

**Special  
Olympics**  
Pennsylvania



**TO:** Sports and Competition Coordinators  
**FROM:** SOPA Competition Department  
**DATE:** March 11, 2022  
**RE:** Eastern Spring Sectional  
**CC:** Sport & Competition Coordinators, Region Executive Directors and Field Directors

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Preparations for the *2022 Eastern Spring Sectional* at Kutztown University on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> are well under way! The Kutztown University Committee is hard at work preparing an outstanding competition for you and your athletes. Enclosed in this packet you will find registration materials for the 2022 Eastern Spring Sectional.

You may request as many athletes as your program feels they can accommodate. The link to the LOI can be found below.

Who	When	What
Local Program	Thursday, April 7 <sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm	<a href="#">Letter of Intent</a> Due
SOPA	Friday, April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Final Allocations Sent
Local Program	Monday, April 11 <sup>th</sup> by 11:59 PM	VSys Roster Due
SOPA	Tuesday, April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Google Registration Forms Sent
Local Program	Thursday, April 21 <sup>st</sup> by 11:59 PM	Google Registration info Due
SOPA	Thursday, April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 PM	Pre-event Webinar <a href="#">Register Here</a>
SOPA	Friday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Coach/HOD Handbooks Sent
Local Program	Monday, May 2 <sup>nd</sup> by 5:00 PM	Scratch & Activation Deadline

In the event of cancellation of all or a part of any Special Olympics Pennsylvania Spring Sectional due to weather or unforeseen circumstances, the event will not be rescheduled. Selection of athletes and teams to Summer Games in those sports where the Sectionals are a qualifier will be done by random draw of all athletes/teams for whom an interest in advancing to Summer Games was indicated on the Sectional Games registration forms.

## Registration information

- The Letter of Intent will be 100% online. Simply click the link and complete all information for the number of athletes you plan to send to the event and click submit. [LOI Link](#)
- We have FULLY transitioned to an online registration process using Google docs. Event registration will only be accepted through the Google format.
- Your Google Registration forms will be emailed to you by April 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Qualifier reminder

- **Basketball, Golf and Tennis are qualifiers from Sectionals to Summer Games.**
- Athletes **MUST** attend Sectional competition and compete for a spot at Summer Games.
- On the Google Registration form you will be asked to indicate interest in Summer Games for all athletes.

## Athletics rule reminder

- Athletes are **not** allowed to enter walking events and running events. They must select **one** method of movement for all their track events.

## EVENT INFORMATION:

### Contact Person

- Region Programs: Each Regional Sports Director will serve as the single point of contact for all communications between the regional programs and the respective Competition Director. The Regional Sports Directors will share all information with each local programs Sports Leader.
- Local Programs not in a Region: Each Program's Sports and Competition Coordinator will serve as the single point of contact for all communications between the local program and the respective Competition Director. In cases where there is no Sports and Competition Coordinator, or they are otherwise unavailable, the Program Manager can serve as this single point of contact.
- The Coach Handbook, containing more specific event information, will be emailed to the Regional Sports Director or the local programs Sports and Competition Coordinator two (2) weeks prior to the event and will be available on the Sport & Competition tab of the SOPA website (<http://www.specialolympicspa.org/sports-competitions/competitions/state-sectional-events>)

### Inclement Weather

- If an event or a portion of an event is rained out unfortunately we do not have enough time to reschedule before the State Event. Here is what happens to the qualifier sports that are rained out:
  - All teams who indicated (on registration forms) they were interested in attending the State Games are placed in a randomizer.
  - Teams and individuals are drawn until all allocations are full.
  - Two or three alternate teams are drawn.
  - Regional Sports Directors or Local Program Sports & Competition Coordinators as well as Managers will be notified after the drawing.

## REQUIRED INFORMATION TO ATTEND SECTIONALS:

### Athlete Application for Participation ("medical")

- A copy of all current fully completed (both sides) applications dated no more than three (3) year prior to the date of your sectional competition must be in the athletes' database record. **It is important that athlete applications be up-to-date in the SOPA database prior to the posted deadlines for completion and submission of the online roster and registration paperwork in order to ensure that the athletes you**

**want to bring to the Sectional are eligible to attend.**

- All coaches are required to have a hard copy of their athletes' medical on hand at the event.
- Please contact [vsyshelp@specialolympicspa.org](mailto:vsyshelp@specialolympicspa.org) at if you have any questions about completion or approval of athlete applications.

**Alternates**

- Athletes may be registered in only one sport for each competition unless registration forms indicate that registration for or competition in multiple sports is allowed. In addition, an individual may be listed as an athlete or an alternate on only one team.
- For **Individual Sports**, alternates must be activated by 5:00 pm the Monday prior to the start of a competition in order to be eligible to compete. Individual sports include Alpine Skiing, Athletics, Basketball Skills, Bowling Singles, Cross Country Skiing, Equestrian, Figure Skating, Floor Hockey Individual Skills, Golf, Gymnastics, LDR/W, Powerlifting, Roller Skating, Soccer Skills, Speed Skating, Snowshoeing, Swimming, Tennis and Volleyball Skills.
- For **Team Sports**, we encourage activation by Monday prior, but will continue to accept scratches and activations of alternates up through the end of registration at the event. Team sports include Basketball (3v3 and 5v5), Bocce Doubles, Bowling Doubles and Four Person Team, Floor Hockey, Soccer (5v5, 7v7), Softball, Volleyball and Unified Sports® Teams.
- Forms will be sent to the Regional Sports Director or Local Program Sports and Competition Coordinator after the registration deadline for use in submitting all scratches and activations.

**Coaches and Unified Sports® Partners**

- If staying overnight as part of the 1:4 ratio must be at least 18 years of age.
- Coaches, HOD's, Unified Sports® Partners, Delegation Volunteers, 1-on-1 staff, chaperones, etc. are considered Class "A" volunteers and in order to attend a Special Olympics Pennsylvania competition or stay in SOPA provided housing as a member of a participating delegation, **must have all of the following:**
  - A record in the SOPA database (Vsys).
  - Completed the Special Olympics Pennsylvania on-line General Orientation.
  - Completed the Special Olympics Protective Behaviors Trainings within the past 3 years. (16 and over for Unified Sports® Partners)
  - Coaches only – Must have completed a Concussion Training course within the last 3 years.
  - Have a current (within the past 5 years) Pennsylvania State Criminal Record Check on file prior to the start of the season.
- Unified Sports® Partners must have a copy of a fully completed (both sides) Application for Participation ("medical") dated no more than three (3) year prior to the date of your sectional competition must be in the partners' database record.
- May have one role only during trainings and competitions. Sports Directors, HOD's, Officials, Unified Sports Partners or Games Management Team members may not be registered as coaches at competitions within the one-coach-to-four-athletes ratio.
  - Coaches, athletes and Unified Sports® partners may not chaperone additional non-athlete family members during competitions.
- **You may submit unlimited alternate coaches.** Programs will not be able to replace coaches unless they have alternates listed on the included Coach/Volunteer Registration Form. If a coach is scratched and no alternates are listed, the 1:4 ratio must be met by scratching athletes, if necessary.

- **Team Sports: 1 certified coach per team.** For Team sports, such as volleyball and soccer, each team must have a certified coach.
- **Individual Sports: 1 certified for every 25 athletes.** Each individual sport, such as LDR/W, powerlifting, bocce must have one (1) certified coach for every 25 athletes at the competition.
  - Contact Jennifer Tresp, [jtresp@specialolympicspa.org](mailto:jtresp@specialolympicspa.org) for questions on certified coaches.

### Entry Fee

- There will be a \$20.00 per athlete entry fee (do not include coaches).
- Your Program will be invoiced after the event for each athlete your requested and received.

## 2022 Eastern Spring Sectional Registration

Event:	Letter of Intent	VSys Roster Due Date	Google Registration Due Date
<b>Eastern Spring Sectional May 7, 2022</b>	<b>Thursday, April 7, 2022 by 11:59pm</b> <a href="#">Letter of Intent (LOI)</a>	<b>Monday, April 11, 2022 by 11:59pm</b>	<b>Thursday, April 21, 2022 by 11:59pm</b>

### Coaches Registration:

1. Programs must have at least one Special Olympics certified coach per 25 athletes for each individual sport registered to compete in and ONE CERTIFIED COACH FOR EACH TEAM COMPETING IN A TEAM SPORT (ex: if you have two volleyball teams you must have two certified volleyball coaches)
2. All coaches/Unified Sports Partners, HOD's, and Class A volunteers over the age of 16 must meet all required elements (i.e.: CRC, General Orientation, Protective Behaviors, etc.), see pages 3-4 of this document for details.
3. Head Coaches must be 18 years or older to attend this event within the one to four ratio.

### Minimum and Maximum number of Athletes per Team:

Sport	Minimum # of players	Maximum # of players
5v5 Basketball	6 players	10 players
3v3 Basketball	4 players	5 players
3v3 Basketball Unified Player Development	6 players (4 athletes/2partners)	8 players (5 athletes/3 partners)
Traditional Softball Team	10 or 11 (with EP) players	15 player
Softball Unified Team	10 players (5 athletes/5 partners)	16 players (8 athletes/8 partners)

**Please note:** Teams without the minimum number of players will not be allowed to compete at the Spring Sectional.

## VSys Roster

### Athlete/Coach Online Roster (Vsys):

- **On-line roster is DUE by Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 p.m.**
- Athletes and coaches not listed on this roster will **not** be eligible to attend Sectionals.
- Include all alternate coaches and athletes.
- If you are unable to click on an athlete or coach it is generally due to a missing or expired athlete application or CRC.
- Please check the record in the SOPA database to determine why they are "inactive" and not available on your online roster.
- If you need assistance with Vsys, contact [vsyshelp@specialolympicspa.org](mailto:vsyshelp@specialolympicspa.org) or call 800.235.9058 ext. 232

## QUALIFIER FOR SUMMER GAMES:

The 2022 Summer Games drawing will be held the Tuesday following the Spring Sectional. Results will be shared by end of day on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**2022 Qualifying Allocation:** We will determine qualifying numbers once all team registration is received from all 3 sections.

Area	BB 5v5	BB 3v3	BB IS	Golf	Tennis
Western	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
West	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
East	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

## ESS COMPETITION - Events Offered:

### ATHLETICS:

Athletes are **not** allowed to enter walking events and running events. They must select one method of movement for all their track events.

#### Track Events:

100 Meter Dash  
200 Meter Dash  
400 Meter Dash  
800 Meter Run  
1500 Meter Run  
3000 Meter Run  
5000 Meter Run  
100 Meter Walk  
400 Meter Walk  
800 Meter Walk  
4 x 100 Meter Relay (Traditional and Unified)  
4 X 200 Meter Relay (Traditional and Unified)  
4 x 400 Meter Relay (Traditional and Unified)  
High Jump  
Long Jump

#### Field Events:

##### **Shot Put**

a. Men 4 kg/8.8 lbs.  
b. Women 3 kg/ 6.6 lbs.  
c. Men  
(8–11 yrs 3 kg/ 6.6 lbs)  
d. Women  
(8–11 yrs 2 kg/ 4.4 lbs)

##### **Pentathlon\*\*\***

a. 100 Meters  
b. Long Jump  
c. Shot Put  
d. High Jump  
e. 800 Meters

##### **Mini Javelin (Turbo Jav)**

a. Junior Male (14 & under – 300 g)  
b. Junior Female (14 & under – 300 g)  
c. Senior Male (15 & over – 400 g)  
d. Senior Female (15 & over – 300 g)

**\*\*\*Athletes competing in the Pentathlon may only compete in the Pentathlon and a relay - no other individual events.**

### The following events provide meaningful competition for athletes with lower ability levels:

\*25 and 50 Meter Dash  
\*Standing Long Jump  
\*Ball Throw for Distance  
\*Softball Throw

\*25 and 50 Meter Walk

\*10, 25, and 50 Meter Assisted Walk

\***100 Meter Walk** (the 100 M Walk can be performed by both entry level and traditional athletes)

\*10 and 25 Meter Wheelchair Race

\*30 and 50 Meter Motorized Wheelchair Slalom

\*30 Meter Wheelchair Slalom

\*25 Meter Wheelchair Obstacle Race

\*100 Meter Wheelchair Race

\*200 Meter Wheelchair Race

\*400 Meter Wheelchair Race

\*4 x 25 Meter Wheelchair Shuttle Relay

##### **\*Wheelchair Shot Put**

\*a. Men 2 kg/4.4 lbs

\*b. Women 2 kg/4.4 lbs

**BASKETBALL:**

Individual Skills Competition#\*  
 Team Competition – 5 v 5#  
 Team Competition – 3 v 3#  
 Unified Sports® Player Development – 3 v 3

**SOFTBALL:**

Individual Skills Competition\*  
 Team Competition  
 Unified Sports® Team Competition

**GOLF**

Level 1 – Individual Skills#\* **(includes Bunker Shot)**  
 Level 2 – Partner Play#  
 Level 4 – 9 hole individual play#

**SWIMMING:**

25 Yard Freestyle	50 Yard Freestyle	50 Yard Breaststroke
25 Yard Backstroke	100 Yard Freestyle	100 Yard Breaststroke
25 Yard Breaststroke	200 Yard Freestyle	200 Yard Breaststroke
25 Yard Butterfly	400 Yard Freestyle	50 Yard Butterfly
* 15 Yard Assisted Swim	800 Yard Freestyle	100 Yard Butterfly
* 15 Yard Flotation	50 Yard Backstroke	200 Yard Butterfly
* 15 Yard Walk	100 Yard Backstroke	100 Yard Individual Medley
* 15 Yard Unassisted Swim	200 Yard Backstroke	200 Yard Individual Medley
* 15 Yard Kickboard	* 25 Yard Flotation	*25 Yard Assisted Swim
4 x 25 and 4 x 50 Yard Freestyle Relays and Unified Sports® Freestyle Relays		
4 x 25 and 4 x 50 Yard Medley Relays and Unified Sports® Medley Relays		

\* Athletes participating in Fundamental events may not enter other non-fundamental events.

**TENNIS**

Individual Skills and Short Court Tennis#\*  
 Singles/ Doubles #

\* - Denotes entry-level events. Athletes participating in entry-level events may not enter other non-entry level events.

# - These events are qualifiers for Summer Games.

## **Spring Sectional Competition Checklist**

*(Use this list to ensure that all necessary items have been completed and submitted.)*

### **DEADLINE #1: LOI - Due Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm**

<b>√ Here when Complete</b>	<b>Form or item requiring attention</b>	<b>Date submitted</b>
	Letter of Intent Thursday, April 7, 2022 by 11:59pm <a href="#">Letter of Intent (LOI)</a>	

#### **TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:**

Delegations must let SOPA know if transportation is needed to the golf venue. We are providing shuttles to these venues, but would like to have an estimate of the transportation numbers needed.

### **DEADLINE #2: Vsys Roster Complete Due Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 p.m.**

<b># of forms Submitted</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Date Submitted</b>
	Vsys Online Roster	

### **DEADLINE #3: Google Registration Complete Due Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> by 11:59 p.m.**

<b># of forms Submitted</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Date Submitted</b>
	Google Registration	