

# HOWARD COUNTY

SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
MARYLAND



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## October Newsletter

Issue #2014-8

### Winter Sports Registration Open

Registration for winter sports (alpine skiing, snowshoeing and basketball-5 levels from skills to 5v5 full court) is now open. [Click here to register](#). NOTE: If an athlete has never participated in SOHO basketball before, they should register as NEW. If you do not receive an email confirmation after registering, call the office at 410-740-0500 to ensure that you are registered. Remember that athletes must have a valid medical on file prior to the sport season in order to be able to participate in any sport.

### Basketball Assessments and Level of Play

Athletes who did not play basketball last year AND have registered online as "New to Basketball" for this coming season must attend assessments at Harper's Choice Middle on Wednesday, December 3rd from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. After the assessment, the coaches will determine the appropriate level-of-play for each athlete. If an athlete played basketball for SOHO last season and would like to be considered for another level, the athlete needs to contact their coordinator to see if attending the assessment is necessary. Returning athletes may also be contacted by their coordinator if a level change for this coming season was determined appropriate based on last year's play. During January practices, level-of-play adjustments may still be made based on practice performance. The goal is to achieve the highest level of safe and meaningful level-of-play for all athletes and teams.

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### Support Our Sponsors!

We are grateful for the support we receive from various businesses and local organizations, so please patronize these businesses whenever possible. [Click here](#) for a list of our sponsors.

### Tip a Cop!

## Corridor Golf Tournament Raises \$35,000



For two days, the weather was perfect and the golf fantastic. This year's Corridor Golf Open and Invitational was huge success raising \$35,000 for the Howard County and Carrol County Special Olympics programs. This event and the unwavering support from Corridor Mortgage and their leadership have been critical to our program. In addition, having

our athletes and their family and friends be able to participate in this top-notch tournament is just an added way to give our athletes continued opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate with other athletes others in their community. We are very grateful to Corridor Mortgage and its employees for their continued commitment to our athletes as well as the Waverly Woods Golf Course who has hosted the tournament since its inception. A huge thank you to Corridor President Jerry Rader and Leadership Committee Chris Sittig, Dave Hudson, Ron Mason and Kerry Fitzpatrick.

Special thanks to athletes Nick Stewart, Alex Barnes, Antoine Webster, Marcus Nagle, Kenny Long, Jennifer Wright, Aidan Saienni, Thomas Smith, Glenn Donovan, and Nate Zahn who greeted customers with Howard County law enforcement officers at the Red Robin restaurant on October 18th in support of the Tip-a-Cop campaign for the Law Enforcement Torch Run Campaign Fundraiser for SOMD.

## Restaurant Fundraiser on Nov 6th

**Special Olympics Maryland**  
**Howard County**  
**Family Restaurant Night**

**THE CORNER STABLE**

Kings Contrivance Village Center  
8630 Guilford Road, Columbia 21046  
240-755-0188

**Thursday, November 6**  
**11:00am-10:00pm**

**SOMD Howard County**  
**Receives 15% of your purchase**  
Please give this flyer to your server

Come out and enjoy an evening with friends at our fall restaurant fundraiser for Special Olympics at the Corner Stable Restaurant on November 6, 2014. Dine in or carry out for lunch or dinner. [Click here to download a flier](#) to turn in with your meal payment and Special Olympics receives 15% of the total proceeds!

## Athlete Global Messenger Training

Congratulations to our three newest Global Messengers, Alex Barnes, Thomas Smith and Munir Vohra who recently completed training. If you would like to become a global messenger, contact Jason Schriml at [jschriml@somd.org](mailto:jschriml@somd.org).

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## Fall Dance - Friday, Nov 14th

Athletes, come out and enjoy an evening with friends at our fall dance to be held on Friday, November 14th at Harpers Choice Middle School from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Drinks and snacks will be served. Volunteers are needed. Contact our family coordinator, Barbara Stewart at [stewgard@aol.com](mailto:stewgard@aol.com) if available to help.

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## URGENT: Basketball 3v3 Player Development Coordinator Needed

As many of you know, each of our sports is led by a parent coordinator. Without a coordinator in place, we cancel the sport for the season until someone is willing to take on this critical position within our organization. Currently, we are still seeking someone to take on the Basketball 3v3 Player Development coordinator position. If you want to see the great player development program continue, please contact Bob Baker ASAP at [bobbaker@somdhc.org](mailto:bobbaker@somdhc.org).

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## Volunteer Spotlight: Mimi Goodman

Do you enjoy the photos you see on our Smugmug page? (<http://www.somdhc.smugmug.com/>) The majority of these great shots have been taken by Mimi Goodman who has been taking photographs of our athletes at competitions since 2007. She has volunteered countless hours capturing the essence of our athletes striving to achieve their personal best and enjoying themselves. These wonderful photos provide great memories for everyone. Thank you, Mimi, for your time and talent!

Some recent examples of her work is from our October 11th Volleyball Tournament. Click on [Team Photos](#) or [Action Photos](#). Hal Rummel and Dan Sterne also contributed to the volleyball photos.

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## Athlete Medical Application Reminder

All athletes must have a valid medical form in order to participate in Special Olympics Howard County programs.

## SOMD Video Newsletter

Check out the SOMD October Video Newsletter by [clicking here](#). This edition provides the SOMD calendar of events, an interview with Mout St Mary's President, Dr. Thomas Powell and a highlight of the recent Global Messenger Training. [Click here for the September Video.](#)

## In Memorium

Frances Baker, father of  
Director Bob Baker,  
July 23, 2014

John E. Burk, father of  
basketball coordinator  
Jack Burk, October 1,  
2014

(memorial donations to  
Jackie Burk Memorial  
Scholarship Fund)

Tom Slifker, husband of  
Adele Slifker, and father of  
athlete Wayne Slifker,  
October 3, 2014

## Myth and Fact

MYTH: Special Olympics only serves individuals with intellectual disabilities.

These forms must be updated every three years. If you are not sure when a medical expires, you can send an email to [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org) or call the SOHO office. Try to schedule your doctor's appointment in plenty of time so not to jeopardize an athlete's participation.

## Volunteer Forms - Need to Update?

All volunteers must update their volunteer application every three years. There is no need to attend another orientation but the application must be updated.

## Volunteer Opportunities & Orientation Dates

The next Volunteer Orientation will be held on Thursday, November 13th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the SOHO office. Anyone interested in volunteering must attend a volunteer orientation, complete a volunteer application and an on-line Protective Behaviors Course. Parents are highly encouraged to attend an orientation.

For more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Janet Larrimore. ([JanetandWalter@comcast.net](mailto:JanetandWalter@comcast.net)).

The last orientation this year will be held on December 11th. Anyone interested in volunteering in any winter sport need to attend an orientation before January.

## SPIRIT WEAR FOR HOLIDAY GIVING

We will soon be opening a Spirit Store for those that wish to purchase SOHO spirit wear for holiday gift giving. Keep an eye on the Nightmare Graphics web page over the next few weeks under online stores entitled Special Olympics Howard County Spirit Wear.

FACT: Thanks to Unified Sports®, people with and without intellectual disabilities compete on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding. Traditional unified teams are made up of people of similar age and ability, which makes practices more fun and games more challenging and exciting for all. Having sport in common is just one more way that preconceptions and false ideas are swept away. The Unified Sports concept has grown to include player development unified where the non-Special Olympics teammate helps facilitate play in a non-dominant role. Recreational Unified sports opportunities are just that, roll out the ball, pick teams and go play. These programs allow for broader participation and contribute to helping build more inclusive communities of dignity and respect. #PlayUnified

## Refinance and Raise Funds for SOHO

[Corridor Mortgage Group](#), who sponsors the fall golf fundraiser for Special

Olympics Howard County is offering our organization \$250 for anyone who refinances their mortgage or borrows for a new mortgage through Corridor. Mention that you heard of the offer through the SOHO newsletter. For more details, call Chris Sittig at 443.539.1596 or email at

[csittig@corridormtg.com](mailto:csittig@corridormtg.com)

## Coaches Resources

Special Olympics Howard County encourages all of our coaches to stay abreast of the latest training. SOHO will reimburse any coach that wishes to take the online training courses offered below.



## Coaches Training



## Coaches Guidelines

## Sports Rules

Thanks for your support!!



SOHO Office, 8970 Route 108 Suite A1, Columbia, MD 21045  
Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 - 1:00, Tuesday 1:30 - 6:30  
Phone (410) 740-0500 | Fax (410) 740-2388 | [www.somdhc.org](http://www.somdhc.org) | [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org)  
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