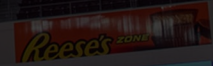


24-25 Bocce Preseason Coaches Webinar Meeting



9:15
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COURT 4
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Agenda

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ UCS Staff/ Bocce Advisory Committee
- ❖ Rule Reminders
- ❖ Rosters/Registration
- ❖ What is new this year
- ❖ Post Season & PIAA/SOPA State Championships
- ❖ Important Dates
- ❖ Resources
- ❖ Questions

UCS STAFF

Eastern	Central	Western
Tom Robinson Northeast Region	Sarah Neumann The Wilds Region	Eric Jankoski Three Rivers Region
Ashley Herr Greater Philadelphia	Jan Holt Capital Area Region	Stephanie Taylor Three Rivers Region
Ken Geiser Greater Philadelphia	Danielle Kaufman Capital Area Region	Andrew Grainer Three Rivers Region
Brandon Kinsey Greater Lehigh Valley Pocono Region	Jennifer Tresp/TBA Susquehanna Region	Doug Chuzie Northwest
	Lauren Sautler Sr. UCS Director	Heather Hudson Ridge & Valley

Bocce Advisory Committee

- Composed of SOPA representatives, coaches, student leaders, and athletic directors from schools of various sizes and locations from across the state.
- Goal of the committee: provide feedback & share ideas as SOPA goes through the decision-making process for the Unified Bocce season.
- The input & experience each perspective brings to the table helps us to make the best decisions possible.
 - *SOPA reviews feedback and ultimately makes the final decisions*



REMINDERS!



Attire



- ▶ Everyone competing needs to show up ready to compete in proper uniform.
- ▶ Follow the guidelines within the coach guide.
- ▶ Athletic shoes - YES
 - ▶ Slide on, Velcro, or laced
- ▶ Non-athletic shoes - NO
 - ▶ Uggs, Crocs, Van slides, Hey Dudes...
- ▶ Athletic bottoms or khakis - YES
 - ▶ Warm ups, solid leggings, solid sweats
- ▶ Jeans/Cargos/Shorts - NO
- ▶ Polo must be worn

Bocce Balls

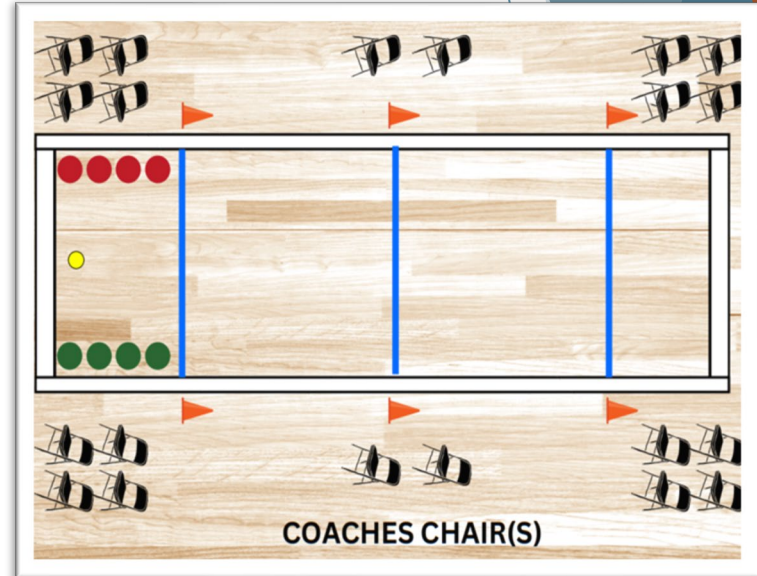
- Gel Filling is a completely inert, non-toxic high density mixture
- **Clean up with only soap and water.** - Air Dry
- Need air? Use a hand held air pump.
 - **Give it a small pump of air.**
 - **Be careful to not overfill the ball.**
 - **Size of the bocce ball should be 107mm.**

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



Coaches Chair

- Coaches are required to remain in the "Coaching Chair" area (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.
 - **NO GAME EVER ends in a TIE**
- **1 minute** - Length of a time out



Need to Know Numbers

- **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.

Need to Know – Optional Golden Frame

Golden Frame - If the overall wins for each school are tied after two games (1-1 or 2-2), then a Golden Frame **may** be played to determine the overall school who wins the match.

- If both schools agree they don't want to play it, **they don't have to** and can end the **match** in a tie.
 - **If one school wants to play the Golden Frame, then the other school must play**
- It will have **NOTHING** to do with points - it is simply a tiebreaker between schools, not necessarily individual teams. This does not go towards your record and is not counted for points tracking.
- Only scheduled games will go towards record and points tracking.



OPTIONAL Golden Frame - Procedure

- Each school will pick 2 athletes and 2 partners from the **same team** to play this one frame.
- Coaches report the names to the scorekeeper to add to the score sheet.
- A coin toss is held. The winner chooses their ball color & rolls the pallina first.
- **No time outs are allowed**, but all other rules are in play.
- This is only **one frame** (8 total balls rolled) – The winner of the frame wins the match.



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

NEW FOR 2024-25!

New Roster Requirements

- The minimum roster size is 6 players and the maximum allowed roster size has been expanded to 10 players.
- There must always be a minimum of 3 Special Olympics eligible students (defined as having an intellectual or developmental disability, including autism with a cognitive delay) **and** a minimum of 3 general education students without any disability on the roster. The balance of the roster can be any combination of Special Olympics athletes and Unified partners.

New Roster Requirements Cont.

- For competitions, a team can only activate a maximum of 8 players. A competition day roster must have a minimum of 3 Special Olympics eligible students (athletes) and a minimum of 3 general education students (Unified partners).
- Players who are not activated as part of the competition day roster are not permitted to wear their competition uniform. They can attend the bocce match, but as spectators and supporters of their teammates. This is to eliminate confusion.

Time Management

- **MEASUREMENTS:** If the head bocce official calls for a measurement to determine points at the end of a completed frame, the clock is stopped.
- The clock restarts once the points are awarded and announced by the head official.



Time Outs

- Teams are permitted to call a time-out at any time during a game. They do not need to have possession of the bocce ball.
- All bocce balls must come to a complete stop before a time-out is granted.
- There is a limit of 1 time-out per team per game.
- If a time out is used prior to the 2 minute mark, the time will restart once the next bocce ball or the pallina is rolled.

Ending in a Tie Game

- **NO** game **EVER** ends in a tie.
- If at the end of regulation time a game is tied, one final tie-breaker frame must be played to break the tie.
- Failure to comply and ending a game in a tie will result in neither team receiving credit for the win/loss or the points scored in the game.



Ball Delivery

Legal Rolls

- No player is permitted to sit on the floor to roll the pallina or bocce ball.
- A player may roll the ball sitting in a chair or wheelchair if needed. Otherwise, a player must roll from a standing or kneeling position.

Uniforming

No jackets or hoodies or any garment are permitted under or over a player's polo shirt with the following exception:

- A solid color long sleeve shirt is permitted under a player's polo.



Registration & Rosters

Student Athlete Requirements

Eligible students

- 9th to 12th grade
- Students up to the age of 21 who are still receiving services from the school district.

Age Restriction- students who are turning 22 who have opted in for an additional year of high school are not eligible to be on the roster

Any students returning to receive additional services from a school under section 1412(a)(1)(B) of IDEA (a student returning to receive services until their 22nd birthday) are not eligible to be on an Interscholastic Unified Sports team roster. These students are more than welcome to be team managers, part of an Intramural Unified Sports program, or members of the Unified club for as long as school policy allows.

Student Athlete Requirements

All participants must complete both forms to be eligible for participation:

- PIAA Physical Form
 - The school will file this form as they do for all PIAA Participant forms
- SOPA Registration
 - Regionally Specific link will be sent by your liaison
 - This form should be completed by families or guardians
 - Paper copies are available if needed
 - contact your SOPA Liaison

Team Rosters Continued

- **Team Rosters are due, December 4th**
 - No additional players may be added after this deadline
 - **Schools with 2 Teams** - When rosters are submitted - no team members may changes 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.**
 - Officials training video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URiSBVLgFXY>

Team Rosters Continued

- **Team Rosters are due, December 4th**
 - **Step 1:** Be sure student completed SOPA registration
 - **Step 2:** On your roster tab, select which team each student will be assigned
 - **Step 3:** Double check rosters to be sure ratios are good and each team has minimum of 3 athletes & 3 partners

SOPA Registration x Roster

All participants must complete a SOPA Waiver - A regionally Specific link will be sent by your liaison

- This form should be completed by families or guardians
- Paper copies are available if needed - contact your SOPA Liaison
- Roster links will be emailed to your by your SOPA liaiso
- **THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO HAVE NAMES ADDED TO YOUR ROSTER THIS YEAR**

Participant Type: Athlete, Unified Partner, Coach, Official	First Name	Last Name	Gender	New/Returning	Grade in School	Birthdate	Coach or Officials Assignment	Team Assignment
Athlete	John	[REDACTED]	Male	Returning	Junior	[REDACTED]	▼	Team 1
Unified Partner	Kendal	[REDACTED]	Female	Returning	Senior	[REDACTED]	▼	Team 1
Athlete	Amanda	[REDACTED]	Female	Returning	Senior	[REDACTED]	▼	Team 2
Athlete	Grace	[REDACTED]	Female	New	Junior	[REDACTED]	▼	
Athlete			Male	New	Sophomore	[REDACTED]	▼	

Double click in boxes with down arrows for options							
Team 1	Athlete/Partner	First Name	Last Name	Gender	New/Returning	Grade In School	Birthdate
Teammate 1	Athlete	John	[REDACTED]	Male	Returning	Junior	[REDACTED]
Teammate 2	Unified Partner	Kendal	[REDACTED]	Female	Returning	Senior	[REDACTED]
Teammate 3							

Players needing 1:1 or Paraprofessionals

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

POST SEASON
ADVANCEMENT
&
PIAA/SOPA STATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS



League Play Champions to State Qualifiers

Layered Process:

1. Division/League Championships

- a. Schools who qualify participate and receive awards for their placement in their division or league.
- b. *NOT ALL SCHOOLS OR TEAMS MAKE PLAYOFFS*

2. Regionals Qualifiers (8 around the state)

- a. The winners of the League Championships will compete against the other League Champions in their Regional Championship for the chance to earn a slot for the PIAA/SOPA Championships

3. PIAA/SOPA State Championships (winners of the Regional Qualifiers - 8 total teams advance to states)

PIAA/SOPA Championships

School Provides

- ▶ Transportation to and from Hershey, PA
- ▶ Supervision of attending student athletes based on SOPA policy of 4:1 student-coach ratio.
- ▶ All adults attending as a coach or 1:1 support must have clearance on file with SOPA.
- ▶ 1:1 only provided to those students receiving 1:1 services in school

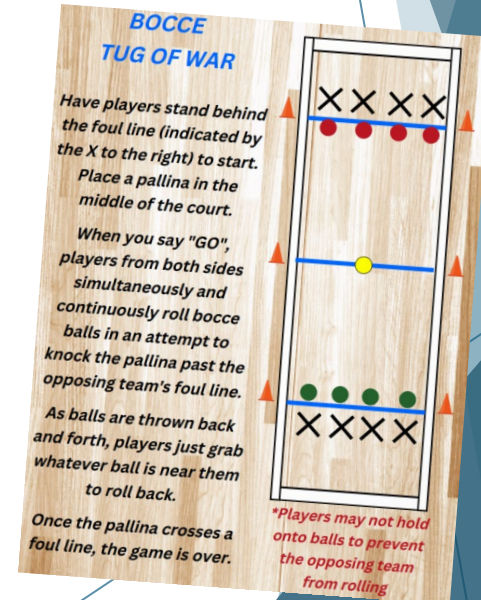
SOPA Provides

- ▶ Competition management of the event.
- ▶ Dinner on Wednesday evening, breakfast & lunch on Thursday.
- ▶ Housing for all qualifying team on Wednesday evening.

Resources

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 include 10 minutes of Fitness Training
 - a. Including warm-ups & cool-downs
 - b. Check out our website for resources!
 - [Bocce Dynamic Warm-Up Guide](#)
 - [Bocce Cool Down Guide](#)



Practices/Training Plan Ideas

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

Website Resources Page

UCS Website: <https://specialolympicspa.org/ucs-resource-library#coach-resources>



INTERSCHOLASTIC UNIFIED INDOOR BOCCÉ 2023-2024 COACHES' RESOURCE GUIDE



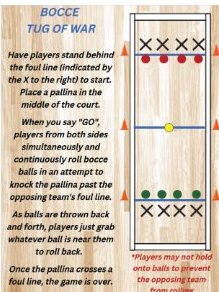
Coach Handbook

Bocce Training Plan Date: _____

Focus of Training: _____

Time	Concept(s)	Drills/Activities	Layout
Warm-up			
Dynamic Stretch/Ball Exercises			
Training			
Skills			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position: 3/4's every 2/3's • Roll ball • Control of Game Line • Situation 			
Cool-down			
Coach Chat			

Practice Plan



Games at Practice

Player Rotation

Players are rotated in a clockwise direction for a game, as no individual player is permitted to roll. After the game is over, the rotation continues to the next game.

NOTE: Rollers (Roller) and the ball carrier (Ball Carrier) are not rotated.

Roller (Roller) and the ball carrier (Ball Carrier) are not rotated.

Roller (Roller) and the ball carrier (Ball Carrier) are not rotated.

Page	Roller	Ball Carrier
1	1.1	1.2
2	2.1	2.2
3	3.1	3.2
4	4.1	4.2
5	5.1	5.2
6	6.1	6.2
7	7.1	7.2
8	8.1	8.2
9	9.1	9.2
10	10.1	10.2

Roller (Roller) and the ball carrier (Ball Carrier) are not rotated.

Team #	Athletes	Roller
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Roller (Roller) and the ball carrier (Ball Carrier) are not rotated.

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7	7.1	7.2
8	8.1	8.2
9	9.1	9.2
10	10.1	10.2

Player Rotations

Follow this link to view the Bocce Officials Training Video

Follow this link to view the 3/3 Bocce Rotations Guide

Follow this link to view the 3/4 Bocce Rotations Guide

Follow this link to view the 3/5 Bocce Rotations Guide



Special Olympics Unified Indoor Bocce Key Program Information

- Unified Indoor Bocce is a competitive sport for athletes with intellectual disabilities and their Unified Partners.
- Unified Indoor Bocce is a competitive sport for athletes with intellectual disabilities and their Unified Partners.
- Unified Indoor Bocce is a competitive sport for athletes with intellectual disabilities and their Unified Partners.

One Pager

SPECTATORS GUIDE TO BOCCÉ

Key Words:

- **Team Roster:** Minimum of 6 and maximum of 8 players (maximum of 4 professional number of players and 4 without professional abilities).
- **Team Logo:** All athletes players will be identified by a professional number.
- **Roller:** Roller is the player who rolls the ball.
- **Ball Carrier:** Ball Carrier is the player who carries the ball.
- **Out:** The ball is out of play when it is out of the court.

The Game:

- **Start of a Game:** The match begins with the roll of a coin between the pallina and the team that will roll the ball first.
- **Rolling the Ball:** The roller rolls the ball from the foul line into the court. The ball carrier carries the ball to the foul line and rolls the ball into the court.
- **Rolling the Ball:** The roller rolls the ball from the foul line into the court. The ball carrier carries the ball to the foul line and rolls the ball into the court.

Spectator Guide

Training Session 1

Special Olympics Unified Sports

Roller (Roller) and the ball carrier (Ball Carrier) are not rotated.

Page	Roller	Ball Carrier
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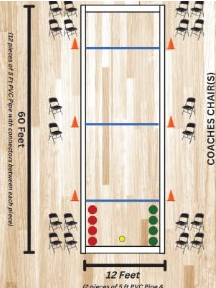
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8	8.1	8.2
9	9.1	9.2
10	10.1	10.2

Training Plan



Court Diagram

Support Materials

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

Important Dates

Seasonal Timeline

Late October – Early November: New Coaches In-Person Trainings

November 15: Practice can begin

December 9: Competition can begin

February 7: Regular season ends

February 10-27: League Play Offs

March 3-11: Region Championships Held

March 26-27: Unified Bocce State Championships

Shirt Ordering

Order By: **November 22nd**

[Wills Uniform Website](#)

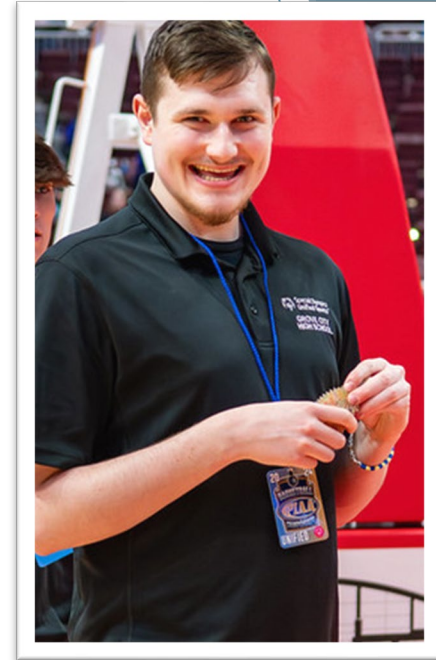
NEW SCHOOLS & Coaches - Can order

- 20 Athlete/Unified partner polo shirts
- 2 Coach Polos
- 4 Official Polos

RETURNING SCHOOLS -

- Only order sizes needed above your current inventory

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.



Due Dates/Deadlines

November 1st – 22nd

- Uniform order window and deadline. [CLICK HERE](#) to order.

December 4th

- Team Rosters are due & will be locked
- Coaches Quiz due – [CLICK HERE](#) to take quiz

January 17th

- LOI Due

March 11th

- States Paperwork Due to SOPA

Upcoming Webinars

October 29th

- Preseason Coach Webinar @ 3:30 – [CLICK HERE](#)

October 30th

- Preseason Coach Webinar @ 3:30 – [CLICK HERE](#)

December 3rd

- Bocce Competition Management- 3:30pm – [CLICK HERE](#)

December 5th

- Bocce Officials Webinar - 3:30pm – [CLICK HERE](#)

January 7th

- Post Season Advancement Webinar – 3:30pm – [CLICK HERE](#)

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: December 4th.
 - ▶ Any coach who fails the quiz will have a 1:1 meeting with your Liaison to review the missed questions.
- ▶ Bocce Coaches Quiz



QUESTIONS?

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue and orange, creating a modern, layered effect on the right side of the slide.