

November 21, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting Program Report

State Volleyball Tournament

32 volleyball teams (271 athletes and Unified Sports partners) competed in a one day tournament at Iowa State University on October 8. In the morning, teams participated in pool play which determined the divisions and brackets for afternoon competition. The majority of volunteers were members of the ISU Kinesiology Club and ISU Physical Education Club.

State Flag Football Tournament

12 flag football teams (128 athletes) competed in SOIA's newest sport. Due to recent flooding in Cedar Rapids, the tournament was held at the Metro Youth Football Complex. Athletes, coaches and volunteers enjoyed a wonderful meal donated from Texas Roadhouse.

Area and State Bowling Tournaments

3,442 Special Olympics athletes and Unified Sports partners participated in 11 bowling tournaments across the state. Athletes competed in singles, doubles and team events. Unified Sports partners participated in doubles and team events as well. 927 athletes and Unified Sport partners registered for the 11/19 state tournament which was held in Cedar Rapids, Des Moines and Sioux City. Over 200 volunteers served as lane monitors and award presenters.

Special Programs

Young Athlete Play Day programs were held in Sioux City (168 athletes), Council Bluffs (101 athletes) and Muscatine (112 athletes). A Medfest was held in Des Moines offering free physicals and three Healthy Athletes disciplines (Fun Fitness, Health Promotion & Special Smiles) to the attending athletes.

Unified Champion Schools

Meetings with Muscatine High School, Pella Middle School, Pella High School, Okoboji Middle School and Okoboji High School were recently held to discuss the possible implementation of the Unified program. Future meetings with school administrators are being scheduled now. Cherokee Schools, Dallas Center – Grimes, Davenport Schools, Fort Dodge Schools, IKM Manning, Johnston Schools, Mount Ayr Schools and Treynor Schools are being targeted for future meetings as well.

Program Administration & Training Clinics

1,528 Class A credentials have been issued in 2016. The breakdown includes 879 new credentials, 206 renewal credentials and 443 credentials to minors.

The current number of delegations is 415. This is an increase of 26 new delegations since the beginning of year. For 2016 the number of new athletes (first time participating in Special Olympics) and unique athletes (participated previously in Special Olympics, stopped participating and are now back) is approximately 818. This does not include participants in the Young Athletes Program which is over 1,400.

Sport training clinics are being held throughout the year, throughout the state. Sport clinicians review sport specific rules and skills, the importance of safe and productive practices and the required registration process to the volunteer coaches. 606 certifications were available in 2016.