



April 16, 2011

Quarter 1, 2011

Special points of interest:

- Bocce
- Basketball
- Swimming
- Polar Plunge News

News from the Agency Manager

I have now been the Agency Manager for about 6 months. I have really enjoyed getting to know many of you, see all our athletes have fun and compete with each other, grow in friendships and thrive. I can't tell you how much joy I get in watching not only my son, but all of your kids grow and celebrate as they move forward in each of their sports. I am still very much learning my position as Agency Manager, and appreciate the help I've received from people, the support and the overall participation in welcoming me to the Agency. I have and will continue to make mistakes, and ask for your patience as I continue to do so. I know I can offer leadership to Oregon Special Olympics and welcome any input any of you may have. Please don't be afraid to tell me if there's something you want to suggest, change or

offer advice on because I am fully aware that most of you have been in this Agency far longer than I have and have valuable input. I truly believe that to be a good leader, you need to have open ears. Sometimes that means just taking over and handling matters, and sometimes that means compromise to accommodate the athletes better and hearing what the other participants have to offer. It's all about the athletes. Having said that...it's also about all the wonderful families who are a part of the Oregon Agency. I feel blessed to be a part of Oregon Special Olympics, and have seen how much my son, and all of your children have grown. I am hoping to expand our Agency by eventually integrating a Young Athlete program in Oregon, as well as some looking more in to the Global Messenger program

that Jake Casper has suggested. I thank you, again for your support, and encourage you to help me learn, grow and manage the Agency. It takes us all as a team, and I am only one piece of the team. All of you parents, and all of the athletes are the rest of the team.

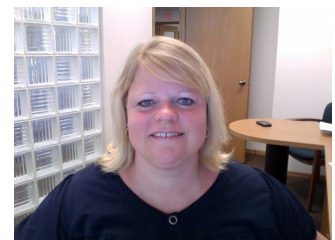
Thank you for all your support and participation and feel free to contact me anytime.

Amy Verheyden

Agency Manager

692-1428

averheydenso@charter.net



Bocce

I know track season is just under way, but it is never too late to start planning for Bocce. There was a sign up sheet at the banquet, but if you didn't get to sign up there, please contact me. We usually begin practices the week after the are track meet (May 14th this year) and hold those practices at JayCee Park. I am not sure how much will change at Jay-

Cee Park with the remodeling, but we will cross that bridge once practice starts.

If you would like to be involved in Bocce, and did not sign up at the banquet, please contact me at 235-4391 or lcasper@charter.net

Thanks,

Lori Casper (Coach)

Another Fantastic Basketball Season!

What a great year for team basketball! Team members were McKenzie Koch, Curtis O'Brien, Weslee Anderson, Bridget Horan, Eileen Powers, Lynn Powers, Jake Casper, Jake Johnson, Dillon Holmes, Dusty Holmes, David Thompson, Ryan Shields and Tom Topp.

It was wonderful to watch the teams at their scrimmages with Verona and Sugar River. Competition was tough at the tournament but I have never been more proud of the athletes and their ability to be true team members. The team would also like to thank all of the parents

and volunteers for making it possible to have such a great season. Also, a great big thank you to our fans that make all of our games so much fun to play!

I would also like to thank all of the assistant coaches that help make basketball possible every year. Lori Casper, Samantha Rodman, Todd Weiser, Wendy Powers and Dan Holmes work extra hard every year to help make the team a success.

I want everyone in our Agency to know what a great job of sportsmanship the team showed this year. It is never easy to lose and, as fans, watch the disappointment on our athletes faces, but they kept their cool even when sweating bullets. GREAT JOB TEAM!

Elisa Alexander (Coach)



Swimming

We had 5 athletes on the swim team this year and they did great! Their regional swim meet was held in Waunakee on April 16th, and they all swam with incredible team spirit. Greg Burrill swam the 25m Freestyle and placed 1st, Dusty Holmes swam the 25m and 50m Freestyle and placed 2nd and 3rd place, Dillon Holmes swam the 25m and 50m Freestyle and placed 3rd and 5th place,

Alex Bausch swam the 25m Freestyle and the 25m Backstroke and placed 6th and 2nd place, and Shawn Kelly swam the 50m Freestyle and the 25m Backstroke and placed 2nd and 4th. Congratulations to everyone. David Thompson even got to sing the National Anthem that day!

Ryan Krull was the coach, and we would like to extend a spe-

cial thanks to him for all his time and energy spent with the team. He is a Senior in high school this year and will be graduating, so Brad Rehrauer has been training with Ryan to take over coaching for next year. Please thank Ryan for coaching and welcome Brad in this transition. We were very fortunate having Ryan as a coach, and feel the same way about Brad coming in! Thanks!



**"Let me win.
But if I cannot
win, let me be
brave in the
attempt."**

Polar Plunge News!

Thanks to the Oregon Police Department and Explorer Post, the 2 Oregon High School teacher assistants, and Jake Casper (who represented our Agency), we were able to raise \$880.25 for our Agency. That is 25% of what the plungers had collected in donations. We also made \$869 in concessions. Thank you to all the Plungers and to Gary Haffele who ran the

concessions, and all the volunteers that helped him.

Lori Casper



Uniforms

Our Agency will be looking very sharp this next coming year. We have new track singlets, bowling shirts and agency t-shirts. A big thank you goes out to all

who have helped in Polar Plunges, concessions, selling water at parades, and others that have made donations to our Agency. This has allowed us to

keep our athletes looking sharp!

Thank you.

Lori Casper

Agency Clothing

We have some agency clothing for sale yet. There are some larger size crew neck sweat-shirts, and T-shirts. Prices range from \$8 to \$20. We are saving

all the wind jackets for athletes, so they are not for sale by family members. Sorry about that! Please contact me if you are interested and I will be happy to

make arrangements for you to get the clothing you would like to purchase! You can also order Law Enforcement Torch run shirts through me for \$12.

Lori Casper (212-4122)

Newletter Suggestions

This is my very first newsletter. If there is ever anything you would like mentioned or featured in the newsletter, please

send ideas and suggestions to me anytime. I will do my best to make sure it's included in the next newsletter. Contact

me at 692-1428, or email me at averheydenso@charter.net.

Amy Verheyden



**“Let me win.
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Oregon Special Olympics

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***"Let me win. But if I cannot win,
let me be brave in the attempt."***



Thank you for everyone who put together their notes and information to help me put this together for the first time!

Amy Verheyden

See our web site at:

www.oregonspecialolympics.yolasite.com

Upcoming dates

There are some upcoming dates worth mentioning. Make sure you reserve the date so you can join in the fun!

May 14, Track & Field Meet, Oregon

June 9-11, State Track & Field, Stevens Point

October 1, Family Picnic

HONORARY GUESTS

Our Annual Banquet was a huge success! Thank for all who came. Our honorary people were Wendy Powers, for all her years of service, and Kristine Guderyon-Goetz. Kristine started Oregon Special Olympics and shared with us what motivated her to start it, and some of her experiences since being involved. Thank you both for all your years of service!

