

UNIFIED BOCCE



2023-2024 AACPS Sport Bulletin

As needed, in consultation with schools and sport commissioners, AACPS Athletics reserves the right to make adjustments to this bulletin.

Coach Responsibilities

1. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in the AACPS Athletic Handbook.
2. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations in this bulletin.
3. Adhere to all policies, procedures, rules and regulations set forth by Special Olympics MD.

Contact Information

1. Questions should initially be directed to local school athletic directors.
2. Then, questions should be directed to Sport Commissioner - Ryan Aleardi, North County, raleardi@aacps.org 717-271-8090
3. Then, questions should be directed to Special Olympics Liaison Marianne Shultz in the AACPS Office of Athletics at mshultz@aacps.org 410-222-5463

AACPS policies

- **Definitions**
 - Athlete - A student athlete with a disability
 - Unified Partner - A student-athletes without a disability
- We believe in and support the Special Olympics Maryland Mission and Vision as outlined on their website at <https://www.specialolympics.org/programs/united-states/maryland> and stated here:
 - The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons eight years of age and older with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.
 - Special Olympics is founded on the belief that people with intellectual disabilities can, with proper instruction and encouragement, learn, enjoy, and benefit from participation in individual and team sports. These must be adapted only as necessary to meet the needs of those with mental and physical limitations.
 - Special Olympics believe that consistent training is indispensable to the development of an individual's sports skills. In addition, competition among those of equal abilities is the most appropriate means of testing these skills, measuring progress, and providing incentives for personal growth.
- **Tryouts and Cuts.** Coaches can make cuts in all unified sports using an approved tryout plan/rubric. They should consult with their Athletic Director for support.

Paperwork Due Dates

- Application for participation and CDW's, Team Roster Declaration and – 3/21
- Begin Assessments – 3/25
- Postseason Registration, Volunteer Class A registration, Protective Behaviors, and Background check – 4/8

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Important Dates

February 2024

- February 15 - Spring Coach Kickoff (North County HS)

March 2024

- March 1 - Sports start; Academic Assistance Sessions begin
- March 2 - Testing Date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- March 7 - AACPS 1st scrimmage date
- March 9 - Testing Date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- March 19 - 2hr early dismissal - PD Unity Day. With approval from the AD and principal, teams with paid, non-AACPS employee coaches may practice during established teacher work hours.
- March 20 - Academic Assistance Sessions end and Grade Check
- March 21 - MPSSAA First play date and AACPS Eligibility Rosters due (ADs)
- Mar 25 - Apr 1 - Spring Break - All Schools & Central Offices closed

April 2024

- Mar 25 - Apr 1 - Spring Break - All Schools & Central Offices closed
- April 4-5 - 2hr early dismissals - end of 3MP. With approval from the AD and principal, teams with paid, non-AACPS employee coaches may practice during established teacher work hours.
- April 6 - Testing date; Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- April 8 - Beginning of 4th MP
- April 9 - Eid al-Fitr - No Athletics after sundown
- April 10 - Eid al-Fitr Schools closed - No Athletics at all
- April 13 - Testing date - Nothing mandatory before 2pm
- Week of April 15 - MPSSAA Officials Appreciation
- April 18 - 3rd MP report cards (tentative)
- April 22 - Unified Bocce County Championship (NC)
- April 24 - Unified Bocce County Championship (NC) - Rain Date

May 2024

- May 4 - Testing Date- No mandatory practice or contests before 2pm
- May 6 - Lacrosse County Championship (GB)
- May 7 - Baseball County Championship (Joe Cannon) & Softball County Championship (Bachman)
- May 7 - Unified Bocce State Championship (Washington College)
- May 8 - Unified Bocce State Championship (Washington College) Rain Date
- May 8-9 - Outdoor Track County Championship (CR)
- May 7-10 - Tennis County Championship (AN)
- May 14 - Primary Election Day (follow AACPS Election Day Guidelines)
- May 23 - Last day for Seniors
- May 27 - Memorial Day

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Contests

- Scrimmages:
 - 3 preseason scrimmages allowed
 - Teams are allowed one postseason scrimmage (in between last game and first playoff game)
- Regular Season:
 - The schedule will be maintained by and provided to all schools the Sport Commissioner and Special Olympics Liaison.
 - 4-5 regular season matches will be scheduled by the county
 - Coaches who need a sub code to attend matches should contact their AD who will forward a request to Clayton Culp, Coordinator of Athletics. The coach will then receive a Google Form for this process.

Rules and Special Olympics resources

<https://www.specialolympics.org/what-we-do/sports/bocce>

<https://somdaa.org/sports/bocce/>

County Championships and Awards

- The County Championship is scheduled to be on May 2nd at North County HS.
- Special Olympics will provide medals for 1st - 4th place in the County Tournament. County will provide the Championship Plaque/Head Coach Plaque. Teams will advance to the IUS Bocce State Championships based on qualifications of SOMD.

State Tournament Information

- 5/7 at Washington College
(Inclement Weather make up) 5/8 at Washington College

BOCCE Schedule 2024

Update 2/9/24

****All schedules subject to change for school pairing and facility needs**

Date	Time	Away School	at	Home School
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Thursday, March 21, 2024

4:30	NORTHEAST	at	ANNAPOLIS
4:30	SOUTHERN/MEADE	at	CROFTON
4:30	SOUTH RIVER/CENTRAL	at	OLD MILL
4:30	ARUNDEL/RUTH EASON	at	GLEN BURNIE
4:30	SEVERNA PARK	at	BROADNECK

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4:30 CHESAPEAKE/MARLEY GLEN at NORTH COUNTY

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

4:30 BROADNECK/MEADE at NORTHEAST MUST USE 2ND TURF LACROSSE GAMES SCHEDULED

4:30 SOUTH RIVER/GLEN BURNIE/RUTH EASON/CENTRAL at SEVERNA PARK

4:30 OLD MILL/ANNAPOLIS at NORTH COUNTY

4:30 SOUTHERN/MARLEY GLEN at CHESAPEAKE

4:30 CROFTON at ARUNDEL

Thursday, April 11, 2024

4:30 GLEN BURNIE/ RUTH EASON at BROADNECK EID AL FITR NO SCHOOL ON 4/10/24

4:30 SEVERNA PARK at CROFTON

4:30 NORTHEAST at NORTH COUNTY

4:30 SOUTHERN at ANNAPOLIS

4:30 SOUTH RIVER/CENTRAL/MARLEY GLEN at CHESAPEAKE

4:30 OLD MILL/MEADE at ARUNDEL

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

4:30 BROADNECK at CROFTON

4:30 NORTH COUNTY at ARUNDEL

4:30 SOUTH RIVER/ CENTRAL at NORTHEAST

4:30 CHESAPEAKE/ MARLEY GLEN/MEADE at SEVERNA PARK

4:30 SOUTHERN/GLEN BURNIE/RUTH EASON at OLD MILL

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Thursday, April 18, 2024

4:30	ANNAPOLIS/RUTH EASON/MEADE	at	GLEN BURNIE	
4:30	CROFTON/CENTRAL	at	SOUTH RIVER	
4:30	NORTH COUNTY/SEVERNA PARK	at	SOUTHERN	* SEVERNA PARK HOST IF SOUTHERN IS UNABLE *
4:30	BROADNECK /ARUNDEL	at	OLD MILL	
4:30	NORTHEAST/MARLEY GLEN	at	CHESAPEAKE	

Monday, April 22, 2024

10:00	County Championships	at	NORTH COUNTY
	All Schools		

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

TBD	County Championship Rain Day	at	NORTH COUNTY
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Wednesday May 1, 2024

4:30		at	* OPTIONAL DATE IF TEAMS WISH TO PLAY *
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Tuesday, May 7, 2024

TBD	Unified Bocce State	at	Washington College
	High School Invitational		