November 2018 Newsletter

Special Olympics Ontario School Programs

Hello Ontario Educators!

We hope that the first couple of months of the school year have been as awesome for you as they have been for us!

As we move through the Fall and approach Winter, we have successfully completed our Soccer season and are well into our Basketball season! What a great turnout we had in Soccer! We started nice and early this year and got lots of great events going outside! Sure some of them were a little cold, windy, and/or rainy – but when has rain ever stopped us from enjoying a SOO School Qualifier?!

Looking ahead, we have lots of awesome events and programs coming down the pipe! Sports Festivals are heating up and we are excited to be hosting events in Barrie, Peterborough, Niagara, Downtown Toronto, Windsor, and Richmond Hill!

Our Intermediate Programs are being piloted throughout the province. These programs provide introductions to competition in either Bocce or Basketball. We want to provide a safe place for athletes transitioning into high school to learn about competition and teamwork. You can also prepare your athletes with our Youth Multi-Sport resource – for more information on these events and resources please email the Schools Team!

In secondary schools, our Qualifiers are in the thick of it! Athletics and Soccer were awesome! We have already started Basketball (oh how time flies!) and we are thrilled to see so many familiar AND new faces coming out to our events! We know everyone is jockeying for a spot at the 2019 Invitational Youth Games! Congratulations to all of those teams who have qualified already and Good Luck to those who are still vying for their spot!

Please read the Newsletter below for some great info on upcoming events and available resources!

As always, please let us know if you have ANY questions at all!

Josh

Joshua Budish
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Special Olympics Ontario
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NEWS YOU CAN USE!

Athlete Leadership

Our very own Athlete Leadership Coordinator, Ryan Colpitts, as a Special Olympics athlete himself, can speak to how meaningful it is for athletes to get opportunities for personal and professional growth!

Our Athlete Leadership Programs (ALPs) provide just that! Ryan will work with your administration to organize an ALPs training in your school! He will come to you and spend 2.5 hours with your Special Olympics athletes AND Unified Partners (in the morning or afternoon). The trainings have two modules; 1) Leadership and Social Media and 2) Healthy Lifestyles.

This is a FREE program for your school and is a great opportunity for your students to grow and learn together off the court!

For more information, email us at Schools@SpecialOlympicsOntario.com!

Welcome to the Team, Cristina Doria and Jeff Charlesworth!

Cristina's passion for sports at an early age led her to begin her academic career studying Kinesiology at York University. Upon graduation, she had the opportunity to work one-on-one with athletes as a trainer. After being exposed to the business of sport, she decided to leave this career path and return to school studying Sports Business Management. This program allowed her to work in all levels of sport from grassroots to professional teams, and eventually to being the newest school event coordinator for Special Olympics Ontario. Outside of sports, Cristina is also a dance instructor, fitness enthusiast, and book lover.

Jeff Charlesworth comes to Special Olympics after 15 years of running the Professional Development program at CPA Ontario. He is the Head Coach of the SOO North York Jets Track and Field team, and served as an assistant coach before that. He also served two years on the Toronto Community Council as the Volunteer Coordinator, helping to organize events and supporting the club teams. Jeff is currently enrolled in Seneca College's Social Service Worker program. Jeff is thrilled to be a part of the growing School Programs team and LOVES being able to work with the athletes on a more regular basis!

Contact Us

schools@specialolympicsontario.com
1 (888) 333-5515 ext. 246

Or visit our website at:
http://specialolympicsontario.com/schools

ELEMENTARY & INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS

Our introductory elementary school events are off and running this school year! This year we are so excited to roll out our more targeted program activities. These allow young athletes to engage in more ability-appropriate activities making sure that they learn more and have lots of fun!

Before the Holiday Season, we will be hosting Sports Festivals in:

- Barrie – November 15
- Peterborough – November 20
- Niagara – November 21
- Downtown Toronto – November 21
- Windsor – November 28
- Richmond Hill – November 29

Special Olympics Ontario Intermediate Programs

Since the announcement of the Intermediate Competitions pilot, we have had overwhelming interest in the program. Our first unified intermediate competition of the year will be on November 29th, 2018 at the RA Centre in Ottawa.

At this competition Special Olympics Athletes in grades 6-8 will be competing alongside their mainstream peers in Unified Bocce. Special Olympics Ontario will provide FREE Youth Multi-Sport guides that will help guide teachers through lesson plans in four (4) sports including our demonstration intermediate sports, Bocce and Basketball. We strongly recommend teachers take advantage of this great offer. These guides can be helpful in lesson planning and explaining the rules of a new sport to your young athletes.

Be sure to check the event calendar on our website for location and registration information for all upcoming Unified Intermediate programs:

- Ottawa Bocce: November 29, 2018
- Toronto Bocce: February 20, 2019 (East) & February 21 (West)
- Toronto Basketball: May 1, 2019

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VIRTUAL TRACK AND FIELD

Virtual T&F allows schools around the province to record their own results and submit them for qualification. Virtual T&F results are due to Special Olympics Ontario by **December 1, 2018** in order to be eligible for qualification to the Youth Games.

The events are: 50m race, 100m race, 200m race, standing long jump, and shotput.

Schools have a number of options to participate:

1. Submit results from a track meet hosted May 2018 or later
2. Record results from your students at your own school during physical education, recess, etc.
3. Invite other local schools to host a 'mini-meet' and record results from all participants

Email us at schools@specialolympicsontario.com for more information!

REMEMBER – the deadline for submitting your Virtual Track and Field results is
DECEMBER 1, 2018 AT 5:00PM.

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SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Our School Championships Qualifiers have been off to an exciting start this season! With the SOO 2019 Invitational Youth Games being hosted in Toronto, the competition is at an all-time high! Haven't qualified yet? Not to worry, there are still several upcoming qualifiers! Be sure to check www.specialolympicsontario.com/schools and visit our event calendar to find a qualifier near you.

Special Olympics Ontario
School Championships Qualifiers

For the remainder of the year the following sports are available:

- Basketball- 26 qualifiers (November and December)
- Bocce- 20 qualifiers (December to March)
- Floor Hockey- 13 qualifiers (February and March)
- Virtual Track and Field- Scores must be submitted by **December 1st, 2018**

Unified Sport

Unified Sport teams are comprised of both student-athletes with an intellectual disability and their mainstream peers (Unified Partners). The main goal of Unified sport is to create meaningful competition between all athletes in a Unified division (both with and without intellectual disabilities), which means all athletes should be at a similar ability level.

Unified Basketball

Schools may enter 3 teams
Teams may have 4 SO athletes and 2 unified partners max
Only 1 unified partner can be on the court at any time

Unified Bocce

Schools may enter 3 teams maximum
Teams may have 2 SO athletes and 2 unified partners max

Unified Floor Hockey

Schools may enter 3 teams maximum
Teams may have 8 SO athletes and 4 unified partners max
Only 2 unified partner can be on the court at any time

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May 14 - 17, 2019
TORONTO, CANADA

Special Olympics Ontario 50

INVITATIONAL YOUTH GAMES

Uniting the World

HOSTED BY: TORONTO POLICE

The inaugural Special Olympics Ontario (SOO) Invitational Youth Games (IYG) will play host to over 2,500 athletes and coaches from around the world. These multi-sport Games will feature both Unified Sports and traditional sporting divisions for athletes aged 13-21. The IYG will serve as a landmark event for the 50th anniversary of Special Olympics!

These Games will replace the 2019 SOO School Championships. This means that qualifying at the School Championships Qualifiers throughout the year will earn your team a spot at the Invitational Youth Games!

Feature five sports (both traditional and unified): basketball, bocce, floor hockey, track and field and soccer.

Additional Programming

- Youth Leadership Summit
- Healthy Athletes
- Young Athletes showcase
- Torch Run final leg
- University/College Unified Sports championships
- Observers/Games Experience Program

So, our team qualified at a School Championships qualifier...what next?

Step one is to accept your position within the Youth Games (instructions will be sent if you qualify). To secure your spot, you will need to complete a team registration form that will be posted online and available to be downloaded.
Registration will be staggered throughout the 2018-2019 school year depending on your team sport. Below is the list of sport-specific registration deadlines ahead:

Sport:	Registration Deadline:
Soccer	Friday, November 9th, 2018
Virtual Track & Field	Thursday, January 31st, 2018
Basketball	Friday, December 21st, 2018
Bocce	Thursday, April 18th , 2019
Floor Hockey	Thursday, April 18th , 2019

*Exceptions will be made for qualifiers occurring after registration.

Please email coaches@youthgames2019.com if you have any questions.

youthgames2019.com

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE

Our University College Programs now up and running! These programs provide a transitionary step for secondary school students into SOO community programs. Targeting athletes between the ages of 18-25, these programs pair Special Olympics Athletes with their peers in the local University or College intramural program.

Please check out an upcoming event in your community:

- Ryerson basketball: November 10, 2018
- Western basketball: November 24, 2018
- York basketball: November 25, 2018

For more information on these events and how to sign up contact the schools team at schools@specialolympicsontatrio.com

University/College programs are already in the news! Check out this article from the Laurier Golden Hawks website about their Unified Program!

https://www.laurierathletics.com/createarticle.php?ID=9854

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November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Notes: - All Secondary School Events are marked in RED - All Elementary School Events are marked in BLACK				1 -Hamilton - Basketball	2 -Niagara - Basketball	3
4	5	6 -York Region - Basketball	7 -London - Basketball	8	9	10
11	12	13 -Toronto East – Basketball -Toronto West - Basketball	14	15 -Barrie – Sports Festival	16	17
18	19	20 -Peterborough – Sports Festival - Guelph- Basketball	21 -Niagara – Sports Festival - DT Toronto – Sports Festival	22 -Windsor - Basketball	23 -Brantford - Basketball -Mississauga – School Competition	24
25	26	27 -Kingston - Bocce	28 -Cornwall – Bocce - Durham – Basketball -Sarnia- Basketball -Windsor – Sport Festival	29 -Ottawa – Bocce -Richmond Hill – Sports Festival - Thunder Bay – Sports Festival	30	

Special Olympics Ontario Sports Festival

Special Olympics Ontario Intermediate Programs

Special Olympics Ontario School Championships Qualifiers

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 VIRTUAL TRACK AND FIELD SUBMISSION DEADLINE
2	3	4 -Windsor - Bocce	5 -Woodstock - Bocce	6 -Guelph - Bocce	7 -Peterborough – Basketball -Bradford - Bocce	8
9	10	11 -Hamilton- Bocce	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Notes: - All Secondary School Events are marked in RED - All Elementary School Events are marked in BLACK				

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