

# HOWARD COUNTY

SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
MARYLAND



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## August Newsletter

Issue #2015-08

### Corridor Mortgage Golf Fundraiser

Corridor Mortgage will hold its 5th annual Corridor Classic on September 18th at Waverly Woods Golf Course. This tournament has raised nearly \$80,000 for our program in the first four years. We can help make this day a success by [clicking here](#) to sign up for a foursome or singles. [Click here](#) for details on the event. You can also register by emailing [bobbaker@somdhc.org](mailto:bobbaker@somdhc.org).



We also need volunteers to help run the event on Sept 18th. If you are available to work a morning or afternoon shift, please email Janet Larrimore at [janetandwalter@comcast.net](mailto:janetandwalter@comcast.net).

### Howard County Equestrian Shines at Los Angeles World Games

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#### Fall Sports Registration Deadlines

Bowling - 9/12 \*  
Volleyball - 8/24 \*\*

\* Limited to 120 athletes; currently full. Future registrants will be placed on a waiting list.

\*\* Limited to 40 athletes

Ben Stevick, SOHO equestrian athlete, was one of the six Maryland athletes on Team USA at the Los Angeles World Games. He won a gold in English Equitation, a gold in Dressage and a Silver in Working Trails.



Ben on Zip, his World Games horse, dressed and ready for his competition.

Ben's parents said that Ben had a great time with "lots of international relations" and Ben got to ride some great horses.

WBAL-TV's Jennifer Franciotti interviewed Ben at TRRC after his triumphant return. (Click [here](#) to see the interview.) Ben will also be featured in an upcoming Baltimore Sun article about his experience.

## Spring Season Pictures and Videos

Rachael Lin, one of our amazing aquatics teenage volunteers, has put together a fantastic photo and video montage of our aquatics season. Thank you Rachael!! [Click here](#) to view.

Brian Silvea was highlighted by WBAL in a TV interview just prior to Summer Games. [Check it out.](#)

Summer games opening ceremonies can be viewed by [clicking here](#). Our own Nick Stewart was one of the athlete master of ceremonies and he did a great job!

## Thanks to ESPN!

ESPN did a fabulous job of covering the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, providing complete coverage of the Opening ceremonies and a nightly wrap up of some of the day's events. Many athletes were highlighted, as well as issues facing our athletes and their families.

[Click here](#)

to view the Robin Roberts special featuring our very own Catherine and Rosemary Gruss.

If you were as impressed with the coverage as we were, let's tell ESPN and their sponsors how much we appreciated the prime time coverage. Contact Paul Melvin, Senior Director, ESPN Communications ([Paul.Melvin@espn.com](mailto:Paul.Melvin@espn.com)) and Teri Couch, ESPN Communications ([Teri.Couch@espn.com](mailto:Teri.Couch@espn.com)).

## THANKS TO OUR 2015 INSPIRATION WALK SPONSORS!

### PRESENTING SPONSORS

Corridor Mortgage  
Lisa Higgins Hussman Foundation

### LEGACY SPONSORS

Dwight & Diane Mikulis, Allan Homes, Pat & Maryanne Klima, Timbers at Troy Golf Course, Brunswick Normandy Lanes, Quest Fitness

### TEAM SPONSORS

Integrated Waste Analysts,

Cedar Lane torch run for World Games can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

Other photos from our spring sports can be viewed at our [Smugmug site](#). Many thanks to Mimi Goodman and Marie McGing for so many wonderful photos!!

Five Special Olympics athletes, Julie Smith, Lakiva Jackson, Nate Zahn, David Snyder, and Julia Phillips, carried the torch through Howard County just prior to the Summer Games. [Click here](#) to view the video.

## Need for Coordinators

SOHO is run by many volunteers. Critical to running our organization are the Coordinators that are responsible for each of our 19 sports programs and the Motor Activities Training Program. Coordinators do not coach the sport but rather ensure that that sport program runs smoothly. Jobs include ensuring a training facility/site, monitoring athlete registration and medicals in that sport, keeping track of athlete and volunteer attendance, setting the training schedule, and other important tasks. All Coordinators receive training from our Head Coordinator, Russ Young, prior to the sport season, and attend monthly management team meetings during their sport season.

This is a critical position without which we cannot run a sport. If we cannot find a coordinator for a sport, that sport will not be offered that season or until a coordinator can be found. We are extremely grateful for the coordinators we have, some of which have been coordinators for as much as 20 years!

We have a number of Coordinator positions open this fall and spring that must be filled:  
**Volleyball** Player Development Team Coordinator  
**Soccer** - Player Development Team and Traditional Team

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### GOLD MEDAL SPONSORS

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### HOSPITALITY SPONSORS

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A list of all our gift certificate and raffle prizes donors can be found on our web page at <http://somdhc.org/?s=inspiration+walk>

## Volunteer Orientation

The next Volunteer Orientation will be held at the SOHO office on September 16th from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. New volunteers interested in helping with fall and winter sports should attend. Advance registration is required by contacting Janet at [JanetandWalter@comcast.net](mailto:JanetandWalter@comcast.net).

## Softball Skills Coordinator

If you are interested in any of these positions or want further information, please contact [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org).

## Sponsor Spotlight: The Timbers at Troy Golf Course

SOHO has a successful golf program because of the in-kind support of our training site at **The Timbers of Troy Golf Course**. For 18 seasons, our golf program has used Timbers for training our skills and Level 2-5 program as well as our annual golf tournament which hosts approximately 80-90 athlete participants. By practicing and playing golf at this public golf course, the community observes our athletes in a different light and community members become more accepting of those with intellectual disabilities. Additionally, Timbers supports our annual Inspiration Walk with gift cards for raffle prizes. The value of their in-kind donation is over \$162,000. Our thanks to General Manager Kevin Smith and the entire Timbers staff.



## SOMD NEWS

[Click here](#) to read the July edition of IMPACT, SOMD's e-newsletter.

[Click here](#) to view a job posting for the SOMD Registration Coordinator opening, a paid position. This has been posted on numerous job boards via Maryland Nonprofits as well as on the SOMD website. SOMD will accept applications through August 28th at [resumes@somd.org](mailto:resumes@somd.org)

## Medicals Must Be Current

Remember that all athletes must have a current medical on file in order to register and participate in any SOHO activity. These must be updated every three years. Medical forms can be found on our web site. (Click here.) Through December 31st, Righttime Medical Center is offering sports physicals for \$20.00, Tuesdays - Thursdays from 10:00 - 3:00. (Regular price is \$45.00.) Appointments can be made by calling 888.808.6483 or going to [myRighttime.com](http://myRighttime.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.

## Team Up for 1



Team Up For 1 (TU41) is an organization that connects athletes with disabilities with local sports teams and they are looking for participants from Special Olympics. They match children, ages four to 18 (and possibly up to age 22), with local high school and college sports teams, promoting a team 'adoption' which turns into team activities, MVP ceremonies and endless Team Up For 1 programs that create a bond between the child/family and the athletes/coaches on the sports team.

SOHO athlete Will Frisinger has been adopted by the Towson University Golf Team through TU41. Will's MVP ceremony will take place on Wednesday, September 2nd at The Eagles Nest (formerly known as Towson Country Club). This is a great opportunity for any interested athletes and their families to learn more about the program. If you wish to attend, RSVP to [Charlielevine@comcast.net](mailto:Charlielevine@comcast.net). [Click here](#) for further information about TU41.

### Coaching Special Olympics Athletes Course

As part of the Coaches Certification program, all coaches must take the **Coaching Special Olympics Athletes** course every three years. SOHO will be offering the course in the office on Tuesday, September 22nd from 6:30 - 9:30. Coaches who have not taken the course and those needing to re-certify are encouraged to attend. We also recommend that all coordinators take the course. The course can also be taken on-line (see Coaches Training in the sidebar) and SOHO will reimburse you for the cost of the course. Interested individuals should register [here](#).



#### Coaches Training



#### Coaches Guidelines

#### Sports Rules

### Newsletter Information

If you are an athlete, parent or caregiver, we highly recommend that you do not Unsubscribe from this newsletter. You will miss valuable information about seasonal sports registration, policies, highlights, activities and other relevant information. Please add [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org) and [bobbaker@somdhc.org](mailto:bobbaker@somdhc.org) email addresses to your address book so that this letter does not go into your Junk Mail folder. If you have any suggestions or questions about the newsletter, please let us know at [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org).

### SOHO Office Hours

Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8:00 - 1:00 and Tuesday 1:30 - 6:30.

## Join Syd's and Christine's Challenge

One of the coolest things about Special Olympics is the opportunity provided to our athletes to lead. On the field in practice and in games, they lead like any athletes by providing direction, given positive feedback and helping other athletes achieve their personal best. Off the field, they represent other athletes in the Athletes Congress and speak in front of civic groups, business leaders and government officials. The latest demonstration of leadership was started by Carroll County athlete Syd Lea who pledged one hour of his pay every month to support Special Olympics in his county. He then challenged his friend, Howard County athlete Christine Reno to do the same.

Funds will be charged to credit cards or withdrawn from bank accounts. It's really cool to see athletes giving back. Syd and Christine are now challenging others, both athletes, friends and families, to make the same commitment.

You can designate your gift to help athletes in your county or throughout the state of Maryland. To enroll, click [here](#).



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Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 - 1:00, Tuesday 1:30 - 6:30  
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