



July 7, 2011

Quarter 2, 2011

Oregon Special Olympics Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Bocce
- Track & Field/
Swimming
- Summerfest
- Softball
- Fashion Show
- Doin R Thing

Wow...here we are having finished quarter 2 of 2011! Where on Earth is the year going? We've had another successful quarter, and I've again enjoyed watching the athletes participate in all the different sports and events we've had going on. I hope you all are having a great summer! Be safe and be well....

Amy Verheyden

Agency Manager

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Uniform News

Team T-Shirts will be given to each athlete at the fall picnic on October 1st. They will receive 2 new shirts, but can still wear the other ones for everything **except** competition. The way to tell the shirts apart will be the Special Olympics logo. For those of you who did not call in or write down the size of shirt your athlete needs, I guessed at the size.

Warm up Jackets: If your athlete does not have a warm-up jacket yet, please contact Lori Casper at 235-4391 or lcasper@charter.net. We will need to know what names the athlete wants on the jacket (example Jake or Jacob). The cost of the jacket is \$34.

Bocce

What a fun game for people of all ages! For Oregon Special Olympics, we have 2 teams competing at the Area Games in Onalaska on July 9th. In order to get to Onalaska, the teams had to scrimmage against 2 other teams. On June 16th, we scrimmaged against Stoughton Superheroes 1 and 2 at the Jaycee Park in Oregon. After having some great com-

petition, we enjoyed a light supper with about 55 people. What a terrific turnout!

Our team members this year are:

Panther Pride: Greg Burrill, McKenzie Koch, Jill Mulrone and Eileen Powers.

Panther Power: Jake Casper, Kirsten Gmeinder, Katie Kohl-

man and Lynn Powers.

Special thanks goes out to Cliff, Stephanie, Tiffany and Wendy for all the extra help this year. Also to all the parents and support people for being there!

Thanks,

Lori Casper (Coach)





Track and Field & Swimming

What a fantastic year for track and field and swimming! We had 14 athletes who qualified to go to State, and 13 of them went! We headed to Stevens Point with them from June 9th–11th, and had a blast! Results of State were as follows:

Alex Braun, 1st in running long jump, Greg Burrill took 4th in 25m free style, Carl Hitchcock took 2nd in 100m run, Rich Hutter took 1st in 25m run and 1st in soft ball throw, Ashley Jacobson took 2nd in standing long jump and 4th in 100m run, Jake Johnson took 6th in 800m walk, Jill Mulrone took

4th in 100m walk and 4th in soft ball throw, Curtis O'Brien took 1st in running long jump, Eileen Powers took 6th in 200m run and 4th in turbo jav, Lynn Powers took 1st in standing long jump and 4th in shot put, Jim Sheets took 4th in standing long jump, David Thompson took 5th in running long jump and 2nd in shot put, and Joe Wahlers took 4th in 400m walk. We are all SO proud of everyone. The weather was not great...rainy and cold on Friday, but they never complained, kept a positive attitude through it all, and were excel-

lent representatives for Oregon Special Olympics. Coach Goetz, and all of the chaperones and parents were SO very proud to watch each and every athlete at State take honor in their events.

Way to go! Thanks Coach Kristine for all you did to help guide the athletes this season, and thanks to Nancy, David, Katie, Wendy and everyone else who helped Kristine. Thanks again to Ryan Krull and his efforts in coaching swimming the last 4 years, and welcome Brad Rehrauer as the new coach for 2012 swimming season!

Oregon Summerfest Parade

Thank you to Kristine Goetz for setting up the float for the athletes to ride on in the Summerfest parade this year! David T., Jake C., Katie K., Lynn P. and Eileen P. were the available athletes to ride on the float with Kristine and Amy, joined by David's sister, Emily, and niece, Brylea. It was such a gorgeous day and we had SO much fun!

Of course, I have to mention

that without Jeff, our driver and the person who set up having the trailer with hay bales, we would not have had a float. Jeff is a former student of Kristine's, and he has his own lawn care and snow plowing business. He can be reached at 220-4025. Please throw business his way if you can. He has also agreed to drive for the Homecoming float. We truly appreciate his enthusiasm in

helping our athletes be a part of such great events which support our community!

Thanks so much Jeff!



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

Verona Softball

David Thompson, Jake Casper and McKenzie Koch have been practicing with the Verona Special Olympics softball team. This is a fun league that does not compete with the Special Olympics competitions, but did the scrimmage games in Middleton. This league meets every Tuesday from 6:30 pm–8 pm by the Glacier Crossing School off Whalen Road in Verona. They

are always looking for more players, so if anyone is interested in trying out this sport, which Oregon does not have a team for, this would be your chance.

David and Jake had a great time in Middleton. There were also some fun competitions like the home run derby and who can run the fastest around the bases. Please contact Lori Casper if you are interested. Amy is

willing to give rides to athletes if they want to come, so you can contact her as well if you'd like to join in.

Fashion Show

Monona Terrace was the location of the 5th annual fashion show for All Abilities on Wed., May 25th, 2011. There were approximately 50 models participating in the show this year including several members of Oregon Area Special Olympics. Jill Mulrone, Steven Clerico, Eileen Powers, Lynn Powers and Maggie Moreland were on the *cat walk* modeling current fashions ranging from casual to elegant. Each participant had the opportunity to have assistance styling their hair and having their make up applied by volunteer professionals on hand from Madison area salons. Clothing was provided for the evening by participating merchants. We were in the audience to support our friends as they each took their turn "stealing the spotlight". The joy and happiness of this night shone brightly through the eyes of our friend and they were an inspiration to everyone in attendance.

By Mary and Katie Kohlman

Doin R Thing

This group was established many years ago by Jerry Donnell from Madison. He wanted to keep his daughter, Erin, connected once she was out of high school, and he saw a need for this with many other special needs people. Jerry plans many different outings for this group, but he has also established a special needs bowling league at Schwoeglers on the West side of Madison. Some of our athletes that have participated in this league include Jill Mulrone, Jake Casper, Steven Clerico, Kyle Nelson, Jake Johnson, Bridget Horan and Alex Braun. They have also helped an individual in a wheelchair bowl.

Each team consists of 3 people, and they bowl 3 games a night against different teams each week. We currently bowl on Monday nights, 5:15 pm—7 pm. It is a real commitment for people since league starts the end of August and goes thru March. The cost last year was \$13 each week. If you cannot commit for that period of time, you could be a sub for the league. If you are interested, please let Sue Haffele (219-9861) or Lori Casper (235-4391) know. We would love to have you be a part of the fun!

We do look for individuals to be 18 years old and prefer for someone to stay with them in the bowling alley.

A HUGE THANK YOU to Gary Haffele and his team who ran the concessions at the Regional Track Meet in May. It was a huge success! Another huge

thank you to Gary Haffele, Ken Casper, and anyone else who participated in getting the new shed put up. It's ready to go and store things and we've

already started filling it! If any coaches or volunteers need to store anything, just let me know!

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

We are now on Facebook under Oregon Special Olympics! Come "Like" us to join us at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Oregon-Special-Olympics/112337815501839>

See our web site at:

www.oregonspecialolympics.yolasite.com

Upcoming dates

October 1, Family Picnic and meeting for updates

Bowling starts soon! Starting date will be announced soon!

Leadership Conference in Wausau, Wisconsin, Sept. 24–25. Anyone is welcome. The registration fee is \$75/person, and hotel rates, for the group, is \$72. Check out WisconsinSpecialOlympics.com for more information!

MORE TO COME...

I will be sending out an email soon to organize a committee to get a Young Athletes Program started for Oregon. More information to follow very soon. Anyone interested in volunteering? Let me know!

Amy

692-1428