

***Special
Olympics***
Connecticut



***Unified Sports[®]
Fall Festival***

PRESENTED BY:



COACHES HANDBOOK

September 9 & 10, 2017

**Connecticut Sportsplex, North Branford
Kennedy Memorial Field, East Haven**

Sleeping Giant Golf Course, Hamden

Scalzi Park, Stamford

The Wadawanuck Club, Stonington

September 23 & 24, 2017

Ocean House, Watch Hill, RI

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REVEALING THE CHAMPION IN ALL OF US
For more information, call 1-800-443-6105
Visit www.soct.org
Follow us on:



General Information

Important Phone Numbers

Special Olympics Connecticut	(203) 230-1201
Special Olympics Connecticut Toll-Free	(800) 443-6105
Sleeping Giant Golf Course - Hamden	(203) 281-9456
Connecticut Sportsplex, North Branford	(203) 484-4383

Rain Plan

In the event of inclement weather, please call Special Olympics Connecticut @ (203)230-1201 for updates. Please go on this free website: www.rainedout.com; should we have any weather delays, rescheduling, etc. we will be able to send you a text message with all details. Once on the website search for Special Olympics Connecticut, click on our name in Preferred Results, sign up, agree to term. You will get a text message with a code for the next step. Choose the group: Local Programs and Coaches and you will be all set.

This link may also be used to bring you right into our page:

https://www.rainedout.net/team_page.php?a=849e5544be19106f482f

Emergency Procedure

If/when you need to report any emergency - please follow these directions:

What is the emergency? _____

Where is the emergency? _____

Who is reporting the emergency? _____

Give a telephone number, if available: _____

Remain on the telephone until released by the Op-Center Staff.

Assist in directing the emergency personnel to the scene.

Family and Friends Housing Accommodations

Sheraton Stamford Hotel
700 E. Main Street
Stamford, CT 06901
(800) 325.3535
\$109/Night (plus tax)

General Information

Packing List for Coaches

- ✓ Copies of Athlete Medical & Unified Sports® Partner Forms
- ✓ Sport Rules Book
- ✓ Coaches Handbook
- ✓ First-Aid Kit
- ✓ Athlete Medications
- ✓ Sun Screen
- ✓ Bug repellent

On-Site Registration

All teams need to check in upon arrival to all of the venues at the registration areas. Registration packets will contain the following items:

- ☒ Athlete & Coach Credentials
- ☒ Team/Roster Lists
- ☒ Updated Schedule Information
- ☒ Meal Tickets

Please note:

At Softball, we ask that you check in at least 45-minutes prior to your first scheduled game. Please check-in at the field (CT Sportsplex or Kennedy Memorial Field) where your game is scheduled.

Athlete Scratches

- * **Bocce, Golf, Sailing: Before August 25th/ Croquet before Sept. 8th-** please send athlete scratches to the SOCT Headquarters, at registration@soct.org or fax (203)230-1202.

Please note:

There will be no reimbursement of fees for any scratches after the scratch deadline of August 25th. Changes in team rosters (Bocce, Sailing, & Golf only) may be made up to two weeks prior to scratch deadline. All other scratches should be reported at on-site registration the day of the event. There can be no changes to softball after the Divisioning Tournament on August 12, 2017.

General Information

Lost Athlete

Find someone with a radio and/or security volunteer (identified by navy blue t-shirts) and give them a description of the lost athlete; name, description of clothing, etc., and what local program the athlete is from.

☞ *Stay with the radio person/Security.*

Lost & Found

All lost and found items will be brought to the Registration Areas at the various venues. After the Unified Sports Fall Festival, all lost and found items will be at the SOCT Headquarters in Hamden.

Lunches

Saturday and Sunday lunch will be available to all athletes, partners, coaches and volunteers at all venues. Lunches are not available for families. Athletes, coaches, partners and volunteers will have credentials or meal tickets.

Concession Stand

There will be a concession stand available to families and spectators at the Connecticut Sportsplex. Aunt Chilada's Restaurant is located on site at the Sleeping Giant Golf Course. We encourage families to support these vendors.

Souvenirs

Campus Customs will be selling official Special Olympics Connecticut items throughout the weekend at the following venues:

Bocce (Saturday) 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Scalzi Park, Stamford
Softball (Saturday) 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. CT Sportsplex, N.
Branford

Campus Customs is the official supplier of Special Olympics Connecticut merchandise. Campus Customs will give SOCT a 10% royalty on all new orders placed with Campus Customs. Support SOCT and place your next order with Campus Customs.

Golf

**Sleeping Giant Golf Course
3931 Whitney Ave Hamden, CT 06514
Sponsored by:
Fairfield County Bank
PGA Connecticut Sector
Suzio York Hill**



Games Rules Committee

- Joe Dennin.....Competition Director
- Frank Selva.....Golf Pro
- Chuck BaloccaGolf Committee

Sunday, September 10th

- 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.Athlete Registration
- 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.Lunch
- 11:00 a.m.....Tee-off for 9-hole play
- 12:30 p.m.....Arrival for Skills Athletes
- 1:45 p.m.....Opening Ceremonies
- 2:00 p.m.....Skills Competition begins
- 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.Awards will be presented as each heat finishes

Uniforms

All athletes and partners must wear appropriate golf attire, no tee shirts, jeans or gym shorts may be worn. (NO EXCEPTIONS). Spikeless Golf shoes are recommended, but sneakers are also appropriate.

REGISTRATION will take place at Sleeping Giant. However, you must park at Quinnipiac University and take the shuttle service over to Sleeping Giant. The shuttle will be at the commuter lot on the main campus of Quinnipiac University located at 275 Mount Carmel Avenue.

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO PARKING or dropping players off at Sleeping Giant Golf . We are asking all of you to please respect the restaurant’s request as well as our relationship with the golf course and do not park there.

Important Reminders

1. Safety First - pay attention; do not stand behind someone who is swinging a club and do not swing a club yourself until you are sure no one is behind you.
2. Athletes need to walk quickly to their ball. One practice swing per shot.
3. Athletes are to practice good golf etiquette (fix divots, rake sand traps, repair ball marks on green, etc).

Sleeping Giant Golf Course

Level 2 - Alternate Shot Team Play Competition

To Qualify: The athlete must have played at least 27 holes with the same partner. 9 of these holes must be in a single round.

Format: Two person teams - alternate shot. Team members take turns hitting the ball. Special Olympics athletes tee off on holes 1, 5, 7, 8 & 9; Unified Sports® Partners tee off on holes 2, 3, 4, & 6.

Rule Reminders

1. **A swing and a miss counts.** Any athlete or partner caught cheating will take a 10x on the hole. The second time caught cheating the athlete or partner will receive a participation ribbon.
2. **MAXIMUM OF 10 shots on a hole. If you reach 10, pick up the ball and score a 10x. In case of ties, least number of 10x wins.**
3. One stroke penalty for problems; out-of-bounds, lost ball, unplayable lie, in the water, etc. Place the ball in a reasonable spot and add a stroke to your score. The athlete who did not hit the shot into trouble hits the next shot.
4. SOCT athletes but not partners may improve their lie; no closer to the hole and in the same medium. If in the rough, stay in the rough. If in the sand, stay in the sand (similar to scramble format).
5. No conceding putts.
6. Enforce rules for all team members.
7. Partners do not coach - they play.
8. Slow Play Rule - athletes are expected to finish 9-holes of play in 2 1/2 hours. Slow playing athletes may have to skip a hole and take a 10x for the hole skipped.

Level 4 - Individual Stroke Play Competition

Rule Reminders

1. Maximum of 10 on a hole. If you reach 10, pick up the ball and score a 10x. In case of ties, least number of 10x wins.
2. One stroke penalty for problems; out-of-bounds, lost ball, unplayable lie, in the water, etc. Place the ball in a reasonable spot and add a stroke to your score.
3. No conceding putts.
4. Enforce rules for all team members.
5. Caddies do not coach.
6. Slow Play Rule - athletes are expected to finish 9-holes of play in 2 1/2 hours. Slow playing athletes may have to skip a hole and take a 10x for the hole skipped.

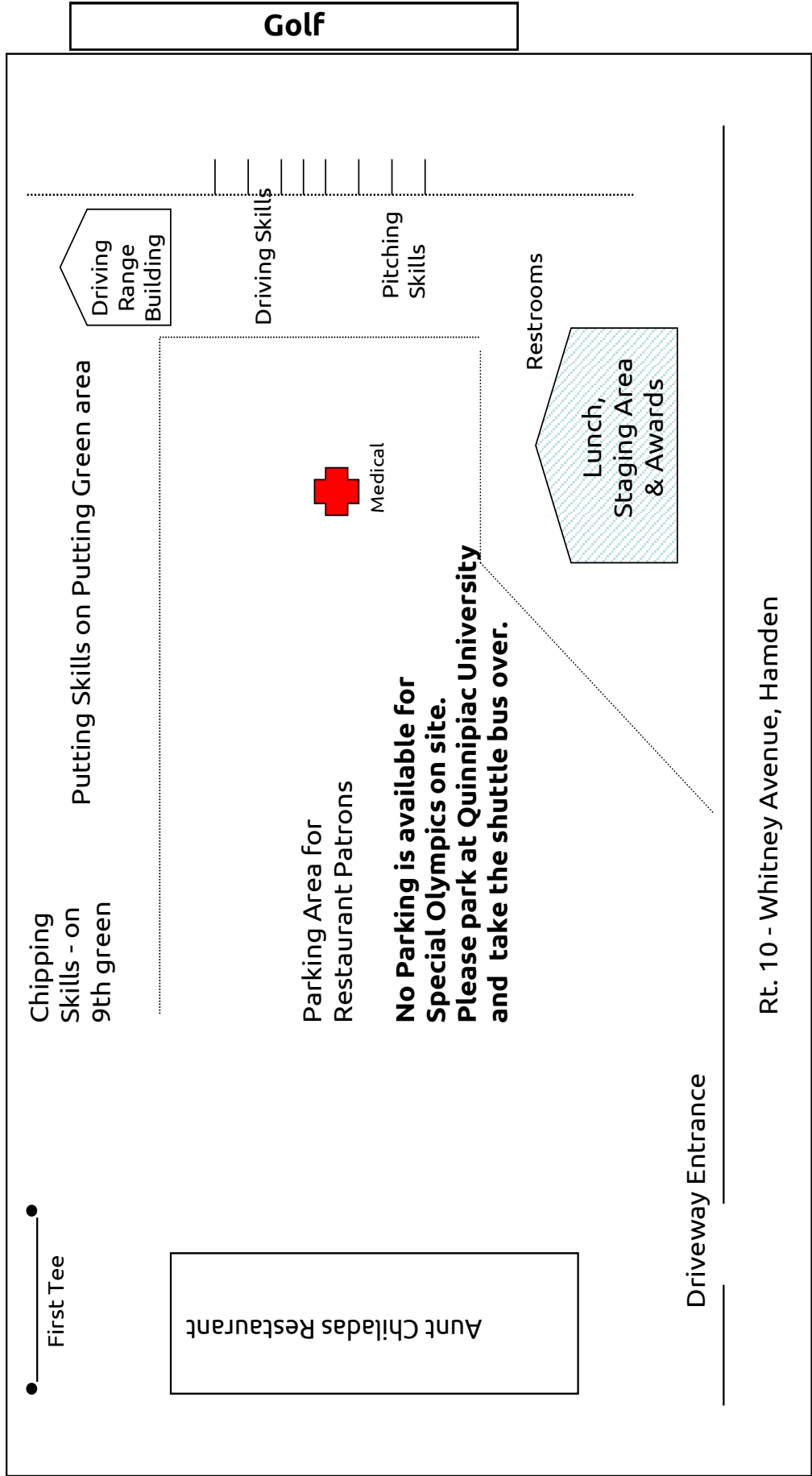
Level 1 - Individual Skills Competition

In all categories, missing the ball is 0 and hitting the ball is 1



GOLF

Sleeping Giant Country Club



Bocce

**Scalzi Park
100 Bridge Street, Stamford, CT 06905**

**Sponsored by:
BIC Corporation**



Games Rules Committee

Colleen Costello..... Coach
Dave Campbell..... Official
Sue Mohr SOCT

Saturday, September 9th

8:30 a.m. Volunteer & Athlete Registration
9:30 a.m. Bocce Tournament Traditional Singles and Doubles
10:00 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
10:30 a.m. Bocce Skills
10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.Healthy Athletes - Health Promotion: Nutrition
11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m..... Lunch*
1:00 p.m. Awards

Sunday, September 10th

8:00 a.m.Volunteer & Athlete Registration
9:30 a.m.Bocce Tournament Unified Sports® Doubles Competition
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.Healthy Athletes - Health Promotion: Nutrition
11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.Lunch*
2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.Awards**

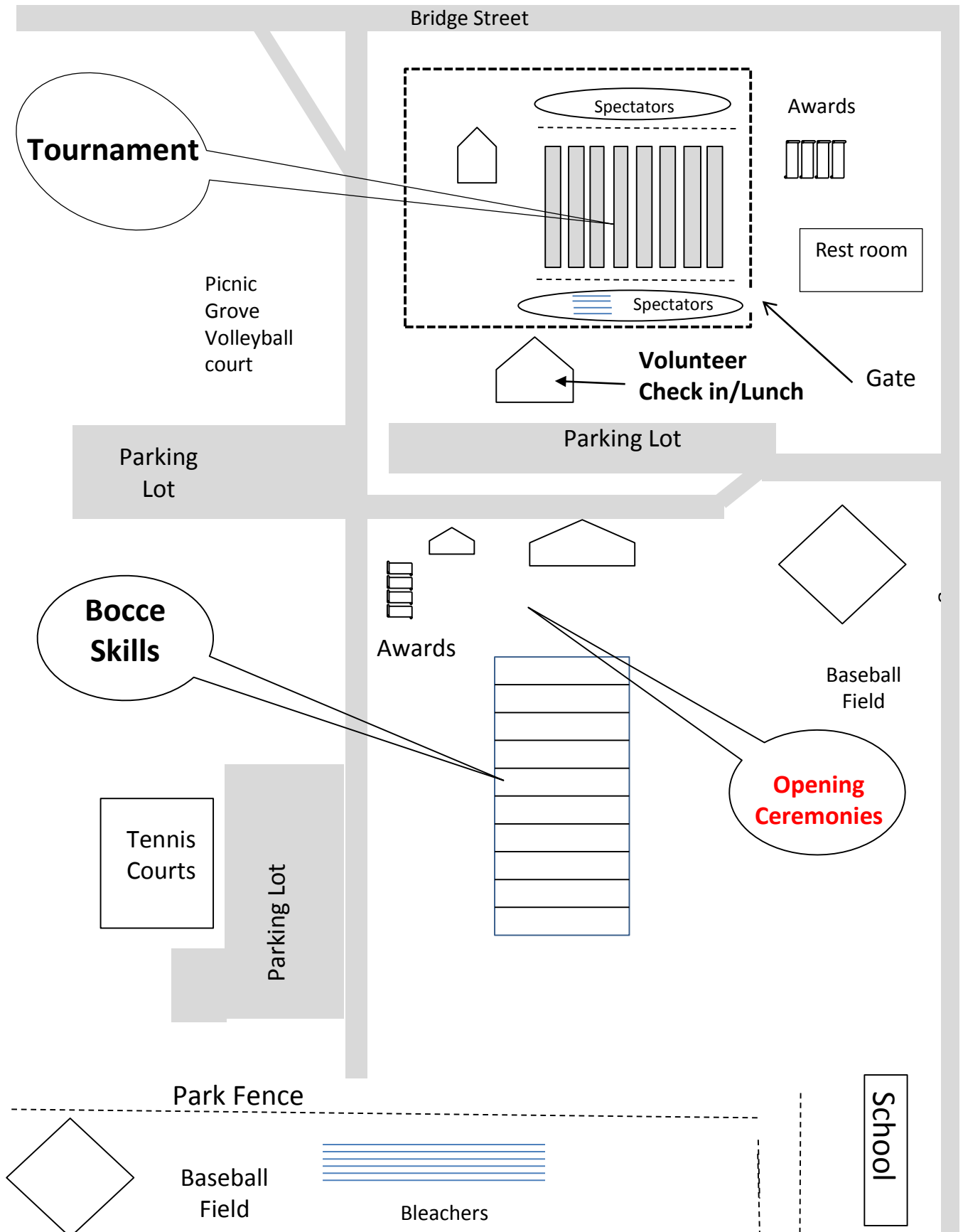
*Subway sandwiches will be provided for athletes, partners, registered additional personnel and volunteers. Anyone bringing their own lunch may use the available refrigeration if needed. Please let us know at the time of check in.

**Please note that the awards schedule for tournament is dependent upon the completion of each division.

A competition schedule will be sent out to Bocce Coaches prior to the 2017 Unified Sports @ Fall Festival.



Scalzi Park Bocce Competition



Softball

**Connecticut Sportsplex
150 Foxon Rd, North Branford, CT 06471**

**Kennedy Memorial Field
51 Maple Street, East Haven, CT 06512**

**Sponsored by:
Chick-fil-A North Haven**



Games Rules Committee

- Joyce Stille.....Venue Director
- Jen Ochoa.....Assistant Venue Director
- Craig Malan..... Assistant Venue Director
- Tony CatapanoHead Umpire

Saturday, September 9th

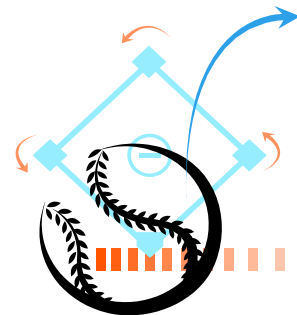
- 7:15 a.m.Volunteer & Team Registration Opens
- 9:15 a.m.Opening Ceremonies @ Kennedy Memorial Field,
East Haven
- 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.....Team and Skills Competition & Awards
- 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.Lunch

Sunday, September 10th

- 7:15 a.m.Volunteer & Team Registration Opens
- 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.....Team Competition & Awards
- 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.Lunch

No outside food or beverages are allowed to be brought into the Connecticut Sportsplex. THIS INCLUDES COFFEE.

At Softball, we ask that you check in at least 45-minutes prior to your first scheduled game.



Softball

Division play has been set in a round-robin format

Divisions with four teams will then play in a medal round. If there are any ties within a division after round play, the tie breaking criteria is as follows:

- 1 Head to Head competition
- 2 The team that allowed the least runs.
- 3 The team that scored the most runs.

Unified Division 1 & 2

- * All Batters will start with a 1-Ball, 1-Strike Count, one courtesy foul ball granted.
- * The pitching distance will be 50 feet.
- * If you walk the partner, only first base will be awarded.
- * A starting player may re-enter the game once but *must* go back into the same place in the batting order. Once a sub leaves the game, they cannot re-enter the game.

Unified Division 3-6

- * Partners cannot hit home runs in Unified Divisions 4 & 5. If they do, it will be considered a double only. Partners in Division 3 have a two home run limit per game. Any home runs after the limit is reached will be considered a double only. At the time of the home run, any runner on first will go to third base. Runners on second or third at the time of the hit will score.
- * If you walk the partner, the team has the option of the partner going to second base instead of just first base.

All Traditional Divisions and Unified Divisions 4 –6

- * There will be unlimited substitutions but players can only go back into the line-up in the exact same place in the batting order.

Uniforms & Equipment

Specific requirements regarding uniforms and equipment can be found under the resource section of the SOI website.

- * There will be a double safety first base. The outside orange base in foul territory will be for the player. Once they become a runner, they will move to the inside white base.
- * All bats will be checked.
- * Required gear for catchers is a mask with throat guard and chest protector.
- * Softball shoes are recommended (rubber sole cleats).
- * No METAL CLEATS or RUNNING SNEAKERS will be permitted.
- * Cut-off shorts and jeans will NOT BE ALLOWED for softball uniforms.
- * Batters and runners must wear approved batting helmets, chin straps are recommended.

Behavior and Sportsmanship

A reminder that appropriate behavior and good sportsmanship is expected from everyone at this event. There is a zero tolerance rule in effect for poor sportsmanship. As coaches, you serve as role models for your athletes and must discourage poor attitudes or behavior from your athletes and encourage respect for your opponents on and off the field.

Softball

Reminders to Softball Coaches

Please remember that the divisioning tournament and state tournament are a little different. The purpose of the divisioning tournament is to see teams play which means some modifications of the rules. At the state tournament, the official rules will be enforced.

A few rules to keep in mind are:

- * Athletes/partners must slide if there is a play at the base
- * A new inning will not be started after the 1-hour time limit has elapsed. The inning will be finished if time has elapsed unless the home team is ahead and coming up to bat (1 hour time limit already expired).
- * Unified Sports® Teams - batting order must alternate between partners and athletes. The line-up card submitted to the scorekeeper must identify who is who. Partners - odd numbers; Athletes - even numbers
- * Extra Hitter - in Traditional team competition, a team can bat either 10 or 11 players. In Unified Sports® team competition, a team either bats 10 or 12 players (1 extra partner and 1 extra athlete). If used, the team must bat the same number of players during the entire game.
- * All players on the team must either bat at least once or play in the field in each game of the tournament.
- * Unified Sports® Teams - remember the ratio of positions which must be filled by athletes versus partners in the infield, the outfield and pitcher/catcher.
- * Third strike foul is an out in all divisions but Unified Sports® Divisions 1 and 2—1 courtesy foul granted.
- * Three outs must occur before the batting team takes the field. This means the team batting may go through their line up more than once in an inning.
- * Unified Sports® Teams - please remind your partners about player dominance (encroachment): one warning given, then the umpire can reverse the call.
- * Players are not allowed to wear jewelry during competition.
- * All teams will exchange roster line-ups 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the games.
- * Teams need to hand in roster line-ups to scorekeepers 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the games. This will be kept by the scorer and not returned to the team.

Sailing Regatta

Wadawanuck Club
196 Water St, Stonington, CT 06378

Sponsored by:
J. Michael Leahy Fund
Dime Bank Foundation
Dodson Boatyard

Games Rules Committee

Vic and Eileen Cicchese.....Venue Directors
Eric Donch.....Harbormaster
Tucker Bragdon.....Games Committee
Beth Robinson.....Games Committee

Saturday, September 9h

8:30 a.m. Volunteer Registration
8:45 a.m. Athlete Registration
10:00 a.m. Parade of athletes
10:30 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
11:00 a.m. Lunch/Skippers Meeting
11:30 a.m. Harbor Start
5:00 p.m. Dinner
6:00 p.m. Dance
7:30 p.m. Depart

Sunday, September 10th

8:00 a.m. Volunteer Registration
8:30 a.m. Competitors Arrive
9:00 a.m. Racing
12:00 p.m. Lunch/Olympic Town
1:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony



Sailing Regatta

1 RULES

1.1 The races shall be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, and Special Olympics Connecticut

1.2 The current Sailing Instructions of Special Olympics will apply. If there is a conflict between this document and the Sailing Instructions of Special Olympics, The Sailing Instructions of Special Olympics will prevail.

2 ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Open to all Special Olympic Athletes and Partners in good standing with Special Olympics Connecticut that have completed the requirements for competing in these games.

3 DIVISIONS

3.1 The Target number in each division will be 4 boats. If 2 or more boats are tied for 4th in any division they may be moved down to the next division leaving three in the higher division. Some divisions may have 3 boats depending on the number of boats registered. All divisioning decisions are up to the official scorer.

3.2 If the event is sailed on both days the divisions will be calculated using the scores from the first day. If there is only one day of sailing the divisions will be calculated using the total scores.

4 QUALIFYING One race must be completed to constitute a series.

5 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be distributed to all skippers and partners before racing begins.

6 VENUE The racing area will be in the waters of Stonington Harbor and Fishers Island Sound.

7 COURSES

7.1 The courses and marks will be defined by the SOCT Sailing Instructions.

8 TIME LIMIT

8.1 The time limit for JY15 is 30 Minutes

8.2 The time limit for all others is 1 Hour.

8.3 Boats still racing 30 minutes after the first boat in their division has finished will be scored TLE (time limit expired).

9 SCORING

9.1 Each race and series will be scored using the Low Point scoring system of Appendix A of The Racing rules as modified in the sailing instructions

10 SAFETY

10.1 US Coast Guard approved PFD will be worn at all times when on the dock and on the water.

10.2 Safety is paramount.

The race committee shall set the safest race course possible with regard to sea, wind and weather conditions.

The race committee will postpone racing if the conditions are such that sailing would be unsafe.

The race committee will take in to consideration the comfort level of the competitors when making decisions concerning postponement or cancellation.

It is the responsibility of each skipper and crew to sail safely within his or her capabilities. If weather conditions make you doubtful of your ability to handle them, retire from the race. This is considered to be a good sailing practice and is never looked down upon.

Remember we are sailing in borrowed boats, please take good care of them and avoid anything that could cause damage.

Unified Golf Croquet

**Ocean House, Watch Hill, RI
1 Bluff Ave Westerly, Rhode Island 02891**

Sponsored by: A.H. Gildersleeve

Games Rules Committee

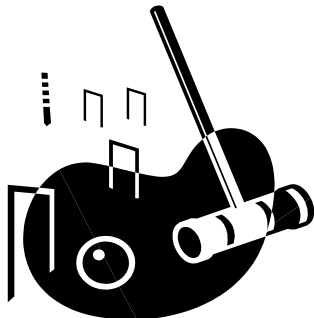
Stephen Morgan USCA Pro at Ocean House
Bobbi Shorthouse U.S. Croquet Association
Beau Doherty..... Special Olympics Connecticut
Chris Hopkins..... Special Olympics Rhode Island

Saturday, September 23rd

9:00a.m.- 10:00a.m.....Athlete and Volunteer Registration
10:15a.m.Opening Ceremonies
10:45a.m. - 12:30p.m...Competition and Olympic Town
11:30p.m. - 2:00p.m....Lunch
12:30p.m.- 1:30 p.m....“Unified Sports® Experience”
1:30 p.m.- 2:00 p.m..... Unified Sports Experience® Awards
1:45p.m.....Competition Resumes
3:45p.m.....Awards

Sunday, September 24th

9:00a.m.- 10:00a.m.....Athlete and Volunteer Registration
10:15a.m.Welcome
10:45a.m. - 12:00p.m...Competition and Olympic Town
12:00p.m. - 1:00p.m....Lunch
1:00p.m.....Competition Resumes
2:45p.m.....Awards



Medical & Safety Information

Emergency Evacuation Procedure

In the event of a life threatening or dangerous situation, the decision to evacuate a venue facility will be made by SOCT staff, Venue Director, and appropriate Security and Public Safety personnel.

The decision to evacuate a venue facility will be made when the threat of danger is imminent.

Each venue site is unique; therefore, the Venue Director will be responsible in formulating a standard evacuation procedure for that venue site. In the event evacuation becomes necessary, it is recommended that the following steps be taken:

- * All security and law enforcement personnel as well as volunteer security will be utilized for crowd management when possible.
- * If an evacuation is ordered, people will be directed to the parking lots adjacent to the venue sites.
- * The Venue Director will notify the SOCT Vice President, Sports & Competition and other appropriate personnel.
- * Security and Public Safety Departments will continue to provide security around the evacuated venue area.

Medical Emergencies

Contact the Operations Center or report to the Medical area at each venue.

Suggestions for Coaches

- ⇒ Bring sunscreen (SPF 30) for your athletes. Be sure to apply liberally and frequently, taking care to avoid getting lotion into the eyes.
- ⇒ Be sure to have your athletes dress appropriately, have a hat to protect athlete from the sun.
- ⇒ Bring a container of drinks for your athletes. Do not let athletes eat or drink too much at one time.
- ⇒ Be sure to have athletes warm up before competition.

Area Hospitals

Yale New Haven Hospital (203) 688-4242
 Yale New Haven Hospital Campus of St. Raphael..... (203) 789-3000
 Lawrence & Memorial Hospital (New London)..... (860) 442-0711

Medication Guidelines

MEDICATION GUIDELINES

- * All athletes who require medication must bring it to each Special Olympics events.
- * Medications must be presented in pharmacist's labeled containers listing dosage instructions. Blister or bubble packs are preferred instead of bottles (these LOA or vacation packs can be requested from a pharmacy for a weekend's supply). If unable to get a bubble pack, each bottle of medication should only have enough for the weekend plus an extra dose.
- * Medications should be brought to a Special Olympics event in a sealed bag labeled with the athlete's name and local program.
- * Only essential medication should be brought to a Special Olympics event. Non-essential medications such as vitamins, medicated shampoo, cream, powder, mouth rinse, etc., should be left at home. Physicians can be asked for a drug holiday from such non-essential medications.
- * A Medication Information Form needs to be signed by the parent, guardian or group home staff member identifying the need for administration of any necessary medications. This form will also list all medications and when they are to be given during a Special Olympics event.

ATHLETES WHO CAN SELF-ADMINISTER MEDICATION (an individual who is able to take medication with minimal prompting)

- * Any athlete who can self-administer, must self-administer medication.
- * A coach should be available to remind athlete of time to take medication.

ATHLETES WHO CANNOT SELF-ADMINISTER MEDICATION

- * Athletes must go to event's central medical facility to have medication administered unless the local program has a med certified individual accompanying the team.
- * Athletes who require injectable medication must have a clearly labeled container and specific dosage instructions signed by a pharmacist or physician as well as all implements/equipment necessary for administration.
- * Whenever possible, medication will be administered by a volunteer nurse, physician or physician's assistant or other volunteers who will record the athlete's name, time administered and medication given. This record will be signed by the individual administering the medication.
- * Programs should alert SOCT headquarters as to the names of athletes requiring medication administration and any special instructions. This will confirm that the proper medical volunteers are available as needed for medication administration.

Survey and Website

Survey Monkey

Please be sure to provide us with your current email address so that you can receive the survey after the games. Your feedback is very valuable for future planning.

Website and E-newsletter

Visit our website www.soct.org for more information about Special Olympics Connecticut and to sign-up for our monthly e-newsletter!

Protest Procedures

Under no circumstances should a coach disrupt competition to file an appeal or protest. If a coach wishes to file a protest, follow these procedures:

Note: Protests can only be made by coaches. Family, friends or athlete escorts cannot file a protest.

Refer to your Special Olympics Sports Rules Book and National Governing Body Rules Book.

If a coach wishes to continue with the protest, complete the Protest Form (on next page) and submit it to the scorer's table no more than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the event being protested. The Sports Rules Committee will review the protest and render a decision within 24 hours.

For Softball, notify the umpire of your protest and have it noted in the score book.

Judgment calls cannot be protested.

PROTEST FORM

Date: _____

Time: _____

Sport: _____

Event: _____

Age Group: _____

Division: _____

Athlete or Team Name: _____

Reason for Protest: _____

Signature of Head Coach: _____

Decision of Referee: _____

Protest Approved: _____

Protest Denied: _____

Signed: _____

Time: _____

PROTEST PROCEDURE

Under no circumstances should a coach disrupt competition to file an appeal or protest. If a coach wishes to file a protest, follow these procedures:

Refer to your Special Olympics Sports Rules Book and National Governing Body Rules Book. If the coach wishes to continue with protest, complete the Protest Form and submit to the scorer's table no more than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the event being protested. The Sports Rules Committee will review the protest and render a decision within 24 hours.

Protests can only be made by Coaches. Family, friends or athlete escorts cannot file a protest.

Special Thanks

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J. Michael Leahy Fund

Bronze Sponsors



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Dodson Boatyard

Contributing Sponsor

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EVERSOURCE



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