

Field Team

HOT TOPICS CALL

September 9, 2021



September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:



Return to Activities



Go-To Resource: [SOPA Website](#)

Participant Waivers for In-Person Activities – UPDATE

- Moving forward we will only require **1 waiver per sport per season**. You will not need to do a NEW waiver for every event if it is the same sport. (Example: If you participate in LDR and completed the waiver THIS fall, you do NOT need to complete a NEW waiver for an invitational or for sectionals or for Fall Fest.)
- You need to complete a waiver for **EACH** sport that you participate in. (Example: Athlete participates in bocce and LDR/W – they will need 2 waivers, one for each sport)
- We hope this update will lessen the burden on families and volunteers in completing the same form multiple times for the same sport.
- **Questions:** Contact Gina Reid greid@specialolympicspa.org

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Hosting an Invitational?

Tracking Waivers for a Multi-Program Event

Step 1: Submit Site Request Form and gain approval

Step 2: 2 weeks prior to the event, Event Lead should contact Gina Reid greid@specialolympicspa.org and let her know which counties are attending your event.

Step 3: Field Team will populate the event roster with the names of the athletes from attending programs that participate in that sport.

Step 4: Event Lead will review the roster and compare it to event registration.

Step 5: If participants are missing, Event Lead will provide missing names to Gina Reid.

Step 6: Field Team will follow up with local program to request waivers for missing participants.

NOTE: All participants MUST have waivers, if waivers are NOT submitted, they may not participate.

Class B volunteers MUST complete participant waivers in order to volunteer.

- Waivers should be completed electronically.
- Waivers can be completed day of, but should be completed in advance whenever possible.

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Database Manager:

Rita Schofield, Temporary Database Manager

We are grateful that Rita Schofield has agreed to work part-time for 4 months (September – December) as our Database Manager until we resume our candidate search in January 2022. Rita will manage administrative tasks (training new users, system access, etc.).

Rita will be working part-time hours from a home office as needed. Please continue to direct all communications to the vsyshelp@specialolympicspa.org inbox which Rita will be monitoring. Should you need to contact Rita directly, her email address is: rschofield@specialolympicspa.org and phone number is: 610.630.9450 ext. 232.

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

How will Regionalization Impact Your Program - Follow up webinars:

Competition: September 14th at 7:00pm

- We will review do a high level review of Return to Activities and planning for Fall Sectionals and Fall Fest, take a deeper dive into Strategic Plan goals as it relates to training, competition, coach education and Unified Sports and explain what impacts these have on regions and local programs.
- [REGISTER HERE](#) in advance of the meeting

Finance In the Regional Model: September 21st at 7:00pm

- Learn about the online spending approval processes once you enter a region. A brief demo will be provided!
- The status of your reserve accounts at Haverford Trust will also be discussed.
- Come and learn! [REGISTER HERE](#) in advance of this meeting

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

How will Regionalization Impact Your Program - Follow up webinars:

Fundraising as a Region: September 22nd at 7:00pm

- We will review fundraising in a Regional model, shared revenue opportunities, discuss donor relations and management, share information on statewide LETR's structure and review grant opportunities.
- You won't want to miss this informative webinar!
- [REGISTER HERE](#) in advance of this meeting

Marketing & Communication: Wednesday, September 29th at 7pm.

- Join us for an in-depth discussion about how Marketing & Communications will function under our new regionalization model and is described within the [Regional Playbook](#). We will discuss branding, media relations, web management, social media, guidelines & resource materials. We will also answer questions and talk about ways to expand our offerings/approach to set each region up for success.
- [REGISTER HERE](#) in advance of this meeting

Athlete Leadership: October 25th at 7:00 PM - [REGISTER HERE](#) in advance of this meeting

Online Athlete Registration (Athlete Medical): January 2022 for NEW regions.

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Budget Planning:

Process begins next week!

- Budget memo
- Due end of October

Budget full activity for 2022

Seasonal expenses should be budgeted in the respective months, otherwise the system will allocate 1/12th of the budget to every month.



September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Athlete Performance Training:

- **TIMELINE:** we are working to produce good quality resources and are behind in getting them out to interested teams.
 - Printing week of September 13
 - Mailed to listed POC week of September 20
- **REGISTER:** On the [Site Registration Form](#), click yes!
 - If you already completed the form, next week the COVID-19 Coordinator will get an email to complete an interest form.
- **MORE INFORMATION:**
 - Go to the Special Olympics Pennsylvania homepage, hover over the “More Than Sports” tab and then click “Commit to Fit.”
 - Click on the Commit to Fit option called “Athlete Performance.”

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

USA Games

- Athletes selected for USA Games can be found on the SOPA Website
 - [USA Games webpage](#): Includes information about allocations, selection process, Team PA athletes and coaches
- Selection Schedule
 - Spring Sports - Selected and placed on website
 - Bowling - Athlete drawing announcement coming soon!
 - Fall Sports - Athlete drawing at Fall Fest
- Family & Friends Registration
 - Stay tuned! Expecting information later this month to sign up and book reservations

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

2021 State Competition Dates and Important Dates

Fall Sectionals

- Western - Sunday, September 26th - Slippery Rock University
- Central - Sunday, September 26th - Juniata College
 - All participants must be vaccinated
- Eastern - Sunday, October 3rd - DeSales University

Important Dates

- Google Registration due September 16th
- WFS and CFS Pre-Event Webinar also on September 16th - [Register Here](#)
- EFS Pre-Event Webinar September 23rd - [Register Here](#)

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

Fall Festival

- November 5-7 - Villanova University
- All participants must be vaccinated

Important Dates

- Event Information shared September 10th
- LOI Due September 30th
- VSys rosters due October 4th

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

Fully Vaccinated

For Central Fall Sectional, Juniata College is requiring vaccinations. Fully vaccinated means you have completed the vaccine cycle and 2 full weeks have passed. Therefore the athletes must have their vaccinations complete by **Sunday, September 12th** in order to attend the event on Sunday, September 26th.

For Fall Festival, fully vaccinated means you have completed the vaccine cycle and 2 full weeks have passed. Therefore the athletes must have their vaccinations complete by **Friday, October 22nd** in order to attend the event on Friday, November 5th.

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

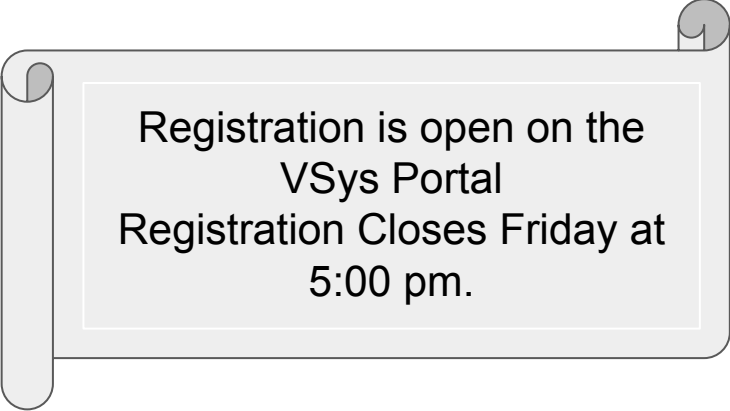
Competition & Training:

Virtual Training Schools

- Volleyball - September 11, 9:00 am
- Soccer - September 12, 9:00 am
- Powerlifting – September 12, 1:00 pm

Non-Sports Virtual Training

- Coaching Special Olympics Athletes – September 18 & 19, 2021
- Principles of Coaching – October 23 & 24, 2021



Registration is open on the
V Sys Portal
Registration Closes Friday at
5:00 pm.

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

Continuing Ed Challenge

- September is National Preparedness Month!
- Challenge from **August 25 to September 24th**
- Submit your **current** First Aid/CPR/AED cards (back & Front) or certificate to jtresp@specialolympicspa.org
- You will be placed into the drawing to win a Sport Safety First Aid Kid!
- **IMPORTANT:** First Aid/CPR/AED cards maybe used once every 9 years as continuing education credit

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

Fall Training Numbers

- Forms will be sent to Training Coordinators on Friday, September 17th
- Forms are due back on Monday, November 22nd by midnight

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

2021 Coaches Webinar Series

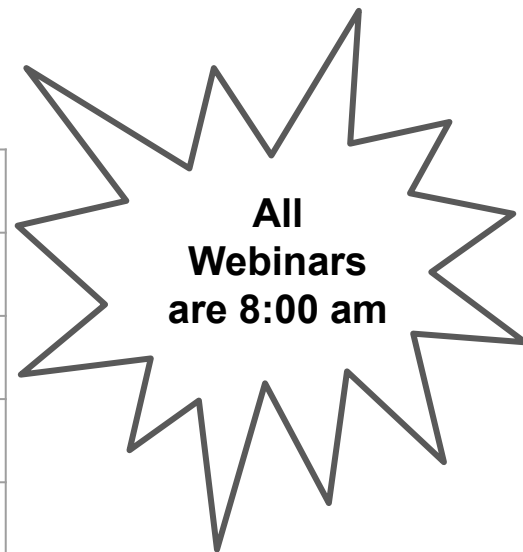
- Presented by Special Olympics, Gallagher & ICCE
- All Webinars are at **8:00 am** on date listed
- Continuing ed will be given for those who attend (Jennifer will receive a list of those who attend)
- All Webinars will be recorded and placed on the Training School Page with directions on how to receive continuing ed credit
- Registration: [Click Here](#)

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Competition & Training:

2021 Coaches Webinar Series

September 23	Knowing your Athlete
September 30	Reflection Practice
October 7	Developing the Whole Person
October 14	Coaching Philosophy
October 21	Managing Well Being
October 28	TBD



September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

VIRTUAL UNcathlon Continues...

- **Goals of the event:** Get out and get moving in a fun way, push and challenge yourself to try something new, and do better than you did yesterday
- **Registration:** [The VIRTUAL 2021 UNcathlon 30 day Fitness Challenge - Campaign](#)
 - Build Your Team - RECRUIT RECRUIT RECRUIT. POST POST POST.
 - Fundraise
- **Take advantage of the REVENUE SHARE:**
 - Make up lost revenue
 - 75% comes back to your program!
 - **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to note your local program/county on the registration page to receive funds

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

How to you participate/fundraise:

- Create team at [The VIRTUAL 2021 UNcathlon 30 day Fitness Challenge - Campaign](#)
 - Recruit and fundraise
 - Flood social media with photos and videos of your planks #UNCathlon
 - Tag two friends NOT ALREADY INVOLVED, and challenge them to join and plank
 - Place classy fundraising page on your social posts and give your supporters instructions and goals
 - Join team, complete challenge and help us fundraise
 - Give a donation in lieu of completing the challenge
 - Both - complete the challenge AND donate instead of fundraising

If you have any questions, or need assistance, please contact Andrew Cader at acader@specialolympicspa.org. The Virtual event is open until September 30!

September 9, 2021 - Program Updates:

Goals: Plank & Fundraise:

- For the month of September, the goal is to practice **Plank** daily-*to ensure proper form and increase the time the participant is able to hold Plank position!* Also, the virtual event will include modified elements for those that cannot do the plank.
 - **The Plank** is an awesome exercise to strengthen and tone all of your major muscle groups! When you join us for this **30 day fitness & fundraising challenge**, you will see an improvement in your physical health; but even more importantly, you will feel great knowing that the challenge you have accepted will directly impact over 16,000 Special Olympics PA athletes.
 - *Modifications: Knee Lifts, Arm Raises, and Cobra Pose - Learn more at www.uncathlon.org*

You do NOT have to record daily. We recommend keeping track, but ultimately you are on your honor system. And those participating will receive an incentive gift. But we do ask that you POST to SOCIAL! Early and often! Get the word out, tag and share. And in a way, it's our opportunity to connect with you all over the state as we look to transition UNCathlon into a statewide event starting next year and as we continue to regionalize. **Next year, we plan on adding UNCathlons in Lehigh Valley and Philly.** ·

QUESTIONS???



Next Call: Thursday, October 14th @ 7 PM

[REGISTER NOW](#)