

Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo **June 18, 2021**

**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.

And to our SOMD Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles, Brothers, and Father-figures----- Happy Father's Day! I hope you have an enjoyable weekend with family and friends!

(NEW) Return to Play Protocol Updates

On Wednesday's Area Leader Call, we shared that based on improved COVID tracking throughout the state, SOMD is now **operating in PHASE 3!** Please see the attached slide deck to learn about the exciting changes which get us back to a more typical environment at practices and competitions.

While this is exciting, we understand that our participants may have varying degrees of comfort with the loosening of restrictions. Some may continue to wear masks and some may prefer to avoid direct contact, but we will work to ensure that individuals can make their own decisions of health and safety without concern of judgement or questioning.

Summer Tennis Opportunities with JTCC

The JTCC in College Park, MD is hosting 2 free summer clinic series for SOMD Athletes and Partners. Each session will be a mix of stroke development and match play. On court instruction will be facilitated by certified USPTA and PTR Professionals from JTCC and SOMD.

All sessions will take place on Saturdays from 10am-12pm at the JTCC (5200 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740)

Session 1: 6/26, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31

Session 2: 8/7, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28, 9/4

Participants will be grouped by skill-level to maximize instruction and competition. Pre registration is REQUIRED and participants must commit to all dates in your session. SPACE IS LIMITED!

Register here- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021JTCC>

Registration Request

We have a whole new roster of people working with Area Directors to send certifications to HQ. This is a very good thing! When you email the Registration Manager, please include your Area in your signature. This would be especially helpful when you email certifications to her or are following up on matters. Whether you're emailing her directly at drush@somd.org or emailing coaches@somd.org, if you can remember to include your Area, that would make our process here at HQ more efficient. Thank you for your kind attention to this request.

SOMD is HIRING- AmeriCorps and IUS

Special Olympics Maryland is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

- AmeriCorps Young Athletes Coordinator
- AmeriCorps Unified Champion Schools Coordinator (2 positions)
- AmeriCorps Western MD Region Coordinator
- AmeriCorps Metro Programs Coordinator

For more information, please visit: <https://www.somd.org/connect/employment-opportunities/>

(NEW) Summer Games – Updates and Reminders

Thank you to everyone who was able to join for the FIRST part of the 2021 Summer Games this past weekend. It was incredible to see our athletes competing for the first time in 15 months. Thank you for your support and for doing everything you could to have our athletes back and training under such challenging circumstances. We are certainly looking forward to having our athletes training and competing under more "typical" circumstances in coming months. Results for the Summer Games competitions are available on the Coach Resource Page (<https://www.somd.org/coach/coach-resources/summer-games/>).

As always we have a brief evaluation survey for Summer Games participants and attendees. We review every response and while we may not be able to act on every written suggestion, the Games Management Team and SOMD Staff does review and consider all input received. If you were at the 2021 Summer Games and haven't yet responded to the evaluation, please take a couple minutes and do so (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021SGEval>).

Swimming: The SECOND part of the 2021 Summer Games is coming up on Saturday, June 26 when our athletes training in swimming compete at Great Mills Swimming Pool in Saint Mary's County. Join us for a

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
Swimming	Saturday June 26	Great Mills Swimming Pool

morning of exciting and enthusiastic competition in beautiful Southern Maryland. Additional details are available on the Summer Games section of the Coach Resource Page (<https://www.somd.org/coach/coach-resources/summer-games/>).

We also have the Family/Athlete webinar for the Summer Games Swimming competition coming up on June 22 (registration info below).

Sport	Date/ Time	Family/Athlete Pre-Summer Games Webinar - Registration Link
Swimming	Tue 6/22 6:30-7:30 PM	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUrcuqppjkrE9Wlj63VOy5tHINXetHXp4Kl

(UPDATED) Coaches Training – CSOA and PoC Sessions

Coaching Special Olympics Athletes (CSOA) -- SOMD is pleased to offer virtual 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.*)

Saturday, July 10, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Virtual Session (15 seats remaining)

To register for this session, [please click here](#).

Principles of Coaching (PoC) - SOMD is pleased to host additional sessions of the Principles of Coaching course, a required course 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.*)

Sunday, July 11, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Virtual Session (20 seats available)

To register for this 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. (Zoom's online help has been good.)*

(NEW) Community Sports Registration Deadlines Set Through End of 2021

With a somewhat better picture of what the remainder of 2021 will likely look like, we have set the registration deadlines for community sports through the end of year and have been set and are incorporated into the Sports Calendar included with this email. They are summarized below for your convenience as well.

Event/Sports	State Championship	Training Registration	Outstanding Forms	Competition Registration
Kayaking	8/14/2021	7/7/2021	7/14/2021	7/27/2021
Golf	9/26/2021	8/12/2021	8/19/2021	9/2/2021
Fall Sports Festival (CY, TN, PL, FF, LDR)	10/16/2021 (Tentative)	8/30/2021	9/8/2021	10/1/2021
Soccer	10/31/2021	8/30/2021	9/8/2021	10/1/2021
Bowling – Regionals	11/7/2021	9/23/2021	10/1/2021	10/18/2021
Bowling - Championships	12/5/2021			11/19/2021
Winter Games	2/27/22 -- 03/01/22	1/7/2022	1/14/2022	2/15/2022

(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

Sport	Date/ Time	Registration / Recording Link
Swimming	Wed 3/03	Recording: https://youtu.be/BJH7_H210lo
Kayaking	Thu 4/29	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHdVc0gOgEE
Golf	Thu 6/17	Recording:
Cycling	Tue 7/20 6:30-8:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwlc--srDkvG920K713v4vP52RPxLw4wlt3
Distance Running	Tue 7/27 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwof-ihqjspEtwziFSYRWc00R5KaWgpuEAu
Flag Football	Wed 7/21 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0lde2ggzsrEtTpJ4J-IO3jPN3RSCHuIDI7
Power-lifting	Thu 7/22 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlIf-igpz4qGtAtmQY5nDt0mcAVSpPOMk7F
Soccer	Wed 8/04 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvcOCprzguE9QNKpMx8O0pOhbNgexn-hVR
Tennis	Wed 7/28 7:00-8:30	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvd-qtrTwrGtSdp1LKn4DUTbPy_gjEvFrl
Bowling	Thu 8/05 6:30-8:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJArduChrDMuGNGPxuGZWmEw16s0U5BoVujY

Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Date/ Time</i>	<i>Registration / Recording Link</i>
Swimming	Thu 6/17	Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFK4NCMDOEY&ab_channel=SomdSportsDepartment
Kayaking-Trials	Thu 7/29 6:00-7:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpcemqgT4sGt0nXEptNOgRbGX-jt9GxnzF
Kayaking-Finals	Tue 8/10 6:00-7:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUocOyqgz0vHtEzMqAQJY1SW2UsrEaplwOS

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

- **Kayla Shields, Healthy Communities Manager**
 - healthyathletes@somd.org
 - Healthy Athletes, Fitness Programs

- **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