



# SPECIAL OLYMPICS MISSOURI

## St. Louis Metro Area

# NEWSLETTER

February, 2022

### Message from Program Director Jocelyn Diehl

Please keep an eye on our online calendar at [www.somo.org](http://www.somo.org) for a full list of all of the exciting events planned for 2022! In addition to sports competitions, we can't wait to get back to our Young Athlete Programs, Challenge Days, and continue the growth of our Unified programming in the St. Louis Metro Area. Please reach out if something makes sense for your community that is not yet being offered! Thank you for your support!



### HIGHLIGHTS

The St. Louis Metro Area Office is putting touches in place for winter and spring events and can't wait to see our athletes out and about in 2022!

We were so disappointed to have to cancel the January Area Basketball Tournament in Warren County but with high COVID numbers after the holidays and snowy weather, we were up against factors out of our control. Thank you to our planning committee for all they did to get ready for that event, though we weren't able to host games.

With Regional Basketball scheduled on February 19 and State Basketball scheduled on March 19 in the St. Charles, MO area, we're looking forward to running those events and hosting some great basketball competition with teams from all over the State! One of our local high schools, St. Charles West, will host the first Opening Ceremony and dance for State Basketball since pre-COVID times!

All spring events are scheduled, some returning to communities that have hosted events for 20+ years, and some to venues new to SOMO STLM, so we can't wait to see what this year brings for competition and comradery!



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*You'll never be bored when you try something new.  
There's really no limit to what you can do!*

*– Dr. Suess*

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# **Special Olympics** Missouri



## **AREA UPDATES**

As staff members in the St. Louis Metro Area Office Tina Hissong and Stacey Koeller depart for other opportunities, we wish them the best in their next professional endeavors. In the short term, the STLM Office will be a staff of one but we are searching for new, passionate staff if you can help spread the word! Please see the postings for a Development Director and a part-time Program and Development support position at <https://somo.org/about/staff/>.

At this time, the Special Olympics Missouri - Special School District Office has made the difficult decision to cancel their winter basketball season. This affects only the St. Louis County school-day programming, and their bowling competitions will continue as planned this January and February. A standard basketball season is expected to resume in 2023.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- February 5 – Lake St. Louis Polar Plunge (Lake St. Louise)
- February 19 – Maryland Heights Polar Plunge (Creve Coeur Lake)
- February 19 – Regional Basketball Tournament (St. Charles)
- March 12 – Pattonville Local Swim Meet (Maryland Heights)
- March 19 – State Basketball Tournament (St. Charles)
- April 20 – Jefferson County Local Track Meet (Desoto)
- April 22 – St. Clair Local Track Meet (St. Clair)
- April 24 – St. Louis Metro Area Soccer Tournament (St. Louis)
- April 29 – Wright City Local Track Meet (Wright City)
- April 30 – St. Louis Metro Area Powerlifting Meet (Maryland Heights)
- May 7 – St. Louis Metro Area Spring Games (Town & Country)
- May 10 – Sullivan Unified Local Track Meet (Sullivan)
- May 20 – 22 – State Summer Games (Columbia)

## **CONTACT STAFF INFORMATION**

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