](#).

Principles of Coaching (PoC) - SOMD is pleased to host additional sessions of the Principles of Coaching course, necessary for all coaches wishing to take teams/athletes or serve as a coach to any competition above the state level (including USA Games, World Games, NITs, NIRSA events, etc.). This free course is intended for coaches with a *minimum of two years coaching experience* and, along with appropriate sport-specific training, serves

to certify a coach as an Advanced coach. (Due to the conversational and interactive nature of this course, and the need to send "hard copy" course materials to participants in advance of the session, we must have a **minimum of 7 registrants at least 5 business days prior** to a virtual PoC course in order for it to be held.)

Saturday, December 5, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Virtual Training session (limit of 20 participants)
To register for these session, [please click here](#).

Important Note On All Virtual Training Sessions: Given the interactive nature of these courses, if a course gets changed to a virtual training session, participants **MUST** be able to join the Zoom meeting with a webcam, speaker and microphone so we can see and hear everyone during the course. Please also check in advance of the session that Zoom works properly for your computer (with webcam, microphone and speaker) as we will have limited opportunity to provide tech assistance during the session itself. (Zoom’s online help has been fairly solid.)

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 –

Sport	Date/Time	Registration / Recording Link
Cycling	Thu 7/16	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zIzhW6QSor0&feature=youtu.be
Distance Running	Tue 7/21	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYmt15dO2mA&feature=youtu.be
Flag Football	Thu 7/23	Recording: https://youtu.be/ifjxgZZN0b4
Golf	Tue 7/14	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gV0U7sv4utk&feature=youtu.be
Power-lifting	Wed 7/22	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQiUYKvLbAk&feature=youtu.be
Tennis	Mon 7/20	Recording link is forthcoming and will be posted on the SOMD Coach Resource Page: https://www.somd.org/coach/coach-resources/
Soccer	Tue 7/28	Recording: https://youtu.be/Fvcla3Axa8A
Bowling	Tue 10/06	Recording: www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YQ6ZlKpZr8&feature=youtu.be

Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars

Due to the decision to cancel all community state-level championships through the end of 2020, there is no need to conduct the previously scheduled “pre-competition” webinars, so they have been cancelled.

Note: As SOMD and Areas determine specifics for co-hosted competition opportunities in Fall 2020, webinars/web meetings will likely be scheduled prior to those competitions to review what to expect (given the newness of the application of the R2A protocols).

Community Sports Registration Deadlines For Most of 2020

Given the cancellation of state-level community championships through the end of 2020, our “traditional” schedule structure for deadlines is not be applicable That said all participants still **MUST** be registered and have their valid and up-to-date forms/certifications submitted to SOMD HQ in a timely manner.

Regardless of deadlines noted below, forms/certifications must be up-to-date at HQ prior to any competition and valid through the date of that competition.

Sport	When	What Is Due
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Golf*	09/01/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roster entered into GMS of all athletes, Unified® partners, coaches and volunteers participating in your program. Every athlete must have a complete medical form <u>valid through October 31, 2020</u> on file at SOMD HQ*. Every coach/partner/volunteer must have a complete volunteer application and updated Protective Behaviors Certification valid thru <u>October 31, 2020</u> on file at SOMD HQ*. <u>All Coaches & Sports Vols</u> must have Special Olympics Concussion Certification. <u>All Coaches</u>: must have the sport-specific certification for their sport completed and submitted to SOMD HQ along with CSOA.
Cycling Distance Running Flag Football Powerlifting Soccer Tennis	10/01/2020	
Bowling*	11/01/2020	

*Golf forms/certifications must be valid thru Sept 30, 2020

*Bowling forms/certifications must be valid thru Dec 31, 2020

Sports Directors – Assigned Sports

If you have questions regarding a specific sport, coach education, or competition, please work with the corresponding Sport Director.

- **Melissa Anger, Sports Director**
 - manger@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x122
 - Basketball
 - Cheerleading
 - Flag Football
 - Soccer
 - Softball
 - Tennis
 - Locally Popular Sports: Cross Country Skiing, Duckpin Bowling
- **Zach Cintron, Sports Director**
 - zcintron@somd.org, 410.242.1515 x161
 - Bowling (10 pin)
 - Cycling
 - Kayaking
 - Snowshoeing
 - Swimming
 - Locally Popular Sports: Figure Skating, Sailing, Short Track Speed Skating, Volleyball
- **Ryan Kelchner, Sports Director**
 - rkelchner@somd.org, 410-242-1515 x171
 - Alpine Skiing
 - Athletics
 - Bocce
 - Distance Running
 - Golf
 - Powerlifting
 - Locally Popular Sports: Dance, Equestrian Sports, Floor Hockey

Questions?

If You Have Any Questions on Any Other Non-Sports-Related Issues, please contact a member of the Local Program Team

- **Jeff Abel, Vice President. Local Program Development**
 - jabel@somd.org, 410-242-1515 ex. 121

- Any general question
- **Melissa Kelly, Sr. Director, Unified Champion schools**
 - mkelly@somd.org, 410-979-5839
 - School engagement & partnerships
- **Mackenzie Irvin, Young Athletes Program Director**
 - mirvin@somd.org, 857-939-4867
 - Young Athletes Program, Elementary School programming
- **Veronica Smaldone, Unified Champion Schools Coordinator (Western MD)**
 - vsmaldone@somd.org
 - Inclusive Youth Leadership & Whole School Engagement
- **Emma Bush, Unified Champion Schools Coordinator (Eastern Shore)**
 - ebush@somd.org
 - Inclusive Youth Leadership & Whole School Engagement
- **Sam Boyd, Volunteer Director**
 - sboyd@somd.org, 443-766-9245
 - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Ben Varga, Healthy Communities Manager**
 - bvarga@somd.org
 - Healthy Athletes, Fitness Programs
- **Pat Cullinan, Northern Chesapeake Region Director**
 - pcullinan@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Harford, Cecil, and Kent Counties
- **Mike Myers, Baltimore Region Director**
 - mmyers@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore County and City
- **Tyler Martin, Western Region Coordinator**
 - tmartin@somd.org, 717-321-3642
 - Frederick, Washington, Allegany, Garrett Counties