



While this newsletter was meant to be bi-monthly, we had enough important information that needed to go out in May including information on [Summer Games](#), [2019 World Games Nominations](#) and [2019 State Basketball Dates](#). So...going forward this newsletter will be monthly or bi-monthly as needed.

Also in this issue, find information about our [June Coaches Conference Call](#), [Certified Coach Pins](#), [Unified Sports Information](#), [Summer Sports Resources](#), [Healthy Athlete Summer Games Screenings](#), and [Staying Connected with Special Olympics Kansas](#). There is lots of good and relevant information in this email so please take some time to look over all of it.

CERTIFIED COACH PINS

New Certified Coaches and active coaches that were certified per the previous coaching policy that took effect on August 1, 2016 will receive a lapel pin.

This lapel pin will be distributed attached to your badge at Summer Games as part of the team packets. For those coaches not attending Summer Games, your pin will be distributed to your Local Program Coordinator this summer. If you do not receive a pin at Summer Games and feel you should have received one, please contact Chris Burt at burtc@kssso.org.



SUMMER GAMES SCHEDULE

[2018 Summer Games Tentative Schedule of Events](#)

Opening Ceremonies:

Doors will open for seating at 6 p.m. and the ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Swimming Venue Change:

Swimming will be split between 2 venues in 2018. Low Motor Swim (all floats, walks, swims under 25m) will be held at the Levy Special Ed Center (400 N. Woodchuck Dr, Wichita) and all events featuring the four traditional strokes (Back, Fly, Breast, Free) will be held at Wichita NW High School (1220 N. Tyler Rd, Wichita)

[Visit Summer Games Webpages to see more](#)

COACHES CONFERENCE CALL

We invite all SOKS coaches to let their voice be heard and to hear directly from our CEO, John Lair, on our quarterly coaches conference call. Find out about upcoming organization initiatives, coaches trainings and more.

Date: June 13, 2018

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

The number - in KC (913 Area Code) - 693-9100
outside KC area code) - 1-866-855-9609

Passcode - 153836#

[Click here to add this call to your Google Calendar](#)

UNIFIED SPORTS

Special Olympics is dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences. Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

Since 2013, SOKS has been growing a Unified Sports League in KC and Topeka made primarily of school-based Unified Sports teams for basketball (fall), bocce (winter) and soccer (spring). Sports are held in opposite seasons to traditional SOKS sports to allow athletes to participate in both Unified and traditional SOKS programming. The benefit here is that an athlete can focus on fewer sports and have more opportunities to improve those sports skills. We want to expand that program across the state. [For more information and to find out how to get involved visit here.](#)

[This free online course from NFHS will help you understand and implement Special Olympics Unified Sports.](#)



SUMMER SPORTS RESOURCES

- [Bowling](#)
- [Volleyball](#)

2018 HEALTHY ATHLETE SUMMER GAMES SCREENINGS

Friday, June 1: Special Smiles – Wichita NW High School, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 2: Opening Eyes, Healthy Hearing & Health Promotion – Maize South High School, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

[Download Flyer](#)

Important Note: Athletes do not need to be competing in the competition or even be a current SOKS athlete to take advantage of having their health screened. They just need to make sure they have the [consent form](#) filled out.

2019 WORLD GAMES NOMINATIONS

Special Olympics Kansas is accepting nominations for athletes to represent Kansas and Team USA at the 2019 World Summer Games in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, March 6 – 23, 2019.

As part of the 400 athletes that will represent the USA, Kansas will send three athletes and one unified partner:

- Female Track (athlete can choose 2 of these events) - 100m Race, 200m Race, 400m Race, Shot Put, Running Jong Jump, Turbo Javelin.
- Female Bowler – athlete will compete in Singles, Doubles, and Team (4 person) bowling
- Male Unified Golf Team (Athlete/Partner must be males and must be able to practice together before the games) – Golfers will play 9 hole alternate shot

[Download Nomination Form](#)

Nominations accepted until June 8, 2018...athletes selected will be notified by June 22, 2018. Please direct any questions to Tim Rehder at rehdert@kssso.org.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay connected with Special Olympics Kansas on Social Media!

[Follow us on Facebook](#)

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

[Follow us on Instagram](#)

[Follow us on Flickr](#)

2019 STATE BASKETBALL DATES

West - Hays - March 15 & 16, 2019

East - Topeka - March 24 & 25, 2019

Questions? Comments?

Please contact Chris Burt, Vice President of Health and Community Outreach, at burtc@kssso.org or 913-236-9290 x107.

