

**Special Olympics Maryland Area Memo
November 5, 2021**



Contents

- Welcome and Fall Back Reminder!
- [November Area Director Webinar and Meeting-](#)
- [Finance Reminders- NEW](#)
- [Staffing Update- Welcome, Allie Christman!- NEW](#)
- [Polar Bear Plunge Sweatshirt Design- Athlete Input Sessions- NEW](#)
- [Women in Sports Summit- NEW](#)
- [Athlete and Non-Athlete Certification Reports \(Beta\) On Coach Resource Page](#)
- [Form/Certification Naming Reminder](#)
- [Bocce Courts – PVC Courts Available – Submit Requests NOW - UPDATED](#)
- [Waiver Reminders](#)
- [Calling all Vaccination Cards... Get 'em in!](#)
- [Return to Activities Website](#)
- [ALPS Training Weekend- RESCHEDULED](#)
- [Summer Games 2022 Date](#)
- [Community Sports Registration Deadlines Set Through Mid 2022-](#)
- [Pre-Season and Pre-Competition Webinars - UPDATED](#)
- [Sports Directors – Assigned Sports](#)
- [Questions?](#)

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 a friendly reminder to turn your clocks back 1 hour this weekend!

November Area Director Webinar and Meeting

Area Directors, please join us for our LAST meeting of 2021. Register using the links below:

Webinar	Mon 11/8 7-9:00pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpc-2orjltGtxB4K13qz7d61ePPX9dprg7
Meeting	Sat 11/13 9am-12:30pm	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcquGtrDwrGdQJ1KkU2M57GuNujqktaKFg

(NEW) Finance Reminders

2022 AREA BUDGET – the Area Program budgets are now completed. The Finance committee will review on Nov 16th and the Board on Dec 10th. Thank you to all the Area Directors and Finance people who worked so hard on planning for the 2022 season for our Athletes.

NEW SAGE INTACCT ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE –

- A GREAT BIG thank you to those Areas that are already using the new software!
- The finance team will send out Tips & Tricks as we discover them.

- UPDATE- we found out that invoice originators (those entering the invoices) cannot set up a new vendor in the new system. We are working on a work around. Stay tuned.
- Remember – we are rolling out the functions of the software in phases. Currently we are keeping the train on the tracks. We will keep you informed as we move forward and add more functionality.
- There will be a make-up TRAINING class on Nov 11th 2pm for anyone who may not have been able to attend one of the other sessions. If you have not yet communicated that you want to be included, please send Joanne an email so that I can send the meeting invitation to you.
- Training Recording: A recording of our most recent training can be found here:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1avCHRlGICd4WrFKiqAAImyHUmMK88iP/view?usp=sharing>

USA GAMES–

As we continue to work together to fundraise for our Team Maryland Delegation participating in USA Games in June, 2022, here are some important reminders related to budgeting and revenue for the games.

For 2022 USA Games, Local Programs were asked to budget both revenue and expenses in their budget template at \$2,250 per competitor (athlete & Unified Teammate). As a reminder, the cost for all coaches and management team members is included in the cost per competitor, so does not have to be budgeted (but all should be active in fundraising). If a local program receives cash or check donation specifically for a Team Maryland team or delegate, that money should **NOT** be deposited into the local program account. Rather, those funds should be sent to the state office along with the name(s) of the individual(s) and sport(s) who should be credited for that donation.

For Area fundraising events, in which some or all revenue will support USA Games, the Area program will deposit all the revenue into the local Area account. After the event is over, take the revenue and subtract any expenses, and email Darlene (DTaylor@somd.org) and Claire (CHuston@somd.org) the total amount to be transferred for USA Games and the names and amounts of the delegates to be credited. Claire will keep track of monies for each delegate or USA team against the FR goal.

At the conclusion of the USA games, each Area Program splits any surplus funds raised with the State. Area Programs with a deficit must pay the deficit amount to the State. Surplus funds are shared 70%/30% Areas and State.

(NEW) Staffing Update- Welcome, Allie Christman

We are also excited to welcome Allie Christman to our team as our AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator. Allie has been a committed volunteer to our program, both at state events and competitions and in the Montgomery County program as a coach and Unified teammate! Allie will be working with Sam Boyd on the recruitment, training, and management of our 6000+ volunteers throughout the year!

Please join me in welcoming Allie to the team!

(NEW) Polar Bear Plunge Sweatshirt Design- WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are looking for feedback and creative ideas for the 2022 Polar Bear Plunge Sweatshirt Logo. We want to hear from you.

You can attend a meeting on Zoom or on our Facebook page to share your great ideas. Share this with your creative friends as well. All are welcome.

MEETING #1

WHAT: "Polar Bear Plunge Sweatshirt Design Ideas"
Help us design elements or parts of the 2022 Polar Bear Plunge Sweatshirt logo
Bring your ideas, drawings, etc. to share with the staff members responsible for the design

WHEN: Tuesday, November 09th, 2021 11am

WHERE: ZOOM <https://somed.zoom.us/j/84222674140?pwd=WlZzdTY2eW1MdHdRT3ZncG5LYXBndz09>
Meeting ID 842 2267 4140
Security Passcode 639880

MEETING #2

WHAT: "Polar Bear Plunge Sweatshirt Design Ideas"
Help us design elements or parts of the 2022 Polar Bear Plunge Sweatshirt logo
Bring your ideas, drawings, etc. to share with the staff members responsible for the design

WHEN: Thursday, November 11th, 2021 6 pm

WHERE: FACEBOOK Messenger Rooms <https://fb.me/e/1FmpyezWH>

(NEW) *Special Olympics Maryland Women in Sports Summit*

Please see the attached flyer for information on the Women in Sports Summit hosted by Special Olympics Maryland on 12/11/2021.

Plunge 2022

The Plunge website is now live! Please register your area teams today and reach out to Jessie Hayes (jhayes@somd.org) to let us know you've signed up. As a reminder, all areas receive 70% (after expenses) of the money they raise for the Plunge. The best thing about this year? We have both virtual and in-person options, so you can recruit supporters to Plunge from any location.

Athlete and Non-Athlete Certification Reports (Beta) On Coach Resource Page

We are pleased to provide a new feature on the SOMD Coach Resource Page – searchable listings of Athlete and Non-Athlete certifications. These two rosters include all individuals listed in the current "Community Training Program Participant Registration" games in GMS (*whether or not they are currently listed as participating in training in the current year*).

The main Coach Resource Page (CRP) is available at: <https://www.somd.org/coach/coach-resources/>

The names are grouped by Area and include medical and CDW expiration dates for athletes. For non-athletes it includes volunteer background check, protective behaviors, concussion certification and CDW expiration dates. Vaccination status is NOT posted in either report out of respect for individual privacy. GMS users can locate vaccination information within GMS.

As has been the case for several years, links to the necessary forms and certification courses are available on that same Coach Resource Page. Reports for Coach Sport Certification are available, as always in the Coach Education and Development section of the CRP.

Form/Certification Naming Reminder

As reviewed in recent webinars, and the Area Director Web meeting on October 20, please be certain to follow the proper file naming structure for all submissions as listed in the chart below.

Cert/Form	File Naming Format	Date Is
Medical	MED_XX_lname_fname_YYYY_MM_DD	3 years from medical professional's signature
Volunteer Application	VOL_XX_lname_fname_YYYY_MM_DD	3 years from date of volunteer signature*
Protective Behaviors	PB_XX_lname_fname_YYYY_MM_DD	3 years from date of passing test
CDW	CDW_XX_lname_fname_YYYY_MM_DD	3 years from date of signature*
Concussion Cert	CONC_XX_lname_fname_YYYY_MM_DD	3 years from date of passing test
COVID Vax	VAX_XX_lname_fname_YYYY_MM_DD	Date of most recent vaccination shot

XX = Your Area's 2-character code

lname = last name

fname = first name

Please use "underscores" between each element of the name (not dashes or anything else)

*if person is a minor, the date is their 18th birthday, which is when they can legally sign for themselves

(UPDATED) Bocce Courts – PVC Courts Available – More Info Next Area Memo

As noted in previous Area Memos, SOMD is liquidating its inventory of 23 PVC bocce courts due to our recent acquisition of 22 inflatable bocce courts (like the ones used at the 2021 Summer Games). One objective we hope to accomplish with this distribution of PVC courts is to support and expand Unified Bocce programming and to encourage and support the transition of athletes and Unified partners from school-based program to community programs. Those Areas and school programs interested in possibly obtaining one or more of these courts should complete the basic form available at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BCCourtReq2021> no later than Monday, November 29.

- The PVC courts are free, but recipient must arrange their own pick-up/transport.
- Courts must be removed from SOMD HQ no later than Sunday, December 12, 2021.
- All sets are twelve 10' pipes and two 12' pipes (approximate lengths)
- There are also some additional "spare parts" of courts available if any program has a need.

Waiver Reminders!

Attached to the Area Memo are some reminders regarding waivers for participants from SOMD Registration Manager, Dottie Rush. As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to Dottie at DRush@somd.org

Calling all Vaccination Cards...Get 'em in!

We are very fortunate that both our State Kayaking and Golf tournaments have been able to operate under low risk protocol as we have hit 80%+ vaccination rates from our participants (athletes, partners, coaches, volunteers, management teams and staff).

While we can certainly have a very meaningful and exciting event under the Orange protocol, hitting that 80% vax verified metric makes things dramatically more pleasant for everyone in attendance:

- No on-site screening (w/temp check) needed
- masks optional (rather than required)
- can actually "present" the awards (rather than picking them off a tray)
- lunch easier to manage
- may be able to add back in a brief opening ceremony which isn't permitted under "Orange"
- etc.

Please continue to have your area program participants submit their vaccination cards to you, and as they do, upload them into the K Drive. Please, **DO NOT WAIT** for a sports season/competition to come around to collect cards from participants. The sooner we have the information, the more accurate our data is---- and remember, an 80% vaccination rate also affects how you can hold practices!

K Drive Naming Convention: Vax_XX_Last Name_First Name_Year_Month_Day

-XX: Area Program 2 Letter Name

-Date: Date is the day of the last vaccination

As a reminder, please only submit cards for individuals who have full dosage (2 vaccines for Moderna or Pfizer; 1 vaccine for Johnson & Johnsons)

Return to Activities Website

As we continue to engage athletes, partners, coaches, and volunteers in as many sports programs as we can, please remember to visit our Return to Activities Webpage linked below. This page will have necessary information and resources including the most up-to-date protocol.

<https://virtualsomd.com/return-to-play/>

Athlete Training Weekend Reschedule

The classes scheduled for October 02nd and 03rd have been rescheduled. Please check the spreadsheet for more details and new times.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ITFVARmnp88rcSs_B3M1znMUMKQg-jFUOB6sHZtRcxg/edit?usp=sharing

Summer Games 2022 Date Update

Reminder that the **2022 Summer Games** dates have been agreed upon with Towson University. The Summer Games will occur on the dates of **June 17-19, 2022**.

This is a little later than a typical year. We have been working with Towson University to make this change due to the dates of the USA Games from June 5-12, 2022. Please make note of the change. *(This is reflected in the Sports Calendar.)*

Community Sports Registration Deadlines Set Through Mid 2022

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.

<i>Event/Sports</i>	<i>State Championship</i>	<i>Training Registration</i>	<i>Outstanding Forms</i>	<i>Competition Registration</i>
Bowling – Regionals	11/7/2021	10/1/2021	10/29/2021	10/29/2021
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
Basketball	TBD	1/27/2022	2/4/2022	2/17/2022
Summer Games	6/17-19/2022	4/29/2022	5/9/2022	5/27/2022

(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

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Date/ Time</i>	<i>Registration / Recording Link</i>
Bowling	Thu 8/05	Recording: https://youtu.be/pMbsx9HIDrg

Pre-Competition Coaches Webinars

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Date/ Time</i>	<i>Registration / Recording Link</i>
Bowling - Regionals	Thu 10/28	Recording: https://youtu.be/n19rEZiDbgg
Bowling- Finals	Wed 12/01 7:00-8:00	https://somd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlrf-GgqTwpHNY0w_6-xyJPcJe1O90xoXnR

Sports Department Contacts – 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: Volleyball, Cross Country Skiing
- **Ryan Kelchner, Sports Director**
 - rkelchner@somd.org, 410-242-1515 x171
 - Athletics
 - Bocce
 - Distance Running
 - Golf
 - Powerlifting
 - Snowshoeing
 - Locally Popular Sports: Dance, Equestrian Sports, Floor Hockey
- **Ben President, Sports Director**
 - bpresident@somd.org, 410.242.1515
 - Alpine Skiing
 - Bowling (10 pin)
 - Cycling
 - Kayaking
 - Swimming
 - 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
 - Winter Games
 - Fall Sports Festival
 - USA 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 (Track & Field)
 - IUS Indoor Bocce
 - IUS Outdoor Bocce
 - IUS Strength & Conditioning
 - IUS Tennis

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, Senior Director, Unified Champion schools**
 - mkelly@somd.org, 410-979-5839
 - Unified Champion Schools, Youth Leadership, and School Engagement
- **Will Augustin, AmeriCorps Unified Champion Schools Coordinator**
 - waugustin@somd.org
 - Unified Champion Schools, Youth Leadership, and School Engagement
- **Mackenzie Irvin, Senior Director, Inclusive Health & Fitness**
 - mirvin@somd.org, 857-939-4867
 - Young Athletes Program, Elementary School programming
- **Kayla Shields, Healthy Communities Manager**
 - healthyathletes@somd.org
 - Healthy Athletes, Fitness Programs
- **Sam Boyd, Volunteer Director**
 - sboyd@somd.org, 443-766-9245
 - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Allie Christman, AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator**
 - achristman@somd.org
 - Volunteer Recruitment, Retention, Training
- **Mike Myers, Baltimore Region Director**
 - mmyers@somd.org, 410-242-1515
 - Baltimore County and City
- **Brian Anderson, AmeriCorps Metro Programs Coordinator**
 - banderson@somd.org
 - Baltimore City
- **Brooke Jenkins, AmeriCorps Eastern Shore Coordinator**
 - bjenkins@somd.org
 - Kent County, Upper Shore, Lower Shore

Field Code Changed