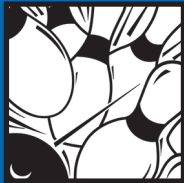


AACPS Unified Sports SEASON



Fall

Tennis



Winter

Bowling



Spring

Bocce

How can students participate?

All participants must:

Turn in a completed medical examination.

Complete parent permission form.

(All forms are available online for download at www.aacps.org/athletics)

Athletes may only complete in one sport per season.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools is proud to partner with:



Special Olympics
Maryland
Anne Arundel County



ANNE ARUNDEL
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

George Arlotto Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Bobbi Pedrick
Director of Special Education

Clayton Culp
Coordinator of Athletics

Brian Layman
Athletic Resource and Unified Sports

Anne Arundel County Public Schools prohibits discrimination in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability unrelated in nature and extent so as to reasonably preclude performance.

For more information, contact The Office of Investigations, Anne Arundel County Public Schools, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401, (410) 222-5286; TDD (410) 222-5500.

www.aacps.org

AACPS Unified Sports



Tennis



Bowling



Bocce

Unity.
Sportsmanship.
Dignity.
Joy.
Acceptance.
Respect.

Be a part of it!

*Bringing students together
on the field, and off.*

“On the field we are teammates...off the field we are friends.”

What is the Unified Sports Program?

The *Special Olympics Unified Sports Program* is an additional means of carrying out and fulfilling the mission of Special Olympics. Teams are constructed in such a way as to provide training and competition opportunities that meaningfully challenge and involve all athletes. These opportunities lead to improved sports skills, higher self-esteem, equal status among peers and new friendships.

How does it compare to the existing athletic program?

The goals of the *Unified Sports Program* and those of the existing interscholastic athletic program are similar.

Both programs strive to

- *teach students good sportsmanship,*
- *build positive self-esteem,*
- *teach students new sport-specific skills,*
- *improve physical fitness,*
- *foster new friendships, and to*
- *develop the concept of teamwork.*

What are the benefits to *all* students who participate in the program?

Participants in the Unified Sports Program will be provided the opportunity to:

- **Participate in competitive sports** in a fun, comfortable, and safe environment;
- **Develop new friendships** by increasing interaction and communication among students in the school through a common interest in athletics;
- **Participate in school events**, such as team picture day, pep rallies, and sports awards banquets;
- **Meet and compete** against students from other schools in Anne Arundel and across the state;
- **Participate in their school's interscholastic athletic program;**
- **Develop a feeling of self-worth** and importance through working together as a team;
- **Represent their school** in a positive manner by demonstrating their understanding of good sportsmanship and citizenship;
- **Develop an understanding** of the skills and knowledge needed to participate on a sports team;
- Practice and **apply previously learned knowledge** and skills in a season's end culminating activity;
- **Provide a positive physical and emotional outlet** for improving the level of personal physical fitness;
- Attain and **develop an interest in activities** that have the potential for lifetime sports participation.

What does the program provide?

The Unified Sports Program in Anne Arundel County high schools provides:

- Co-ed teams with a recommended ratio of 50% students with disabilities to 50% students without disabilities;
- Rules, guidelines, and modifications for each Unified Sport (developed by The Pathway to Play committee) to ensure greater student participation and success within the program;
- Interaction and cooperation with other schools to provide assistance in implementing Unified Sports Programs in other high schools on a countywide basis;
- The opportunity to participate in tennis, bowling, and bocce;
- Transportation for teams to travel in order to compete against other schools;
- Team uniforms for each participant;
- Support and acceptance of the Unified Sports Program within each school and community.

Sport-Specific Skill Development
Competition Experience
Meaningful Inclusion
Transition and Choice
Personal Development
Public Education

