



***Special Olympics***  
***Delaware***

# **Softball Information & Registration**

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# 2011 SUMMER GAMES

## -OVERALL TENTATIVE SCHEDULE-

### *Thursday, June 9, 2011:*

Registrations can be picked up at the Special Olympics office in Newark.

5:00pm	Housing Opens	McKean Hall
TBD	Practice Facilities Available	

### *Friday, June 10, 2011*

6:30am	Volunteer Registration Opens	Outside Olympic Village
7:00am – 11:00am	Team Registration	Outside Olympic Village
9:00am – 12:00pm	MATP	Bob Carpenter Center
8:00am – 12:00pm	Track Preliminaries	Mini Stadium
8:30am – 4:00pm	Aquatics Preliminaries	UD Outdoor Pool
9:00am – 12 noon	Team Softball	Handloff Park
9:00am – 4:00pm	Bocce	Delaware Field House
9:00am – 10:30am	Tennis Skills Competition	Outdoor Tennis Courts
9:30am – 2:00pm	Tennis Singles Competition	Outdoor Tennis Courts
11:00am – 4:00pm	Field Events Prelim/Finals	Mini Stadium/ Field House
10:00am – 3:00pm	Olympic Village	
11:00am - 1:30pm	Lunch	West Stands (Delaware Stadium)
11:00am - 3:00pm	Healthy Athletes/Wellness Park	
4:30pm - 6:30pm	BBQ & Dance	Grass outside Delaware Stadium
7:00pm	Opening Ceremonies	Bob Carpenter Center

### *Saturday, June 11, 2011*

6:30am	Volunteer Registration Opens	Outside Olympic Village
7:00am – 11:00am	Team Registration	Outside Olympic Village
7:30am - 1:00pm	Power Lifting	Delaware Field House
8:00am – 12:00pm	Track Finals	Mini Stadium
8:00am – 4:00pm	Bocce	Delaware Field House
8:00am – 4:00pm	Team Softball	Handloff Park
8:30am – 4:00pm	Aquatics Finals	UD Outdoor Pool
9:00am – 1:00pm	Tennis Doubles & Unified Doubles	Outdoor Tennis Courts
10:00am – 3:00pm	Olympic Village	
11:00am – 3:00pm	Healthy Athletes/Wellness Park	
11:00am - 1:30pm	Lunch	West Stands (Delaware Stadium)

**2011 SODE Summer Games**  
**June 10-11, 2011**  
**University of Delaware**

**TIMELINE**

**Friday, April 8, 2011**

Sport Rosters & Coach/Team Volunteer Rosters due  
Letter of Intent for housing & meals due from Program Directors

**Monday, May 2, 2011**

GMS Exchange files emailed to Program Directors

**Friday, May 6, 2011**

Uniform Request Forms due

**Friday, May 13, 2011**

Form H: Housing Request Form due from Program Directors  
Form M: Meal Request Form due from Program Directors

**Friday, May 20, 2011**

GMS files due to Special Olympics Delaware from Programs

**Wednesday, May 25, 2011**

Games Reports sent to Programs for review

**Friday, May 27, 2011**

Final corrections due to Special Olympics Delaware

**Friday, June 3, 2011**

Final Schedules and information to Programs

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## **-Softball General Rules-**



### General

All Special Olympics Delaware Programs must adhere to the following event category distribution process to ensure each athlete's full participation in the 2011 Summer Games.

1. Athletes may participate in only one sport except under the following conditions:
  - a. Athletes competing in Powerlifting on Saturday may do one of the following:
    - i. May also compete in Tennis Skills or Tennis Singles events offered on Friday; or
    - ii. May also compete in Field Events on Friday
  - b. Athletes competing in Tennis Skills Competition on Friday may also compete in Athletics or Aquatics offered after 1:30pm on both Friday and Saturday provided they are not registered for any other Tennis Event (ie: Doubles or Unified Double). The events chosen in athletics or aquatics must be in the same category and they can only participate in a maximum of 2 events.
2. Athletes should be entered into events that are appropriate for their level of training.
3. The revised and most current Official Special Olympics Sports Rules book shall govern all competition. The national governing body rules shall be employed except when in conflict with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules.

### Overview by Sport

The following events will be offered:

- a. Individual Skills Competition
- b. Training Division Level 1: Softball Team Skills Competition
- c. Training Division Level 2: T-Ball Team Competition
- d. Unified Slow Pitch Team Competition
- e. Traditional Slow Pitch Team Competition

Athletes should be placed in events according to the rules in the Softball Information Book.

### **SLOW PITCH TEAM SOFTBALL**

1. Athletes & Partners may only be registered for 1 team for the tournament.
2. Maximum Roster Size for each team will be 16
3. Age Groups will be 15-21 and 22 and over. Depending on the number of teams in each age group there may be some divisions comprised of both age groups.
4. Friday's competition will consist primarily of divisioning round games. To be eligible for final round games all participants must attend divisioning round games.

### **MATP SOFTBALL**

1. Athletes will demonstrate their personal achievements in the Softball skills listed below.
2. Athletes are eligible for MATP demonstrations in Category MS-1 through MS-3 only.
3. Athletes may enter one category (MS-1 to MS-3) per each skill. Athlete may enter *any or all* skills.
4. Coaches are required to provide a brief explanation of the skill's objective and the athlete's achievements.

### Category

MS-1	Switches and/or Assistive Devices/Methods Used
MS-2	Assistance of Physical/Verbal Prompts; <u>no specialized equipment</u>
MS-3	Mostly Independent: Some Scores/Times ( <u>unable to meet minimum skills requirements</u> )

### Softball Events

- a. Bat handling
- b. Hitting/Striking Ball
- c. Throwing
- d. Catching

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## -Softball Sports Rules-



Teams should be comprised of Athletes and/or Unified Partners that fit the following criteria:

1. **Similar Age.** Age groups are determined by the sport and should be the first determinant when forming a team.
2. **Similar Ability.** Athletes and/or Unified Partners should be of similar ability on each of the teams that are formed.

Based on the above criteria teams must be placed in one of the following divisions and must adhere to the basic premise of the division. Divisions allow for meaningful competition opportunities for all ability levels.

### UNIFIED DIVISIONS

Team Composition MUST have the following ratio:

5 Special Olympics Athletes

5 Unified Partners

No Rules in place restricting play

Athletes must be capable physically and emotionally to handle this level of play

Partners & Athletes should be of similar ability

### TRADITIONAL DIVISIONS

Teams comprised of Special Olympics Athletes only

Athletes must be capable of playing the sport

Able to compete meaningfully on a team

Similar ability players

### TRAINING DIVISIONS

Bridging the gap between skills and team sports

Can be Unified or Traditional

Lower ability athletes but beyond skills

Unified Partners may be used according to rules of each level and should be of similar ability

### Training Division Level 2: Tee Ball Competition

*(If unified team composition may have up to 7 athletes)*

### Training Division Level 1: Team Skills Competition

*(If unified team composition may have up to 7 athletes)*

### SKILLS COMPETITIONS

*Individual Competition Only*

Available to those not ready for Traditional Team

Lower ability learning skills for sport

Can be in skills and on Training Division Team

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## -Softball Sports Rules-



## TEAM SOFTBALL GENERAL RULES

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### OFFICIAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOFTBALL RULES

The Official Special Olympics Sports Rules shall govern all Special Olympics softball competitions. As an international sports program, Special Olympics has created these rules based upon International Softball Federation (ISF) and the National Governing Body (NGB) Rules for slow pitch softball. ISF shall be employed in international competitions and the NGB Rules shall be employed in local competitions except when either is in conflict with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules. In such cases, the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules shall apply.

### *MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT*

#### **General Rules Article I**

#### **SECTION E - STATEMENT OF PARTICIPATION**

Special Olympics seeks to uphold the spirit of sportsmanship and love of participation for their own sake. Special Olympics in its training of coaches and officials believes in the philosophy that every athlete should participate in events that challenge that athlete's ability level and to his or her fullest potential. This means that in team sports each coach must offer every athlete the opportunity to play in each game. Coaches are encouraged to meet with the opposing coach prior to the start of each game to discuss playing time. It is hoped that coaches will work together to put players of similar ability in the game at the same times.

### *SPORTSMANSHIP*

Coaches are encouraged to approach the officials in a professional and polite manner when there is question regarding unsportsmanlike conduct or any other issue. Many situations are subjective and coaches should ask officials to keep a close eye on any situation that is viewed as unsportsmanlike. A umpire for one game may see this differently than an umpire from another game. Coaches are not to handle these situations on their own by approaching another coach but should refer to the GAME OFFICIAL for any situation.

### *MISCONDUCT*

Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and has no place in Special Olympics. Misconduct will result in the following:

In a situation where a game umpire or a tournament official rules that there is unsportsmanlike conduct the following shall take place:

1. On the first infraction: the game will stop at that point and a warning will be given to both the player and the head coach. The game will resume from point of interruption.
2. On the second infraction: Person will be ejected from the game. That person will also be suspended for 1 additional game.
3. On the third infraction: Person will be ejected from league/tournament. Before that person is allowed back in any sport in Special Olympics he/she will meet with SODE along with the Head Coach and Program Director for that team.



## SOFTBALL INDIVIDUAL SKILLS CONTEST

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### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

This event provides meaningful competition for athletes with lower ability levels. It is not for athletes who can already play the game. Four events make up the Individual Skills Contest: Base Running, Throwing, Fielding and Hitting. The athlete's final score is determined by adding together the scores achieved in each of these four events. Athletes will be pre-divisioned according to their total scores from these four events. The rules for each of these events are described on the following pages.

Athletes who compete in the Individual Skill Competition can only participate in the Team Competition if they are on a Training Division Level 1 Team or Training Division Level 2 Team.

### **PEER PARTNERS**

Only the athlete will be scored in Peer Partner events in the Skills Competition for Softball. When submitting scores for this event only record the Athlete's score.

If the Peer Partner scratches on the day of the event the Athlete is permitted to participate alone or with another Peer Partner that is already registered for the event. The athlete will still remain in the Peer Partner event for which he/she is registered.

If the Athlete scratches on the day of the event the Peer Partner may compete with another Peer Partner team that is already registered for your program. The Peer Partner may not participate on his/her own or be scored.

# SOFTBALL INDIVIDUAL SKILLS CONTEST

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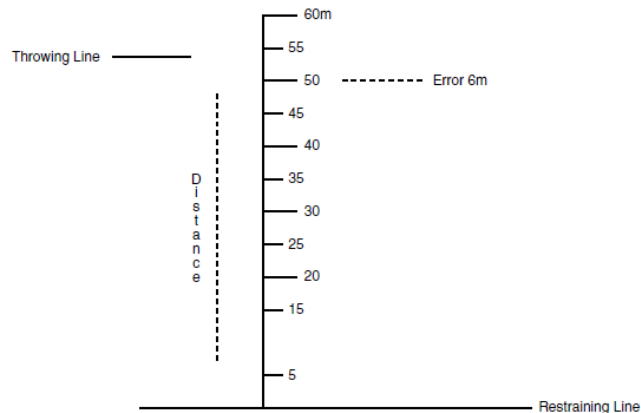
## **Individual Skills Event #1: Base Running**

1. Purpose: To measure the athlete's base-running ability.
2. Equipment
  - a. Three bases
  - b. home plate
  - c. stopwatch.
3. Description
  - a. Bases are set up like a baseball diamond and positioned 19.81 meters (65 feet) apart.
  - b. The athlete is instructed to start on home plate, and run around the bases in correct order (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, home) as fast as possible, touching each base en route.
  - c. Each athlete gets two trials
4. Scoring
  - a. The time starts when the athlete leaves home plate and stops when the athlete returns to home plate after circling the bases.
  - b. The time elapsed in seconds is subtracted from 60 to determine the point score.
  - c. A penalty of five seconds for each base missed or touched in improper order shall be assessed.
  - d. The best score of two trials is recorded.

## **Individual Skills Event #2: Batting**

1. Purpose: To measure the athlete's ability to hit for distance when hitting off a batting tee.
2. Equipment
  - a. Batting tee,
  - b. 30.5-centimeter (12-inch) red-stitch restricted-flight softballs
  - c. Bat
  - d. measuring tape and chalk.
3. Description
  - a. Standing in a regulation-size batter's box (i.e., 2.31 meters [7 feet, 7 inches] by 99 centimeters [3 feet, 3 inches]), the athlete is instructed to hit the ball off the tee.
  - b. The athlete receives three attempts.
4. Score
  - a. The distance of the longest hit shall determine the athlete's final score. The distance of a hit is measured from the batting tee to the point where the ball first touches the ground. The distance is measured to the nearest meter; for example, one meter equals one point; 46 meters equals 46 points. If the score falls between meters, scores should be rounded down; for example, 46.73 equals 46 points.

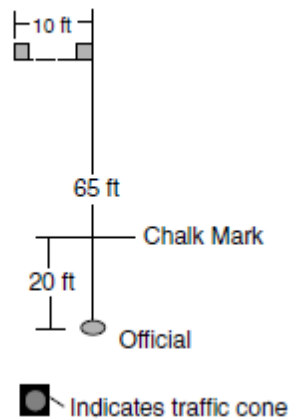
## Individual Skills Event #3: Throwing



1. Purpose: To measure the athlete's ability in throwing for distance and accuracy.
2. Equipment
  - a. Regulation field
  - b. two measuring tapes
  - c. softballs
  - d. two small cones or marking stakes
3. Description
  - a. The player being tested stands behind the restraining line, back far enough to take one or more steps in preparation for throwing.
  - b. The player has two trials to throw the softball as far and as straight as possible down the throwing line, without stepping over the restraining line.
  - c. Coaches, assistants or other waiting players should be positioned in the field to indicate, using a cone or marking stake, the spot where each ball first touches the ground.
  - d. The better of the two throws is measured and recorded as the player's score. If a player steps on or over the line before releasing the ball, the trial must be repeated. There will be a maximum of two repeats.
4. Scoring
  - a. The net throwing score equals the throwing distance, measured at a point on the throwing line straight across from (perpendicular to) the spot where the ball landed, minus the error distance (the number of meters the ball landed off target, away from the throwing line).
  - b. The player's score is the better of the two throws.
  - c. Both error scores and distance are measured to the nearest meter; for example, if a ball lands even with (perpendicular to) the 50-meter point on the measuring tape, but is 6 meters off to one side, the player's score is 44 points (Distance thrown [50m] minus number of meters off target [6m] results in a net score of 44 meters). Athletes score one point per meter; for example, 44 meters equals 44 points. If the score falls between meters, the score should be rounded down; for example, 44.73 equals 44 points.

## Individual Skills Event #4: Fielding

FIELDING DIAGRAM 1



1. Purpose: To measure athlete's fielding ability.
2. Equipment
  - a. 30.5-centimeter (12-inch) softballs
  - b. measuring tape
  - c. chalk/line
  - d. cones
3. Description
  - a. The athlete will stand between and behind the two cones.
  - b. The official must throw the ball on the ground to the athlete, between the cones. The throw to the athlete must hit the ground before the 6.10-meter (20-inch) chalk mark. The athlete may move aggressively toward the ball. If the thrown ball is outside of the cones, the throw must be repeated.
  - c. Each athlete gets five fielding attempts per trial.
  - d. Each athlete receives two trials.
4. Scoring
  - a. The athlete receives five points for a clearly fielded ball (either caught in glove or trapped against the body, but off the ground)
  - b. two points for a ball that is blocked
  - c. zero points for a missed attempt
  - d. The maximum score for each trial is 50 points.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

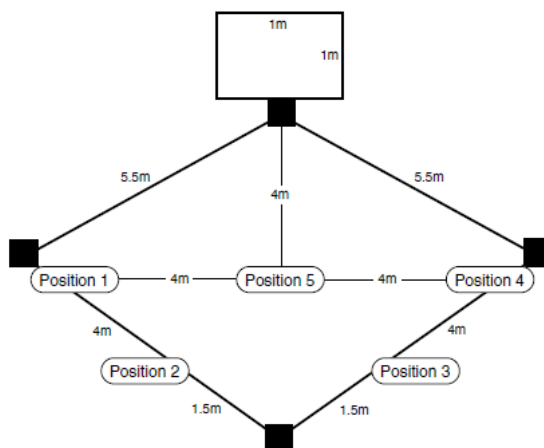
## -Softball Sports Rules-



### Training Division Level 1: Softball Team Skills Competition

Team Skills Softball is a single event which offers structured team competition for lower ability athletes.

1. Equipment
  - a. Softball - 30.5-centimeter (12-inch) red-stitched restricted-flight
  - b. Four bases, measuring tape
  - c. Barrel or box approximately 1-meter (3 feet, 3 1/2 inches) tall by 1-meter wide (or in diameter)
  - d. Tape/chalk, five gloves, score sheets
2. Set-up
  - a. Lay out the four bases in the formation of a baseball diamond. The bases shall be 5.5 meters (18 feet) apart.
  - b. Position number five is marked 4 meters (13 feet, 1 1/2 inches) in front of the target.
  - c. The target shall be a barrel or box approximately 1-meter (3 feet, 3 1/2 inches) tall by 1-meter wide.
  - d. Mark position number one on first position number two 4 meters (13 feet, 1 1/2 inches) from position number one.
  - e. Position number two will be located in the same area that a second baseman would occupy, and 1.5 meters (4 feet, 11 inches) from second base.
  - f. Mark position number four on third base. Position number three will be located in the same general location occupied by a shortstop and will be 4 meters (13 feet, 1 1/2 inches) from position number four, and 1.5 meters (4 feet, 11 inches) from second base.
  - g. Positions number one and number four are each 4 meters (13 feet, 1 1/2 inches) from position number five (see diagram).
3. Teams should submit a roster prior to the start of the game.
4. Teams should wear numbered uniforms or shirts.
5. Diagram



# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## -Softball Sports Rules-



6. Rules:
- a. The event director shall determine how many games shall be played. Two five-member teams shall compete. Only one team shall conduct a round at a time.
  - b. The game is composed of five innings consisting of five rounds. Players will be given one opportunity at each one of the five positions on the field.
  - c. Each player on the first five-member team shall attempt to catch the softball cleanly and then throw it accurately to the player stationed at the next position.
  - d. The umpire should hand the ball to the player in position number one. When the umpire shouts "Play Ball," the game will begin.
  - e. The player in position number one begins the round by throwing the ball to the player at position number two. The player at position number two then throws the ball to the player at position number three, and this sequential throwing rotation continues until the ball reaches the player at position number five.
  - f. Athletes may throw the ball in any manner, but each player must throw in numerical sequence. Players should attempt to throw the ball to their teammates on a fly.
  - g. If the ball is thrown past an athlete, the athlete, coach or umpire may retrieve the ball. However, the athlete must return to his/her position number in that order to throw the ball to the next position. An accurate throw is defined as a ball that is thrown within reach of the receiving player.
  - h. When the ball reaches the player in position number five, he/she attempts to accurately pitch the ball in an underhand manner into the target. Players stationed at position number five are required to simulate a softball pitching motion and throw underhand.
  - i. Athletes at position number five shall only be given one pitch at the target.
  - j. After the attempt by the player in position number five, the round ends.
  - k. Following the completion of the round by the first team, the second team will conduct its initial round.
  - l. Players shall rotate in numerical sequence to the next position after each round; for example, player in position number one moves to position number two and so on, while player in position number five moves to position number one. Each player must receive one turn at each position.
  - m. Play alternates between teams following the completion of each round, until all five rounds have been completed.
  - n. Once each team has completed five rounds, the game concludes.
  - o. Substitutes are allowed into the game only after a round has been completed.
  - p. Coaches shall remain in the coaches' boxes. One will be located outside of first base and one will be located outside of third base. Coaches may give verbal or signed instruction to players. Deaf athletes may receive physical assistance when they are positioning themselves.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## **-Softball Sports Rules-**



7. Score
  - a. The team receives one point for each accurate throw.
  - b. The team receives one point for each successful catch.
  - c. The team receives one point for successfully throwing the ball into the target.
  - d. The team receives one point for each successful round of catches and throws.
  - e. Final score shall be the aggregate number of points scored after all rounds are completed.
  - f. Each team's score shall be compared to other teams' scores to determine the final standings in this event.
  - g. The maximum number of points that can be accumulated by a single team is 50.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## -Softball Sports Rules-



### Training Division Level 2: T-Ball Team Competition

1. The Goal
  - a. T-Ball Team Competition may be used as a means of increasing the number of teams for Special Olympics softball competition.
  - b. It is also a means of assisting athletes with lower ability levels to progress to Traditional or Unified Slow Pitch play.
2. Playing Area
  - a. The field shall conform to ISF standards, with the following modifications:
    - i. Bases may be modified to a distance of 18.29 meters (60 feet).
    - ii. The distance from home plate to the pitcher's rubber may be modified to a minimum distance of 14 meters (45 feet, 11 1/4 inches).
    - iii. A "neutral zone" will be marked in an arc of 14 meters (45 feet, 11 1/4 inches) from home plate. Any batted ball that does not cross this line will be designated a foul ball.
    - iv. A coaches' circle will be located 3 meters (9 feet, 10 1/4 inches) beyond second base and made with a 1.8-meter (5 feet, 11 inch) diameter. One coach from the defensive team may be allowed to stand in this circle while his/her team is on the field.
3. Equipment: Same as Slow Pitch Team Competition
4. Team and Players
  - a. Each team must have 10 players in the following positions to start a game:
    - i. Pitcher: Defensive position is on the rubber
    - ii. Catcher: Defensive position is behind home plate
    - iii. First Baseman: Normal defensive position
    - iv. Second Baseman: Normal defensive position
    - v. Third Baseman: Normal defensive position
    - vi. Shortstop: Normal defensive position
    - vii. Four Outfielders: Must play a minimum of 3 meters (9 feet, 10 1/4 inches) behind infielders
5. General Rules and Modifications
  - a. A batting tee will be placed directly on home plate.
  - b. A coach from the batting team will adjust the tee to fit the batter.
  - c. To start play, the coach from the batting team will place the ball on the tee and the umpire will say "play ball."
  - d. The batter will step in the batter's box and hit the ball.
  - e. If the batter completely misses the ball and the tee, the attempt shall be ruled a strike.
  - f. All defensive players must stand behind the neutral zone before the ball is hit. They may come into the neutral zone after the ball is hit to field it.
  - g. If the batter has two strikes and fouls off the third attempt, he or she shall be declared out.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## -Softball Sports Rules-



- h. The batting team's half of the inning shall end when three outs have been made or the batting order is complete.
  
  - i. The batter must hit the ball within the foul lines and beyond the 14-meter (45 feet, 11 1/4 inch) neutral zone to be ruled a fair ball. If a batted ball does not leave the neutral zone, and the defensive player does not touch it, the ball will be called a foul ball.
  - j. A regulation game consists of six innings. A time limit of one hour shall be in force for all games.
  - k. The umpires are empowered to make all decisions on the playing field. If a protest is made, it shall be brought before the Softball Rules Committee who will then make a final decision. A protest will not be considered which pertains to any judgment call made by an umpire.
  - l. After a ball is hit into fair territory and the batter has left the batter's box, the umpire shall remove the tee from home plate and set it in foul territory.
6. Substitutions
- a. Substitutions may be made whenever a "timeout" is called.
  - b. Any of the starting players may leave and re-enter the game. This may be done by each starting player only once, with the provision that the players occupy the same position in the batting order as the one they occupied when they left the game. A starting player may only re-enter the game for the person who substituted for him/her. Substitutes may re-enter the game in the same manner.
7. Coaches Privileges
- a. Two base coaches are allowed for the offensive team, one in the first base coach's box and one in the third base coach's box. The coaches must remain in those boxes while their team is at bat.
  - b. One of the two base coaches must adjust the tee to the proper height for each batter and return to the coach's box.
  - c. One coach from the defensive team may be allowed on the field, and he/she must remain in the coach's circle behind second base. Also, he/she must make a reasonable attempt to avoid any ball that is thrown in his/her direction.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## -Softball Sports Rules-



### Traditional & Unified Slow Pitch Team Rules

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Amateur Softball Association (ASA) rules shall be employed except when they are in conflict with these rules.

#### GENERAL RULES

1.1 ASA slow-pitch rules will govern play, including:

a. The ball must be pitched in an underhand motion, and should travel in an arc that is no less than 1.83 meters (6 feet) and no greater than 3.66 meters (12 feet).

b. Four balls constitute a walk and three strikes constitutes an out. If the batter has two strikes and fouls off a third pitch he/she shall be declared out.

1.2 All teams must have an adult, non-playing Head Coach responsible for the line-up and conduct of the team during competition.

1.3 Players may not participate in a scheduled game until they are properly registered.

#### GAME

2.1 A coin flip prior to the game will decide home and away for all games.

2.2 A regulation game shall consist of seven innings or 90-minutes. A new inning may not begin after the 80 minute mark unless there is a tie. In the case of a tie the game will continue until a winner is determined. The game shall also be considered complete if one of the following occurs:

a. One team leads the other by 20 runs after four full innings of play.

b. One team leads the other by 12 runs after five full innings of play.

2.3 An inning will end on the third out or on the 6th run of that inning.

2.4 Each field will have an official scorebook that will track runs, hits, errors, and all other aspects of the game. This is the official book and will be the deciding factor in all discrepancies. It is not required for each team to keep a book but it may help you if or when there is a question.

2.5 A 3 homerun rule for each team will be in effect for fields that have enclosed outfields. The rule will apply to those balls that go over the fence only. Each subsequent homerun will be considered an out.

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE

## -Softball Sports Rules-



### EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

3.1 30 cm (12 inch) red stitch restricted-flight balls must be used.

3.2 The catcher is REQUIRED to wear a facemask and helmet. The catcher may wear additional equipment.

3.3 Batting helmets shall be worn by the batter and any runners on base. The first baseman on defense may also wear a helmet.

3.4 All players on a team shall wear matching hats and shirts with numbers on the back. All must wear matching hats or no hats at all.

a. No jeans or jean shorts or jewelry or bandanas allowed !!!

3.5 Effective immediately, bats that are DOUBLE WALLED and/ or TITANIUM are no longer allowed in Special Olympics Softball. This list includes, **but is not limited to the following models:**

#### **Manufacturer**

#### **Model**

Anderson	Techzilla Reborn, Rockettech Reloaded
Demarini	Dark, EVO
Easton	Synergy, Synergy Plus
Louisville Slugger	Genesis, Catalyst
Miken	Ultra (Balanced, Maxload), Ultra II, Freak Plus
Mizuno	Blur Advanced Series
Worth	EST9, XEST9X, QESTFP, SBWK, Wicked, XWICKX

### PLAYERS & SUBSTITUTIONS

4.1 Coaches must submit their line-up card to the umpire / score table prior to the start of the game. The line-up card shall include the batting order and field positions and jersey numbers.

4.2 Teams must have 10 players to start a game. If a player is injured or removed from a game after the first inning and there are no additional rostered players then the spot in the order will be an out in the batting order.

4.3 Line-ups must consist of one of the following:

a. Without Extra Player- 5 athletes & 5 partners

b. With Extra Player- 6 athletes & 6 partners

# **SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE**

## **-Softball Sports Rules-**



4.4 The alternating batting order and designated fielder positions are not required. The only requirement that will be followed is that a defensive player must stay in one position for the duration of an inning. The only exception is you may substitute a pitcher during the inning.

4.5 Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided the players occupy the same batting position whenever they are in the line-up. A player may only re-enter the game by replacing the person who originally substituted for him/her.

4.6 A Designated Runner may be used for a batter subject to approval prior to the game by the opposing coach ,the umpire and Rules Committee.

a. A team may use a designated runner for an individual with severe physical limitation which impairs his/her ability to run.

b. The designated runner may be anyone on the roster and not currently in the line-up. Athlete for athlete and partner for partner. Teams with only 10 players will not be allowed a designated runner.

c. The designated runner will start from the third base line extended eight feet from home plate, and shall not run until the ball is hit. Violation is an automatic out.

### **PROTESTS**

A protest may only be made if it questions to the applicability of the rules. Protests will not be considered if it pertains to judgment calls made by an umpire. It is expected that coaches will make the protest in a calm and professional manner and that the protest should be brought to the attention of the rules committee immediately.

# **SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE**

## **-Softball Sports Rules-**



### **Preliminary Round Information**

All teams participating in Traditional or Unified Team Competition will participate in Preliminary Round Games and Final Round Games. The Preliminary Round Games are being played to help ensure the most equitable competition for each of the teams.

Preliminary round divisions will be determined based on the following 3 factors:

1. Team Assessment Summaries
2. Prior team knowledge

Teams placed in each preliminary round division will play other teams in their preliminary round division to determine final divisions. In the event a team may be deemed to be in an incorrect group of teams an additional game may be added to play across pools and/or the schedule will be adjusted. A coaches meeting will be held after the Preliminary Competition to determine Final Divisions and Schedules for Saturday.

### **PRELIMINARY ROUND FORMAT**

These games will take the following format:

1. Each game will be 2 innings.
2. Each rostered player must play 1 of the 2 innings on defense.
3. Half the roster will bat in the first inning regardless of the number of runs or outs. The remainder of the roster will bat in the second inning. There will be no walks. Each batter will get 3 total pitches.
4. Each game will have a 30 minute time limit so please have your players hustle on and off the field. It is also recommended that each player know in advance which position they will be playing on defense.
5. To be eligible for Final Round competition all players must play in the Preliminary Round games.
6. All other Softball Rules will be in effect.

## **Registration Instructions**

This document will provide you the needed information to properly register for the Summer Games. Please refer to the “*Overview By Sport*” section regarding sport information and event selection.

### **General**

1. On all forms, the HEAD COACH should be the person filling out the form. Please provide contact information that will enable us to contact you during normal business hours.
2. Make as many copies as you wish of each page and indicate page numbers at the bottom of each page.
3. Please PRINT legibly.

### **Softball Team Roster Form & Softball Skills Roster Form**

Each athlete, coach and team volunteer that will be training, coaching, volunteering and/or competing in softball this season must be entered on this form. You may enter up to 16 persons per form.

#### ***IMPORTANT REMINDER:***

*Prior to beginning a training program, all participating delegations and athletes must have the required forms on file at the State Office and with your Program Director or Head Coach. **These forms and additional requirements are due when the roster is submitted.***

*Athletes: Valid Medical Form*

*Unified Partners: Class-A Volunteer & Unified Partner Form*

*Team Volunteers: Level 1 Certification Requirements\* met*

*Coaches: Level 2 Certification Requirements\* met*

*\*See Coaches Manual for all Requirements*

### **Softball Team Roster Form**

1. Fill out athletes name as it appears on his/her medical.
2. Circle “A” or “P” for athlete or unified partner.
3. Enter each Coach or Team Volunteer that will be involved in the sport this season.
  - a. Teams must stay within the required 4:1 ratio for athletes to coaches/team volunteers. To be listed as a coach a person must have met the criteria to be a coach otherwise that person should be listed as a Team Volunteer. If additional Team Volunteers are needed you must submit the Additional Coach/Team Volunteer Request Form with your registration.
4. Select the Team Classification by identifying the Class, Age Group, and level for the team on this form. Age Group is determined by the oldest players on the team.
5. Enter practice information.
6. **This form MUST be submitted by FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2011**
  - a. Please contact your Program Director to discuss who will be submitting this form.

# Softball Team Roster Form

Due to Special Olympics Delaware by **Friday, April 8, 2011**

Fax (302) 831-3483

Program/Team: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Head Coach: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Assistant Coaches/Team Volunteers**

	Coach	Team Volunteer
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Name of Athlete (First, Last)	Athlete/Partner
1		A P
2		A P
3		A P
4		A P
5		A P
6		A P
7		A P
8		A P
9		A P
10		A P
11		A P
12		A P
13		A P
14		A P
15		A P
16		A P

Team Classification			
Class:	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unified Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Training Div Level 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Training Div Level 1
Age Group:	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-12yrs old Elementary/Youth Divisions	Level:	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>1 High</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-15yrs old Middle School/Junior Divisions		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>2 Average</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-21yrs old High School/Intermediate Divisions		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>3 Low</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 22 and older Adult Divisions		

Practice Information
Days & Dates Practicing: _____
Times Practicing: _____
Location of Practices: _____
<b><i>Copy form as needed. Submit 1 copy per team.</i></b>

### **Softball Skills Roster Form**

1. Fill out athletes name as it appears on his/her medical.
2. Check the box under "WC" for each athlete that uses a wheelchair while training/competing in track and field.
3. Check the box under "MATP" for each athlete that will be participating in the MATP events for softball. Athletes cannot compete in traditional events and participating in MATP they must select one.
4. Enter each Coach or Team Volunteer that will be involved in the sport this season.
  - a. Teams must stay within the required 4:1 ratio for athletes to coaches/team volunteers. To be listed as a coach a person must have met the criteria to be a coach otherwise that person should be listed as a Team Volunteer. If additional Team Volunteers are needed you must submit the Additional Coach/Team Volunteer Request Form with your registration.
5. Enter practice information.
6. **This form MUST be submitted by FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2011.** Please contact your Program Director to discuss who will be submitting this form

### **Additional Coach/Team Volunteer Registration form**

If you are bringing more than the required number of coaches/team volunteers to Summer Games you must submit this form as a request. Please indicate the person(s) and their role and reason(s) why the additional support is needed. We will contact you within 7 days of receipt and confirm or deny your request. This form is also due on April 8, 2011 and everyone listed on this form must have met the above criteria to be eligible.

# Softball Competition Individual Skills Roster Form

Due to Special Olympics Delaware by Friday, April 8, 2011  
Fax (302) 831-3483

Program/Team: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Head Coach: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

	Name of Athlete (First, Last)	WC	MATP
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

	Name of Athlete (First, Last)	WC	MATP
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			

**Assistant Coaches/Team Volunteers**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach	Team Volunteer
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Teams must stay within the required 4:1 ratio for athletes to coaches/team volunteers. To be listed as a coach a person must have met the criteria to be a coach otherwise that person should be listed as a Team Volunteer. If additional Team Volunteers are you must submit the **Additional Coach/Team Volunteer Request Form** with your registration.

Practice Information	
Days & Dates Practicing:	_____
Times Practicing:	_____
Location of Practices:	_____

## Additional Coach/Team Volunteer Request Form

Must be submitted with Registration on the **Friday, April 8, 2011**  
 (302) 831-3483

Fax

### Program Information

Program/Team \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: **Softball**

Head Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Requests:** Please list all additional people not on your team roster who are coming as either an additional Coach or a Team Volunteer and their role for your program. Everyone listed must be properly certified as of the date of this application.

Last Name	First Name	Gender M/F	Role within the program/team
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

**List reasons why you are requesting additional Coaches/Team Volunteers for this sport beyond the required 4:1 ratio:**

**Special Olympics Delaware will contact you within 7 days to discuss the status of this request.**

**MATP FORM A-2 must be submitted to Special Olympics Delaware as registration for the MATP for Summer Games.**

**MATP FORM A-2: MATP Athlete Registration Form**

This form is needed for all athletes competing in MATP. You may enter up to 2 athletes per page. Please refer to the Overview by sport for official instructions on which events athletes can enter.

1. Fill out athletes name as it appears on his/her medical.
2. Indicate the category in which each athlete will compete. The categories for this sport are found in the "*Overview by Sport*" document.
3. Enter the event as it is listed in the event section for the sport in the "*Overview by Sport*" document. Remember each athlete can compete in 1 event in track and aquatics and in softball, bocce, tennis and field they can do as many as they wish.
4. Provide a history of personal achievements and skills to be demonstrated.

# MATP Athlete Registration Form

## SOFTBALL SKILLS

Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Name	Category	Event	"x" if wheelchair
Category MS-1, MS-2 or MS-3			
<b>Describe History of Personal Achievements in Skill(s) to be Demonstrated.</b>			

Athlete Name	Category	Event	"x" if wheelchair
Category MS-1, MS-2 or MS-3			
<b>Describe History of Personal Achievements in Skill(s) to be Demonstrated.</b>			

**FINAL Softball Team Roster Form and FINAL Softball Individual Skills Roster Form are to be submitted to your Program Director for him/her to enter the information into GMS (Games Management System). These forms should not be submitted to Special Olympics Delaware. The information on these forms are important and required when transmitted to GMS and therefore it is important they are accurately filled out. The GMS file must be to Special Olympics by May 20<sup>th</sup> so please plan accordingly to get the forms to your Program Director and allow him/her enough time to get the information into GMS and then to Special Olympics on-time.**

## **FINAL Softball Team Roster Form**

### **Step 1: Softball Individual Assessment Form**

- \* Complete the top section listing all requested information
- \* Each section covers an aspect of a softball skill
- \* Choose the point value that best describes the athlete/partner's skill level
- \* Place that value in the "Score" box for that section
- \* When each section is complete, add each "Score" box together and place it in the "Total Score" box
- \* Divide "Total Score" by 7 and place number in the "Overall Rating" box
- \* **Each player should have a Softball Individual Assessment Form completed**

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### **Step 2: Team Softball Rating Summary Form**

- \* Complete the top section, listing delegation, team gender (male, female, mixed), team name, and age group
- \* List the players from highest score to lowest score in the column under "Name" then complete the remaining sections of the table
- \* Add and take the average to get the Total Team Rating
- \* Add and take the average of the top 10 players to get the Top Ten Players
- \* Add and take the average of the bottom 10 players to get the Bottom 10 Players (Do this even if your team has less than 10 players)

### **Step 3: Complete "Team Softball Rating Summary Form"**

**Step 4: Record overall rating for each team member on the FINAL Softball Team Roster Form  
SUBMIT ONLY THE FINAL SOFTBALL TEAM ROSTER FORM to your Program Director  
All other forms you keep**

## **Softball Skills Roster Form**

1. Fill out athletes name as it appears on his/her medical.
2. Record the TOTAL SCORE of all 4 Events of the Softball Individual Skills Competition.
3. Enter each Coach or Team Volunteer that will be involved in the sport this season.
  - a. Teams must stay within the required 4:1 ratio for athletes to coaches/team volunteers. To be listed as a coach a person must have met the criteria to be a coach otherwise that person should be listed as a Team Volunteer. If additional Team Volunteers are needed you must submit the Additional Coach/Team Volunteer Request Form with your registration.
4. Submit to your Program Director.

**Special Olympics Delaware - Softball Skills Assessment for Individuals**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jersey Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Delegation: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete       Partner  
 Coach's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Evaluation:    /    / \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual Assessment for Team Play**

**A. Hitting** (one choice- the most representative of the athlete's skill level)  
 Athlete needs direction on proper stance, grip, and place to stand (2)  
 Athlete exhibits proper stance and grip, knows place to stand, but does not usually make contact with the ball (3)  
 Athlete occasionally makes contact, but is not familiar with what is a strike pitch (4)  
 Athlete regularly makes contact, but does not hit the ball out of the infield (5)  
 Athlete regularly makes contact and occasionally hits the ball to outfield (6)  
 Athlete regularly makes contact and hits the ball with power and velocity (7)  
 Athlete has the ability to place hit balls in opposite fields (8)

**SCORE:**

**B. Fielding** (one choice- the most representative of the athlete's skill level)  
 Athlete is unable to make basic fielding plays (catching fly balls and/or grounders) (2)  
 Athlete occasionally cleanly fields balls hit directly to them (3)  
 Athlete cleanly fields balls hit directly to them three out of five times and attempts to field balls hit within three to four feet of them (4)  
 Athlete occasionally fields balls hit within three to four feet of them (5)  
 Athlete fields balls four out of five times when hit within three to four feet of them (6)  
 Athlete routinely makes all basic plays and some difficult plays such as turning double plays, tracking deep fly balls and fielding hard grounders (8)

**SCORE:**

**C. Base Running** (one choice- the most representative of the athlete's skill level)  
 Athlete needs direction on when to run (2)  
 Athlete understands when to run, but will only move forward one base without coaching (3)  
 Athlete has a basic understanding of when to take more than one base (4)  
 Athlete has a fair understanding of when to run, sometimes looks to the coach for cues and direction (5)  
 Athlete has a good understanding of when to run, knows when to tag up and run (6)  
 Athlete has a complete understanding of when to run, how many bases to take, and how to slide effectively (7)  
 Athlete consistently able to pick-up and use the coach's direction (8)

**SCORE:**

**D. Game Awareness** (one choice- the most representative of the athlete's skill level)  
 Athlete needs frequent coaching in offense and defense (2)  
 Athlete has understanding of the most basic game situations (3)  
 Athlete has a fair understanding of what to do in most game situations, but still requires coaching (4)  
 Athlete has a clear understanding of what to do in most game situations, requires little to no coaching (5)  
 Athlete is able to make the play at hand, also recognizing other action occurring which may require attention-backing up other players, run down situations, etc (6)  
 Athlete has a complete understanding of their role and teammates' roles, using that leadership to direct play on the field (8)

**SCORE:**

**SODE - Softball Skills Assessment for Individuals**

**E. Throwing** (one choice- the most representative of the athlete's skill level)  
Athlete has difficulty throwing the ball on the run for any distance (2)  
Athlete is able to throw the ball on the run a distance of at least ten feet (3)  
Athlete regularly make throws of at least 25 feet (4)  
Athlete regularly makes accurate throws of up to 25 feet (6)  
Athlete regularly makes accurate throws within infield or from the outfield to a cut-off (7)  
Athlete regularly throws the ball accurately to any other position or player on the field, with speed and velocity (8)

**SCORE:**

**F. Pitching** (one choice- the most representative of the athlete's skill level)  
Athlete has the right distance, but is consistently unable to get the ball over the plate for a strike (2)  
Athlete occasionally throws the ball in the strike zone, but without the correct arch (3)  
Athlete frequently throws the ball in the strike zone, but without the correct arch (4)  
Athlete occasionally throws quality pitches for strikes showing the proper technique and delivery (6)  
Athlete frequently throws quality pitches for strikes showing the proper technique and delivery (7)  
Athlete consistently throws quality pitches for strikes showing the proper technique and delivery, mixing pitches to adjust to batter and count (8)

**SCORE:**

**G. Catching** (one choice- the most representative of the athlete's skill level)  
Athlete has difficulty catching most thrown balls (2)  
Athlete is able to catch balls thrown or hit directly to them (3)  
Athlete can catch some off target balls and occasionally those thrown or hit within two to three feet of their starting position (5)  
Athlete frequently catches hit or thrown balls requiring movement from their original fielding position (7)  
Athlete regularly catches balls requiring movement, with exceptional speed to track balls and the ability to leap high to catch rising line drives (8)

**SCORE:**

**Total Score:**   
(Maximum Score = 56)

Divide TOTAL SCORE by 7 to determine OVERALL RATING  
[Round off to nearest tenth, e.g., 4.97 = 5.0 or 3.53 = 3.5; MAXIMUM Rating = 8]

**OVERALL RATING:**

**Transfer scores to summary form as instructed  
DO NOT RETURN THESE FORMS WITH YOUR REGISTRATION**



# FINAL Softball Team Roster Form

This form to be submitted to your Program Director prior to the May 20 deadline set by Special Olympics.

Program/Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

**Assistant Coaches/Team Volunteers**

	Coach	Team Volunteer
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

You may only put athletes/partners that are already registered on the games report you received for your delegation.

	Name of Athlete (First, Last)	Athlete/Partner	Overall Rating
1		A P	
2		A P	
3		A P	
4		A P	
5		A P	
6		A P	
7		A P	
8		A P	
9		A P	
10		A P	
11		A P	
12		A P	
13		A P	
14		A P	
15		A P	
16		A P	

**MINIMUM ROSTER SIZE is 12**  
**MAXIMUM ROSTER SIZE is 16**

Team Classification			
Class:	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional	<input type="checkbox"/> Unified Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Training Div Level 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Training Div Level 1
Age Group:	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-12yrs old Elementary/Youth Divisions		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 High
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-15yrs old Middle School/Junior Divisions		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Average
	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-21yrs old High School/Intermediate Divisions		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Low
	<input type="checkbox"/> 22 and older Adult Divisions		

*Copy form as needed. Submit 1 copy per team.*

# FINAL Softball Individual Skills Roster Form

This form to be submitted to your Program Director prior to the May 20 deadline set by Special Olympics.

Program/Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

	Name of Athlete (First, Last)	Score	WC	MATP
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				

	Name of Athlete (First, Last)	Score	WC	MATP
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				

**Assistant Coaches/Team Volunteers**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach

Team Volunteer

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

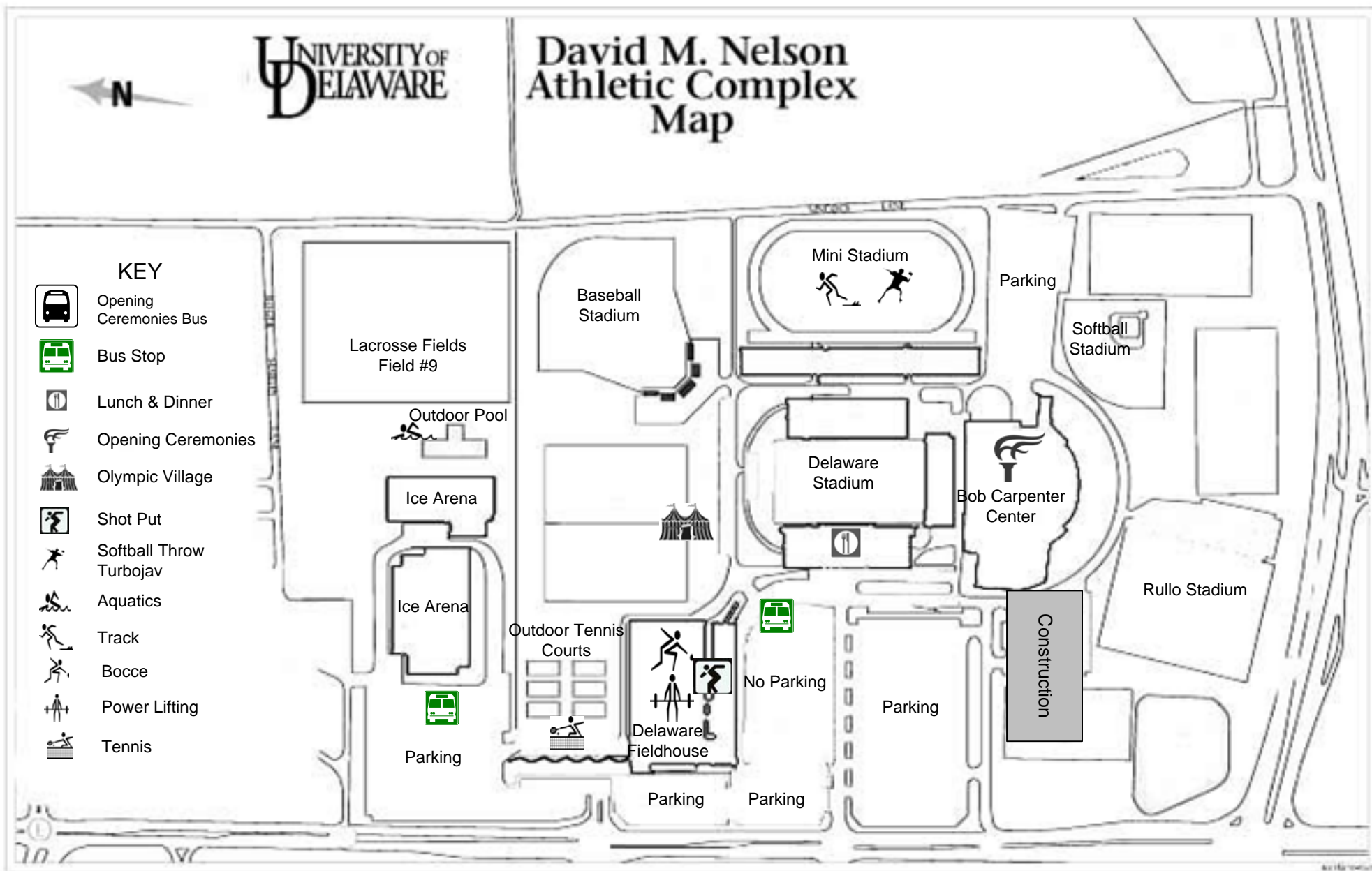
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<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Teams must stay within the required 4:1 ratio for athletes to coaches/team volunteers. To be listed as a coach a person must have met the criteria to be a coach otherwise that person should be listed as a Team Volunteer. If additional Team Volunteers are needed you must submit the **Additional Coach/Team Volunteer Request Form** with your registration.

**Practice Information**

Days & Dates Practicing: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Times Practicing: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of Practices: \_\_\_\_\_

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE 2011 Summer Games

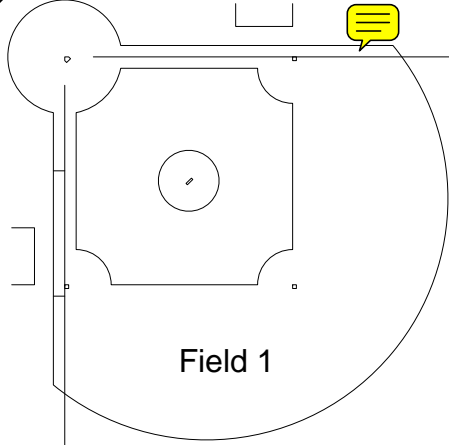
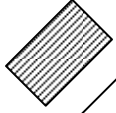


Rte. 896- South College Ave.

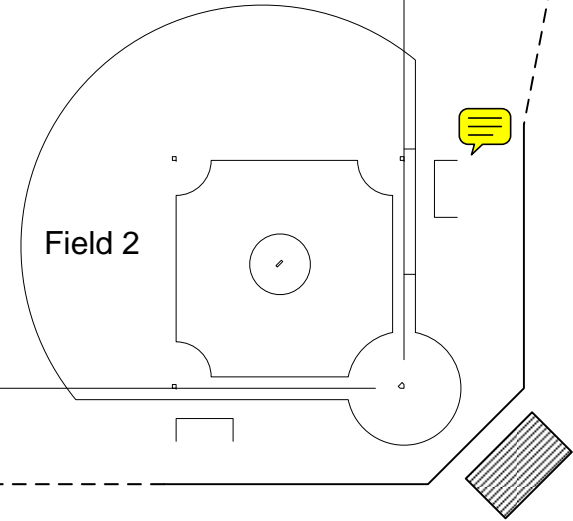
Casho Mill Rd.



Barksdale Rd.



Field 1



Field 2



Parking Lot

Parking

