

Media Alert

Special Olympics
Pennsylvania



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4/25/2019

3rd ANNUAL UNIFIED BOCCE GOVERNMENT CHALLENGE TO BE HELD IN EAST ROTUNDA OF THE STATE CAPITOL

Government Officials and Other Leaders to Join Special Olympics PA Athletes for Reception & Unified Bocce Competitions

WHAT: Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) will host its third annual Unified Bocce Government Challenge. The challenge pairs various local organizational leaders, government officials and legislative leaders (Unified Partners) with SOPA athletes for a fun competitive and social experience. Attendees will compete in a bocce competition. A maximum of 8 teams including a mix of SOPA athletes and Unified Partners will compete on one of four bocce courts. Each team will have 8 members. Competition rounds will be 12 minutes long with 5 minute transition periods in between. Teams will compete in a bracket format to determine an overall winner. The winning team will receive the first ever Unified Bocce Government Challenge trophy! The challenge will feature food, drinks, camaraderie and friendly competition.

WHEN/WHERE: **Monday, April 29, 2019**
Pennsylvania State Capitol East Rotunda, 501 N 3rd St, Harrisburg, PA 17120

5:15 p.m. - 5:25 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies
5:25 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Introduction to bocce
5:35 p.m. - 6:35 p.m.	Bocce Competition
6:35 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Awards Ceremony
7:00 p.m.	Departure

WHO:

SOPA Athletes participating in the Unified Bocce Government Challenge: Unified Champion School Bocce State Champions, Bald Eagle Area School District Bocce Team; 2019 World Games Athletes; and athletes from Adams County, Area M (Dauphin, Perry, Cumberland, Northern York), and Lycoming County.

Government officials invited to the Unified Bocce Government Challenge: Jay Costa, PA State Senator; Representative Sheryl Delozier, PA House of Representatives; Representative Dan Miller, PA House of Representatives; Tomas Aguilar, Director, Division of Health; Secretary Pedro Rivera, Pennsylvania Department of Education; Robert Tomaine, Chief Counsel Office, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Deputy Secretary Glenn Miller, Pennsylvania Department of Education; Deputy Secretary Matt Stem, Pennsylvania Department of Education; and representatives from PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

MEDIA ARE WELCOME – Media are welcomed to attend any portion of the event. Contact Wenona Sutton (wsutton@specialolympicspa.org) at (347) 659-8591 or Mike Bovino (mbovino@specialolympicspa.org) at (202) 494-5584 for further information or to arrange interviews.

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