



## **2024 SW AREA BOCCE**

### **DATES / LOCATIONS**

**AREA TOURNAMENT: Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>**

**TIMES: Team Check-in: 9:30AM-10:00AM**

**Opening Ceremonies: 10:00AM**

**Tournament Starts: 10:15AM**

**LOCATION: 700 E State Street, Mountain Grove, MO 65711**

**PHYSICALS, UNIFIED PARTNER FORMS, MEAL COUNT SHEETS, & ROSTER DEADLINE: July 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Lunch will be provided, please include all Athletes, Unified Partners, Coaches, Staff, and Drivers in your meal count.**

### **Coaches**

All coaches should review the training video and rules at <https://somo.org/page.aspx?pid=1105>.

We have had SEVERAL issues with scoring so please make sure that you watch the video on how to properly score before submitting your roster [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f\\_1Udz8H1E8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_1Udz8H1E8).

### **AREA COMPETITION OFFERED:**

- Singles (Regulation or Ramp)
- Doubles, Team (Regulation, Regulation Ramp, Unified and Unified Ramp)
- Modified bocce will be allowed. Please note your forms accordingly. In modified, coaches will be allowed along the sidelines.
- Each athlete can compete in one regulation and one unified event. Anyone that wants to advance must compete in the same events at area that they will play at state.
- **ON ENTRY FORMS, ALL MEASUREMENTS MUST BE IN CENTIMETERS.**
- **Please bring your own ramps.**
- **No open toe shoes, jeans or jean shorts should be worn when competing.**

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### **SOMO STATE OUTDOOR GAMES**

**DATE: October 11-13- TENTATIVE**

**LOCATION: Jefferson City- TENTATIVE**

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### **DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS / ENTRIES TO:**

SW AREA: Jesse Williams, Program Director [jwilliams@somo.org](mailto:jwilliams@somo.org)

# BOCCE

Special Olympics Missouri will only use the rules set forth by the SOI. The SOI rules will also be applied with issues regarding the divisions of teams. **Sport rules should be reviewed at <https://somo.org/sports/>**

## ***A. Events offered by Special Olympics Missouri***

1. Bocce Singles
2. Bocce Doubles
3. Bocce Team
4. Unified Sports® Bocce Doubles
5. Unified Sports® Bocce Team
6. Modified Bocce

## ***B. Special Olympics Missouri Rules (SOMO shall use the SOI Rules for Bocce with the following exceptions)***

1. **Teams**
  - a. SOMO shall NOT allow 8 player teams.
2. **Tossing the Pallina**
  - a. In Unified® Sports Bocce each player on a team or doubles shall toss the pallina at least once during the game. In Regulation Bocce one athlete may toss the pallina every time, or they may all take turns.
3. **Disputes**
  - a. The tournament referee will resolve all disputes.
  - b. The tournament referee will determine length of games
  - c. A coach or any player may request a measurement.
11. **Additional Rules**
  - a. The team possessing the pallina will have two attempts to toss the pallina.
  - d. If the pallina does not cross the center court line or hits the back wall during both attempts, then the opposing team will have the opportunity to toss the pallina one time.
  - e. If they do not get the pallina cross the center court line or it hits the back wall, then the referee will place the pallina at the 40' line.
  - f. However, at no time does a team lose its earned pallina advantage of being able to deliver the first ball.
  - g. Athletes may participate in 2 events ONLY. These MUST be a Regulation event (Singles, Doubles, or Teams) and a Unified event (Doubles or Teams).
  - h. Unified Partners may ONLY participate in 1 event (Unified Doubles or Unified Teams).
  - i. Duration of Games: Singles and Doubles games will be played for 25 minutes or until one player/side reaches 12 points. Team games will be played for 35 minutes or until one team reaches 16 points. OR. Alternative scoring procedure for tournaments: Games may

be played to reach the target number of points or to a timed duration, which ever is quicker to complete. Approved adding "Scoring procedure for tournaments: At the discretion of the Competition Manager, games may be played to reach the target number of points or to a timed duration

12. Divisioning/Skills Test

- a. SOMO will use the SOI recommendation for skill tests and divisioning for Bocce (See SOI Bocce Rules Section E – Divisioning).
- b. During the divisioning process, if the pallina is moved from its spot on the 30ft, 40ft, or 50ft, it is to be replaced on the spot before the next ball is rolled and before any measurements are taken.

***C. Modified Bocce***

1. Teams with lower ability levels may be placed in this division.
2. In this division, coaches may coach athletes from a coach's box placed 10 feet from the court at the Center Court Line

## Bocce Skills Assessment for Divisioning

Each athlete and Unified Partner should play three modified games, called a set. The athlete should alternate from each end of the court and play the following allotted balls. The athlete should not surpass the foul line when he/she plays the allowable balls.

The referee will place the pallina at the marked spot (center) of the 9.15 meter (30 ft.) line, and the player should play eight balls. The referee will measure the closest three balls and record their distance in centimeters.

The referee will then place the pallina at a marked spot in the center of the court at the 12.20 meter (40 ft.) mark, and the player should play eight balls. The referee will measure the closest three balls and record their distance in centimeters.

The referee will then place the pallina at a marked spot (center) of the 15.24 meters (50 ft.) line, and the player should play eight balls. The referee will measure the closest three balls and record their distance in centimeters.

During the divisioning process, if the pallina is moved from its spot at 9.15 meters (30 ft.), 12.20 meters (40 ft.), or 15.24 meters (50 ft.), it is to be replaced on the spot before the next ball is rolled and before any measurements are taken.

Measurements will be taken from the center side of the bocce ball to the center side of the pallina, for a total of nine measurements, the SUM of which becomes the athlete's divisioning score. **Record the SUM of the three closest measurements at each distance (30 ft., 40 ft., and 50 ft.) in CENTIMETERS.**

For Doubles and Teams, the sum of all nine measurements of the athlete's scores will be the Total Score for divisioning. Record the SUM of all nine measurements in the Total Score column on the Doubles/Teams Entry Form.

These divisioning procedures comply with the Special Olympics maximum effort rule.

# Summary of Bocce Rules

Toss a coin and one calls heads or tails. The winner has a choice of going first or the color of the balls. The team that loses the coin toss chooses the other.

The person who throws the first ball will also throw the pallina. The team that is farthest from the pallina continues to throw until they get closer or runs out of balls. The other team throws until they have depleted all of their balls.

The person throwing the pallina has three tries to get it between the 30 and 50 feet lines. If all three attempts are unsuccessful the opposing team has one attempt to place the pallina between the 30 and 50 feet lines, if that attempt is unsuccessful the referee places the pallina at the center of the court at the 40-foot mark. However, at no time does a team lose its earned pallina advantage of being able to deliver the first ball.

In Unified doubles and team, the pallina must be thrown at least once during the game by the athlete.

Pallina and all balls must be delivered underhand by releasing the ball below the waist. Both feet must be inside the court.

Discussion with any athlete and/or partner is prohibited once the athlete and/or partner steps into the court.

If any official determines that a coach/partner/spectator is violating this rule, the official may sanction the offending individuals. Sanctions may include verbal warning, citing the coach/partner with unsportsmanlike conduct or expulsion from the game.

All games will have a twenty-five-minute time limit, not including finishing the started frame. Or a winning score:

- 4 player team (one ball per player) = 16 points
- 2 player team (two balls per player) = 12 points
- 1 player teams (four balls per player) = 12 points

Foul line fouls – in both pointing and hitting, the foremost part of the specific foul line will not be surpassed by any part of the player's foot or any apparatus used by an athlete such as a wheelchair, crutches, cane, etc. Once the referee has called a foul the ball thrown is considered dead and is removed from the court. If said ball has struck another ball the referee will place the balls as close to their original position as possible.

No player is allowed in the court after all the balls have been thrown until the referee has declared the points.

A ball that hits the top of the court boards or goes out of the court is declared dead.

At the end of each frame (when both teams have exhausted all balls), scoring will be determined as follows: points are awarded to the team whose balls are closer to the pallina than the closest ball of the opposing team, which can be determined by viewing or by measuring. The referee will announce the number of points and the color awarded. The scoring team for each frame will win the pallina advantage.

## PHYSICAL PROCEDURES

**All athletes must complete a physical and release prior to starting practices.**

- **Physicals** are good for **THREE** years from the date issued. (physician's signature date)
- Physicals must be submitted to the area office by the established deadline. It is preferable, they be sent as soon as you receive them. This ensures that there is enough time to get them entered into GMS through the SOMO Headquarters Office.
- You are required to keep a copy for your records and bring them with you to area, regional and/or state competitions.
- **CHECK** physicals to make sure all required fields are filled out AND that the proper SOMO physical form was used. This will expedite the process, because ALL physicals missing information or on third party forms will be returned to you as invalid.

### **Required Fields include:**

- First & Last Name legible (**ONLY** use legal names)
- Agency Name and Agency #
- Complete address (city, state and zip)
- Gender
- Birth Date
- Parent/Guardian/Emergency Contact and phone number
- Health History **MUST** be completed
- Signature of parent/caregiver/adult athlete
- Physical Examination completed or physician's form can be attached
- Doctor's Signature & Date
- New athletes will need the Official Special Olympics Release form completed with athlete name, signed and dated

If athlete has Down Syndrome please make sure the X-ray date is on the physical and that the Atlanto-Axial Instability form is completed.

Please make sure that if an athlete has Autism that it is noted on the physical by either checking the box, or noted in the notes portion of the physical.

- If you have questions contact Jesse Williams at [jwilliams@somo.org](mailto:jwilliams@somo.org)

**Please use the most current version of all physical and release forms that are available at <https://somo.org/compete/>**

## Coaches Check List for Events

### Coaches Check List for Area Events:

- Coaches Packet reviewed – put due dates and event date/location on calendar
- Read sports rules: <https://somo.org/compete/> – contact area program manager with any questions
- Certification for all coaches completed – including sports specific quiz
- Practice schedule set
- Complete skills assessments and qualifying scores in the first few practices for your roster submission
- Communicate with families (practices, expectations, code of conduct and competition date & location)
- Engage other volunteers/parents to assist you as needed
- Physicals and releases for NEW athletes submitted: Deadline (in packet) \_\_\_\_\_
- Updated physicals for athletes with expired physicals submitted: Deadline (in packet) \_\_\_\_\_
- Unified Partners form and Class A's submitted: Deadline (in packet) \_\_\_\_\_
- Class A's for coaches, chaperones, team volunteers submitted: Deadline (in packet) \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosters submitted: Deadline (in packet) \_\_\_\_\_
- Buddy List (if applicable) submitted: Deadline (in packet) \_\_\_\_\_
- Info Sheet submitted: Deadline (in packet) \_\_\_\_\_
- If an athlete or Unified Partner is under age 18 competing with a team that is in Master/Sr. Master, they will need to complete a Master's Division Release form and submit it to your Area Program Staff.
- Team travel arrangements made
- Communicate with families (event schedule, competition attire, bring a water bottle, lunch/money if needed, review the code of conduct and any info they need to know such as bus departure/return times)
- Determine if team/athletes will advance to regional/state competition and provide information to area program manager
- Copies of physicals in notebook or on google drive to take to event
- Supplies to take: uniforms, sports equipment, first aid kit, medications, sunscreen, blankets, snacks, water, team tent, etc.

### Day of Event:

- Physicals Notebook /Google Drive– must have these at the event!
- Load supplies needed
- Depart on time
- Check in at coaches table upon arrival and turn in scratches
- Enjoy the day and be a great role model for all athletes

### Post Event if not advancing to regional/state:

- Submit all coaches hours (link will be sent)
- Provide feedback to your area program manager about the event
- Thank your school administrators, volunteers and parents
- If you do awards banquets/recognition be sure to get medal placement, scores, etc. from athletes or your team volunteers
- **Celebrate your team/athletes success and YOUR Success!**

### Coaches Checklist (if advancing to regional/state):

- Review physical list for any expiring before the next competition (all expiring physicals MUST be submitted 2 weeks prior to event)
- Visit <https://somo.org/compete/> to find additional event details on State Events
- Review the Coaches Handbook prior to the event for details
- Check ID Badges – submit photos for new athletes to program manager
- Confirm athlete/UP attendance with Area Program Manager
- Engage other volunteers/parents to assist you as needed
- Class A forms submitted: Deadline \_\_\_\_\_
- Complete JOT form: Deadline \_\_\_\_\_
- Make travel arrangements
- Download the mobile app to receive updates throughout the event
- Communicate with families on event details families (event schedule, competition attire, bring a water bottle, lunch if needed, items to pack, review the code of conduct, how families can download the mobile app to get information throughout the weekend and info they need to know such as bus departure/return times)
- If this is your first time attending a Regional or State event, contact your Area Program Manager and we can connect you with a “seasoned” coach if you would like!
- Attend the coaches meeting so you can have current information
- Pick up your coaches packet at designated time/location
- Encourage your athletes to attend the Healthy Athlete Screenings if available (these are FREE)
- Enjoy the event and be a great role model for all athletes

### End of Season

- Submit all coaches hours (link will be sent)
- Provide feedback to your area program manager about the event
- Thank your school administrators, volunteers and parents
- If you do awards banquets/recognition be sure to get medal placement, scores, etc. from athletes or your team volunteers
- **Celebrate your team/athletes success and YOUR Success!**

### Other helpful tips for organization:

- Save your physicals and **all forms** on a google drive so you can access them at any time and this allows other coaches to access to them. This is helpful in the event your teams are playing in different locations or are traveling at different times. You can also keep your coaches and chaperones contact info on the drive. Some teams set up folders by sports in the google drive and add each athlete and all paperwork relevant to that sport. Then share the folder with the coaches for that sport.
- If your team plans on attending Regional and State events, take a photo of the new athlete/unified partner when they submit their paperwork. You will not have to track them down for that later and you can send it to your Area Program Staff so they can get the ID badge made in advance of the event.





**BOCCE DOUBLES/TEAM ENTRY FORM**

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please designate with a check mark (✓)**

Event Competing in: <b>CHECK ONE</b>	Age Group: <b>CHECK ONE</b>	Sex: <b>CHECK ONE</b>
Doubles Bocce _____	Juniors (8 – 15) _____	Male _____
Modified Doubles Bocce _____	Seniors (16 – 21) _____	Female _____
Team Bocce _____	Masters (22 - 39) _____	
Modified Team Bocce _____		<b>CHECK ONE:</b>
Unified Sports® Doubles _____		
Unified Sports® Team _____		State _____

**ROSTER**

Team Members	Birth Date	Sex	Down Syndrome (Y or N)	Total Score
1				
2				
3				
4				
<b>Alternates:</b>				
5				
6				

Sep-10

# Bocce Roster

Agency Name & Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Coach Name & Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Head Coach Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Coach Name & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete's Name	Date of Birth	Down Syndrome (Y/N)	Age/ Sex (Ex: 21/M)	Skills Test (Sum of 3 closest of 8 balls from each distance)			Place a Check Mark if competing in singles. For doubles/team, write name of team in box. After team name, write "A" if alternate. Write "R" if ramp.					
				30 Ft. (CM)	40 Ft. (CM)	50 Ft (CM)	Singles	Doubles	Team	Unified@ Doubles	Unified@ Team	
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												

Assessment Worksheet	<b>Measure in Centimeters! Athlete rolls 8 balls at each distance; measure 3 closest balls; Take TOTAL of those 3 balls for each distance and enter on roster</b>												
Athlete Name	30'	30'	30'	30' total	40'	40'	40'	40' total	50'	50'	50'	50' total	Total Scores (30', 40' & 50')

## Athlete Exception Form

In the event an athlete is unable to comply with the rules as they are written due to a physical disability or an emotional/behavioral issue, the coach may use this form to apply for an exception. Example – an athlete may have a deformity that prevents swimming a proper stroke, if this form is submitted and approved the athlete would not be disqualified for doing an improper stroke; OR if an athlete needs assistance throughout staging, competition, and awards approval of this form would grant the coach or chaperone to stay with the athlete throughout the entire process.

Athlete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Disability: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Applying for Exception: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For Committee Use ONLY

Committee has    approved    disapproved

this Application for Exception.

Initials:

Date:

NOTE: This form may only be filled by a certified coach. ONLY one person may accompany an athlete in staging areas, competition areas, and any other restricted areas AND ONLY a certified coach may accompany an athlete.

17-May-24