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# 2021-22 Bocce Preseason Coaches Meeting



# Agenda



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- Welcome
- UCS Staff
- What is new for 2022!
- Reminders
- Dates and Deadlines
- Advancement to PIAA/SOPA State Championships
- PIAA/SOPA State Championships
- Questions



## UCS STAFF

Eastern	Central	Western
<b>James Ellison</b> Berks County	<b>Jennifer Tresp</b> North Central & North Western PA	<b>Eric Jankoski</b> Allegheny County
<b>Ashley Herr</b> Southeastern PA	<b>Lauren Saulter</b> South Central PA	<b>Stephanie Taylor</b> Western PA
<b>Mike Jordan</b> Philadelphia	<b>Jan Holt</b> Greater Harrisburg Area	
<b>Allison Kandrovsky</b> Northeast PA		



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**NEW FOR 2022!**

# Covid Mask Restrictions



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- Athletic Directors will be asked for your schools **Varsity Sport Mask Policy**.
- The policy in your league schools will be provided to you.
- You will be required to follow the procedure of the school you are competing at



# Student Athlete Requirements



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- **Eligible students -**
  - 9th to 12th grade
  - including students up to the age of 21 who are still receiving services from the school district.
- **FOR THIS YEAR ONLY** - students who are 22 who have opted in for an additional year of high school
- **All participants** must complete both forms to be eligible for participation:
  - [PIAA Forms](#) -
    - The school will file this form as they do for all PIAA Participant forms
  - SOPa E-waiver -<https://forms.gle/G22vPjbUZo2rjDG57>
    - This form should be completed by families or guardians
      - Paper copies are available if needed – contact your SOPa Liaison

# Practices

1. Practice a minimum of twice a week after school
2. On weeks when you have a match, you are only required to have one practice.
3. All practices should have 10 minutes of Fitness Training
  - a. We will provide you with a Unified Fitness Kit. This kit includes equipment and Fit 5 exercise cards.



# Practices/Training Plan



COMPONENT	INCLUDES
Warm Up	Speed walking or jog around gym or practice area
Dynamic Stretching	Exercises to get the heart pumping/Fitness Training
Skills Training	Pointing, Deadball, Banking etc
Game or Game like situation	Play a game or set up a challenge that you would see in a game
Cool Down	Speed walking or jog around gym or practice area
Static Stretching & Team Chat	Exercised to slow the heart down and discuss next practice and what you did that day

<https://specialolympicspa.org/unified-champion-school-resources> - 10 preset training plans



# Players needing 1:1 or Paraprofessionals



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Coaches must identify student athletes who need support on the preseason rosters & reiterate during coaches meetings which athletes have 1:1 support.

These individuals:

- May transition from one end of the court to the other with their student
- **No coaching!**

1:1 or Para  
Chair



# Managing Pace of Play

Officials are responsible for helping to keep the pace of play flowing to allow for the most playing time possible.

**Prompt 1** is from the Head Official – “Red in, Green roll”

**Prompt 2** will be given by the Head Officials 10 seconds after first prompt

**Exceptions:** Allow wheelchair, visual/hearing impaired athletes to get into place before 10 second count would begin

**Prompt 3** will be given 10 seconds after Prompt 2; Head Official will declare “I will start a 10 second countdown.”

- o If the ball is not played, it will be declared a dead ball.
- o 10 second hand count will be displayed by the head official

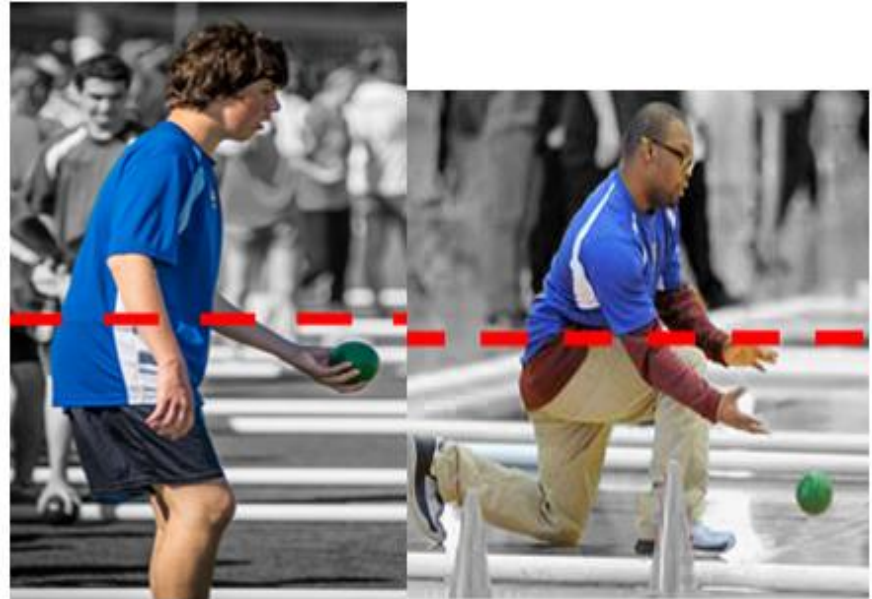
# Time Outs

- Coaches Time Out
  - Each team - one 60 second time-out per game
    - o Coach must request the time out to the official
    - o Your team must be in possession of the ball
    - o Clock will stop for the 60 seconds
  - Allowable anytime during the course of the game
  - Once the official announces the time out - the coach will go to the players



# Ball Release above the waist

Releasing the ball above the waist will be considered a foul and declared a dead ball.



# Lineup Card - Submit to Score Table

<b>UNIFIED BOCCE LINE-UP CARD</b> Submit to Score Table				School			
Team 1				Team 2			
Team Name		Captain	Athlete or partner	Team Name		Captain	Athlete or partner
Player 1				Player 1			
Player 2				Player 2			
Player 3				Player 3			
Player 4				Player 4			
Player 5				Player 5			
Player 6				Player 6			
Player 7				Player 7			
Player 8				Player 8			

# Coaches Quiz

- **All coaches** - Open book quiz - we encourage you to use your Bocce Coaches' Resource Guide while taking this quiz.
- **Quiz must be taken by: November 24th.**
- Any coach who fails the quiz will have a 1:1 meeting with your Liaison to review the missed questions.

**Bocce Quiz Link - [Bocce Quiz](#)**





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**REMINDERS!**

# Shirt Ordering



Order By: Friday, December 17th

Ampros Website: <https://store.amprogo.com/sopa-ius-uniforms/shop/home>

- **NEW SCHOOLS -**

- 8 Athlete/unified partner polo shirts - Per Team
- 1-2 Coach Polos (Different color than athlete shirts)
- 4 Official Polos

- **RETURNING SCHOOLS -**

- Should only be ordering sizes needed above your current inventory

- **NEW COACHES -**

- 1 Polo each (Different color than athlete shirts)

**Can our school order our own Polo Shirts?** Yes, **REQUIRES PRE-APPROVAL** from Special Olympics PA before you place your order. Please contact your SOPA Liaison for requirements.



# Attire

## Allowed:



# Attire



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## Not Allowed:

Denim pants (jeans), anything with rips or tears, cargo pants, any colored pants other than black, navy blue or khaki, prints, no leggings with cut-outs above the knee



# Attire

## Allowed:

Athletic sneakers/tennis shoes. Velcro is allowed as needed for participants. Can be any color.



# Attire



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## Not allowed:

- Slip On
  - Ex. such as Vans, Toms,
- Boots
  - Ex. such as Uggs, Timberlands,
- Flip-flops, sandals



# Bocce Balls



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- Gel Filling is a completely inert, non-toxic high density mixture
- **Clean up with only soap and water.** - Air Dry
- Need air? Use a hand held air pump.
  - **Give it a small pump of air.**
  - **Be careful to not overfill the ball.**
  - **Size of the bocce ball should be 107mm.**



- Call your liaison immediately if the ball will not fill or loses shape.

# Team Rosters

- Bocce team roster
  - minimum of 6
    - 3 Athletes & 3 partners
  - maximum of 8
    - 4 athletes & 4 partners - Ideal
    - 3 athletes & 5 partners
    - 5 athletes & 3 partners
- There are **NO SUBSTITUTES OR ALTERNATES** allowed, and players cannot be replaced during the season for any reason.



# Team Rosters Continued



- **Team Rosters are due, Friday, December 17th**
  - No additional players may be added after the 17th
  - **Schools with 2 Teams** - When rosters are submitted - no team members may change teams
- **Winter season interscholastic sports athletes CANNOT participate on the Unified Indoor Bocce team. Fall and spring varsity athletes are eligible to participate.**
- **On your Roster - identify your ADULT Head Officials and list their names on your team roster. Line Officials may be students.**

# Game Day Line Up



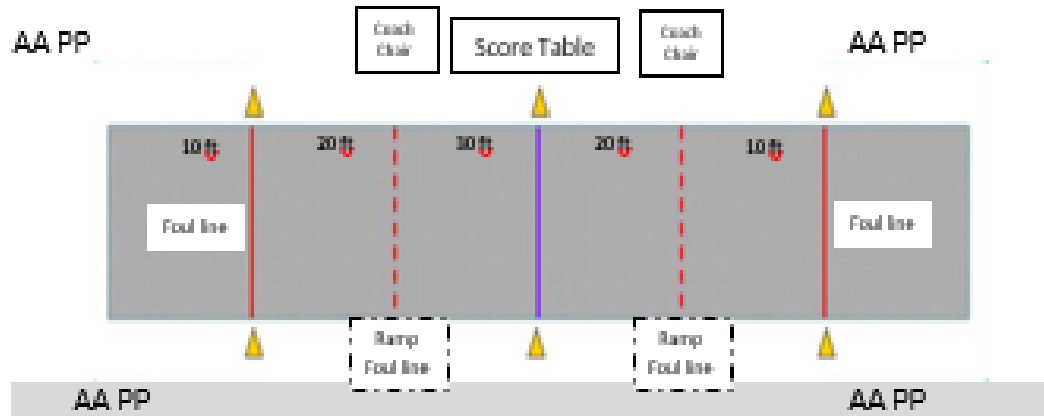
- Game day rosters **MUST** stay intact without alterations or substitutions.
- For an official match to be played:
  - a team must have a minimum of 4 players: 2 athletes and 2 Unified partners.
- If a team has less than 2 athletes and 2 Unified partners, it forfeits the game and an exhibition (non-scoring) game is played.

If you have less than 8 players see the “Player Rotation” page of the  
“Bocce Coaches Resource Guide.”



# Coaches Chair

- Coaches are required to remain in the "Coaching Chair" (30 ft line)
- Coaches **MAY NOT** provide instructions to the team once play begins.
  - Remember each coach has one time-out during the 30 minute game.
  - Coaches **MAY** provide positive affirmations such as "good roll", "nice job," etc.



# Need to Know Numbers

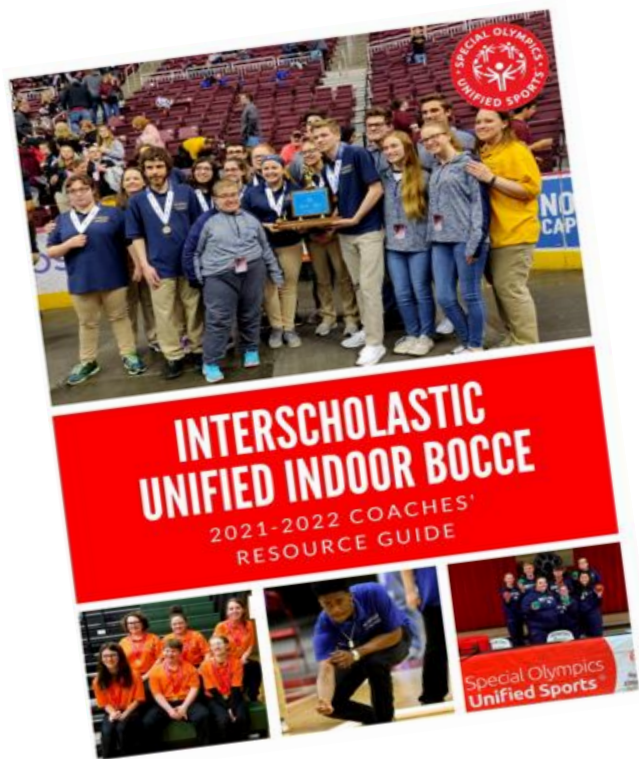


- **30 minutes or 16 points** - Length of each game or the number of points scored to win the game.
  - If the score is tied - Play one more frame to break the tie
- **1 minute** - Length of a time out
- **7 minutes left to play** - "Delay of Game" if your team "slows down play" in an attempt to win the game.
  - **1** - Number of warnings your team will receive
  - **4** - The number of points the opposing team will receive if your team receives a second warning.
- **2 minute warning** - Final 2 minutes of play. When called:
  - If you are in the middle of a frame - complete it and end the game.
  - If you are about to start a frame - stop do not start a new frame
    - A frame is considered started when the palina has been rolled at least one time.

# Support Materials



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***Ramp Styles/Building Instructions***

***Court Construction Diagram***

***Player Rotation***

***Blank Training Plan***

***Competition Format***

***Spectators Guide to Bocce***

***Game Day Score Sheet***

***Line-Up Cards***

***Letter of Intent - PIAA/SOPA State Championships***



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# DATES AND DEADLINES

# Dates and Deadlines



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**Week of November 29th** - Season begins with practices

**Friday, December 3rd** - Schedules for league play sent to coaches

**Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

- Team Roster Due & Deadline for Placing Uniform Orders

**Wednesday, January 5th** - Bocce Competition Management Webinar

**Monday, January 10th – Friday, February 18th** - League Play

**Tuesday, February 22nd - Friday, March 4th** - League Championships

**State Qualifiers** - Must be completed by **Thursday, March 10th**

# Bocce Competition Management Webinar



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**Wednesday, January 5, 2022 - 3:30 pm**

Webinar will include:

- Facility set-up
- Rule highlights
- Officials training information
- Electronic scoresheets
- Rescheduling of events
- Virtual competition (if necessary)



[Bocce Competition Management Webinar Link](#)



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# ADVANCEMENT TO PIAA/SOPA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# League Play Champions to State Qualifiers



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## New Layered Process:

1. **League Championships** (previously called Regional or County Championship)
  - a. All schools participate and receive awards for their placement in the League.
2. **State Qualifiers**
  - a. The winners of the League Championships will compete against the other League Champions in their Regional Qualifying Group for the slots for the PIAA/SOPA Championships
3. **PIAA/SOPA State Championships**

## Wild Card Selection:

- 1 slot available
- Regions with 1 slot -
  - Winning team moves on
  - Other team will be placed in the random draw for the wild card slot



# State Qualifier Groups



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State Qualifier Group	League Groupings	Number of Schools	Slots
1	(Bradford/Tioga) (Potter/McKean)	8	1
2	Pittsburgh	8	1
3	(Columbia/Northumberland) (NEPA)	8	1
4	(Centre/Clinton/Huntingdon) (Clearfield)	9	1
5	(Blair) (Cambria/Somerset/Bedford) (Westmoreland)	12	1
6	Beaver	12	1
7	Delaware	13	1
8	Montgomery/Bucks	14	1
9	Butler/Lawrence/Mercer	15	1
10	(Berks) (Chester) (Lancaster/York)	17	2
11	Allegheny County	16	2
12	Mid-Penn	18	2
Wild Card	All regions with one slot - Second highest placement team with an LOI would be eligible for random wild card drawing.		1



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# PIAA/SOPA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# PIAA/SOPA Championships



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## Wednesday, January 19th

- PIAA/SOPA Bocce Championships Webinar – 3:30 pm

## Friday, February 18th

- PIAA/SOPA Bocce State Championship Letter of Intent due

## Thursday, March 10th

- PIAA/SOPA Bocce Championship Housing Due

## Wednesday & Thursday, March 23rd & 24th

- PIAA/SOPA Bocce Championship

# PIAA/SOPA State Championships



- This year 16 teams will qualify for the Unified Indoor Bocce State Championships based on winning their respective State Qualifier.
- Dates: **Wednesday, March 23rd – Thursday, March 24th**
  - Location:
    - **Wednesday evening, March 23** – Teams arrive at the competition venue (TBD) no later than 5:00 pm. All teams will be housed in a hotel in Hershey by Special Olympics PA
    - **Thursday morning, March 24** –GIANT Center, 550 Hersheypark Dr., Hershey, PA 17033

# PIAA/SOPA Championships



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS PA WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING

- Competition management and coordination of all event logistics
- **Wednesday (March 23)** – Dinner, competition, and housing in Hershey, PA
- **Thursday (March 24)** – Breakfast, lunch, competition, Opening Ceremonies, awards ceremonies



# PIAA/SOPA Championships



## YOUR SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE

- Transportation to, during and from Hershey
- 2 coaches (required ratio of 4 students to 1 adult per Special Olympics PA policy)
- Teams MUST have a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 8 team members
- All athletes MUST be dressed in proper uniform
- Completed 2021-22 PIAA/SOPA Athlete Medical (must be the one provided to you from SOPA) for all athletes and partners on file with their school.



**QUESTIONS?**