



Date: 7/15/2020

To: SOAZ athletes, volunteers, families, and friends

From: Jamie Heckerman, President & CEO

Subject: Return to Activities & Sports Season Updates

Special Olympics Arizona is excited to offer a full 2021-2022 sports season starting with Swimming, Bocce, and Golf. SOAZ is also planning to host Fall Games and State Golf this year in October and November, respectively. The dates for Area and State events will be posted to the website in the coming weeks and programs will also receive a calendar directly from their Area Directors.

Due to the current status of COVID-19 in Arizona, SOAZ will be transitioning into Phase 3 of the Return to Activities action plan, effective immediately. Guidelines and best practices for operating in Phase 3 can be found in the Phase 3 Addendum, which will be reviewed directly with HODs, coaches, and volunteers at each area's mandatory coaches meeting. The Phase 3 Addendum is posted to our website at the following link: <https://specialolympicsarizona.org/covid-19-updates/>

Regarding COVID-19 related certifications and trainings, we will require all Athletes and Class A volunteers to complete the COVID-19 Code of Conduct and Communicable Disease Waiver through [DocuSign](#).

Class A Volunteers, which includes HODs, Coaches, Volunteers, and Partners over 18, are also required to complete the SONA Coronavirus Outbreak: What You Need to Know training found here: [SONA Learning Portal](#). SOAZ will **no longer** require Class A Volunteers to complete the SOAZ COVID-19 Safety & Prevention Certification Course.

Your health and safety are top priority, as well as the health and safety of the entire Special Olympics Arizona community. We have been monitoring updates on the Coronavirus very closely via the CDC, WHO, and local authorities.

[Please refer to this page of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention website for all tips](#) or review the attached FAQ document from the [Maricopa County Department of Health](#). If you do not feel well, please stay at home. Please do not attend any Special Olympics Arizona events, including sports practices, competitions, fundraisers, etc. Wash your hands often, be sure to use hand sanitizer, and avoid contact with your face.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to ensure the safety of our athletes and all constituents within the SOAZ community.

Stay safe,

Jamie Heckerman

President & CEO

Special Olympics Arizona