



Area P:

Quarterly Public Meeting

July, 2020

Special Olympics
Pennsylvania



Agenda:



- Welcome
- Review Zoom Meeting Protocols
- State Updates
- Program Updates
- New Business?
- Questions?



Next Meeting:

November 11th - location Wallenpaupack



Zoom Meeting Protocols



- Please **MUTE** your phone or device when you enter the call
 - This will allow for clear communication
 - This will minimize background noise
- This meeting is being recorded and will be posted on [website](#)
- There is a chat box at the bottom for you to ask questions
 - The chat box will be monitored throughout the meeting. type in your question
 - Questions will be addressed during the call as they arise or at the end of the meeting





Updates

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State Updates:

Gina Reid



● Return to Play Guidelines & Protocol

- Based on guidance from CDC, State of PA and SOI
- Primary focus is SAFETY
- Phased approach: A to E
 - A = Most Restrictive (Virtual training - where we are now)
 - E = Least Restrictive (high risk groups can return)
 - This fall goal is phase B & C
- Able to begin as of 8/1 in phase B
- **APPROVED SPORTS:** Bocce, Flag Football, LDR/W, Powerlifting, Roller Skating, Soccer, Volleyball
- Must submit request to SOPA to begin training
- Must receive approval from SOPA to begin.

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State Updates:

Gina Reid



Return to Play Guidelines & Protocol - continued

- A county must be designated in the GREEN Phase by PA in order to be eligible
- **No more than 10 total participants** (including athletes, coaches, and volunteers) are permitted at a training site or event during the first phase of in-person activities.
- A COVID-19 Coordinator (either the coach or another volunteer) is required at each training site or event. This individual will conduct a basic screening protocol prior to each practice and have several additional responsibilities.
- All participants must practice social distancing.
- There will be no sharing of equipment.
- All participants need their own facemasks, water bottles, towels, and equipment.
- SOPA will be purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in bulk and will make it available for local Programs.
- For team sports, only Level 1 and Level 2 skills activities are permitted. **No team play will be allowed in the fall.**
- No in-person competitions will be permitted during the fall season. All competitions will be done virtually.

Program Updates:

Kim Emmet



- **Bocce Picnic:** No longer hosting this event.
- **Communication Reminders:**
 - **Program Emails**
 - **Area P Website:** www.soareap.org (Kim Emmet)
 - Program Contacts
 - Athlete & Volunteer Registration
 - Program Information: Minutes, Newsletters, Events
 - Sport Information
 - **Facebook:** (Megan Pitino)
 - Special Olympics Pennsylvania - Area P
 - Photos, events, fundraisers, program updates
 - <https://www.facebook.com/Special-Olympics-Pennsylvania-Area-P-106158137717756/>
 - Spread the word....share the page.



Treasurer Report:

Mike O'Hara



- **CDs/Savings:** \$109,375.09
- **Revenue YTD 2020:** \$1,866.00
(Revenue: Donations, Grants, Fundraisers)
- **Expenses YTD 2020:** \$12,713
(Expenses: Training, Competition, Storage Rental, Meals, Fuel, Equipment)
- **2021 Budget work begins in fall:** Working to align revenue/expenses with Area P budget.



Treasurer Report:

Mike O'Hara



Local Program Reserves Management

Based on management letter received from the state auditor they identified several issues and potential risks associated with the current financial management procedures.

1. Statewide there are over 100 individual authorized signers who need to be tracked and updated as they change positions within the organization. The paperwork to accomplish this varies from bank to bank and consumes an extensive amount of time and recordkeeping, exposing the organization to risk during these transitions.
2. With so many individuals involved in the cash management process, the opportunity for manual errors and omissions is increased.
3. Investment options are limited and not coordinated to obtain the best possible investment returns that may be available with a combined portfolio.
4. Valuable volunteer time is dedicated to bookkeeping rather than working with the athletes.

SOPA Board voted and approved a resolution to move all local Program assets by December 31, 2020.

Treasurer Report:

Mike O'Hara



Implementation:

- The first step will be to liquidate all CD's, money market accounts, and savings accounts and deposit the funds in the WSFS disbursement account.
- Eighteen months' operating cash for each local Program (based on **2019** level of activities) will be maintained in the WSFS account.
- Funds in excess of that threshold will be invested in a local Program designated sub-account with SOPA's investment advisors, the Haverford Trust Company (HTC).
- Fund balances in **both** the WSFS disbursement account and the HTC investment portfolio **will remain for each local Program.**



Fundraising Updates:

Megan Pitino



- **Virtual UNCathlon AMRAP:**

- Statewide fundraiser: Aug 16 - Sept 26
- Combines fitness & fundraising
- Meaghan Martin - Team Captain
- Revenue Share for Area P: Of money raised by Area P participants 75% of net stays with Area P
- We hope you will join Meaghan's team!

- **Virtual Tricky Tray/Gift Card Raffle**

- Running through October 1st 2020 to October 31, 2020
- Running one raffle a day throughout the month
- Going to buy 31 \$50 Gift Cards
 - Will profit \$4650
 - Buying mixture of Small Businesses in Area P and Big Business
- Raffle will run through Facebook Group



Training Updates:

Jean Sandberg



Sports Offered:

- **ONLY** SOPA approved sports in fall: for Area P Bocce & Soccer
- No golf, bowling, equestrian

NEW: Fitness as a Sport

- Virtual Training for anyone in high risk groups or uncomfortable returning to training due to COVID concerns
- Competition will be offered at sectionals and Fall Fest

Coach Meeting Links: Focussed on what training will look like THIS fall

- [2020 Pre-Season Coaches Meeting - Bocce](#) - 7:00 pm Thursday, July 30th
- [2020 Pre-Season Coaches Webinar - Soccer](#) - 7 pm on Wednesday, August 5th

Virtual Coach Certifications: Coming soon!

Certified Coach Requirements:

- All teams must have 1 certified coach
- Non-team sports must have 1 certified coach in that sport for every 25 athletes

Training Updates:

Jean Sandberg



MEDICALS:

- Coaches are submit rosters to Training Coordinator prior to start of season
- Identifying who is missing current medical or has one that is expiring
- Athletes CAN NOT participate without an active medical.
- **Medical Extension:** Current athletes with exp after March 1, 2020 have grace period **until Sept. 30, 2020** due to COVID-19. With the provision that the athlete, family member or caregiver reports the following to the Local Program:
 - The athlete has not had any major changes in their health status since their last valid Application for Participation was completed.
 - The athlete has not been infected with the COVID-19 virus (as this would require medical clearance).
 - The athlete does not experience any of the following symptoms at rest or during exercise: difficulty breathing, chest pain, shortness of breath, loss of consciousness, lightheadedness, dizziness, visual changes, headache, cough, skipped heartbeats, irregular heartbeat or any other unpleasant physical symptoms.

Are you interested in getting certified in a sport? Contact Area P Training Coordinator: Jean Sandberg areaptraining@gmail.com

Competition Updates:

Sue Ann Jacobs



Summer:

- Virtual Summer Games - [Video Links](#)
 - 30 Athletes Participated
 - Meaghan Martin - [Emcee Healthy Athletes](#)

Fall:

- Training permitted to after August 1
- Competition: Virtual Sectionals & Fall Fest
 - In person training
 - Prelim scores 3 wks prior and final scores submitted 1 week prior by coaches.
 - Athletes will be divisioned based on prelim scores
 - Athletes will be awarded based on final scores
 - SOPA awards will be sent to local programs.
 - Virtual Training: Fitness as a Sport (Competitive)

Competition Updates:

Sue Ann Jacobs



- **Competition Dates:**

- Sectionals: October 3
- Fall Fest: November 6-8
- Divisions for Virtual Athletes and In-Person Training



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Athlete/Volunteer Update:

Shannon Guinard, Kim Emmet



New Athletes:

- Outstanding medicals put in the system
- Working on school based medicals

New Volunteers: Following up on registrations and ensuring they are getting through registration to connect them to volunteer roles

Athletes and Volunteers can now access registration forms on the [Area P website](#)....



Outreach Update:

Roseann Polishan/Rachel Morganstern



- **Outreach Opportunities:** Beginning reach outs to other local organizations to identify potential partnership opportunities.
- **Quarterly Newsletter, coming soon!**



Unified Champion Schools



- **Staff Liaison: Pete Shivock**
 - Joined Area P Management Team
 - pshivock@specialolympicspa.org
- **Number of Schools served: 8**
 - **Wayne:** Honesdale, Western Wayne
 - **Lackawanna:** Abington Hts, North Pocono, Carbondale, Valley View, West Scranton
 - **Pike:** Wallenpaupack
- **Competition in Bocce & Track & Field**
- **Goal: Better transition between UCS and Community Programs**





New Business

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QUESTIONS??



Email: areapmanager@gmail.com

Visit: <https://soareap.org/>

NEXT MEETING: November 11, 2020

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