

## **2022 METRO BOCCE BONANZA**



DATE:

Tuesday, December 20th

VENUE: Foote Field Dome 11601 68 ave Edmonton, AB

\*\* Please note the Dome has an Air Lock, this will cause a change in pressure as participants enter and leave the playing area through the main field doors. Please prep any students ahead of time for this as it can create a popping of the ears for some. Additionally, it is cool in the dome, dress appropriately\*\*

TIME:9:45 AM Arrival – 2:15 PM Approximate Departure

**EVENT COMMITTEE:** 

Shawn Shepherd	Metro Athletics	shawn@metroathletics.ca	780-441-6012 Ext 2
Michelle Ross	Metro Athletics	michelle@metroathletics.ca	780-441-6012 Ext 1
Emily Lines	Alberta Schools' Athletic Assn	emily@asaa.ca	780-427-8182

HOST:	Metro Athletics 780-441-6012 Ext 2 www.metroathletics.ca
	BOCCE - As per the ASAA guidelines with modifications <b>It is a Fundamental Right to be Included"</b> – Karissa Niehoff, Executive Director, NFHS
A.S.A.A	METRO ATHLETIUS

#### WHAT IS UNIFIED SPORT & WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

For those of you who are new to Unified Sports, this is a Special Olympics program where students with and without intellectual disabilities train and compete on the same team. The purpose of this program is both to add more athletic opportunities for students who may not normally compete in high school sport, as well as to have a positive impact on school culture by forging pathways to friendship and acceptance among students. It is expected that the students without intellectual disabilities (partners) give visual and verbal cues to assist the students with intellectual disabilities (athletes) to ensure that they fully take part in the sport and are able to develop new skills. The coaches and partners will need to work together to gauge the needs of the athletes, as some athletes will require lots of support and others will require very little. With over one million participants worldwide, Unified Sports is shown to encourage and support the development of leadership, social skills, and sport specific skills among students when it takes place in an inclusive and competitively balanced environment.

#### PRINCIPLE OF MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT

Every player must be given the opportunity to contribute to the success of the team through his or her own unique skills and qualities. Coaches must work together to create a balanced competitive environment so that athletes can focus on competing evenly and fairly with their opponents in a safe environment.

#### **TEAM COMPOSITION**

All Unified Sports teams are made up of athletes and partners. Athletes are high school students with intellectual disabilities and partners are high school students without intellectual disabilities. Where possible, athletes & partners should come from the same school.

BOCCE – 2 Athletes & 2 Partners. You may have additional players per team, but only 4 will play each game.

**LUNCH/FOOD:** Lunch will be provided, and all efforts will be made to meet dietary restrictions noted on the registration forms. Students & Coaches with severe restrictions/food allergies should bring their own food. A structured lunch schedule will be sent out with the event schedule. Please help monitor your participants during your lunch break.

#### SCHEDULE

9:45 am	Athlete arrival
10:00 am	Events commence
11:00 am	Staggered Lunch Breaks Begin
1:40 pm	Last Scheduled Game
2:15 pm	Event completion, Athlete departure

#### AWARDS

This event has no competitive outcome. It is designed to allow our Unified teams some practice before the Jamboree in May which has a competitive stream.

#### UNIFORMS AND APPAREL

We recommend all team members be given team jerseys so they can represent their school appropriately, numbers are not necessary.

#### **EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY**

Metro will not have an event photographer, however, all participants who do not consent to their photo being taken will be given a small red snap bracelet so they can be easily identified to the any schools or Metro Staff who may be taking pictures. Please see Shawn or Michelle upon arriving to get bracelets. Efforts will be made to not include those athletes/partners in media, however it is the schools responsibility to remove them from any group photos.

#### PARKING INSTRUCTIONS

There is a Bus Drop off loop available at the main doors of Foote Field. Buses can drop off participants and then park in the designated parking area.





#### SCHEDULES:

Teams are expected to know their schedules as to not miss games. Each team is given approximately four games and will always play on the same court, so the schedule is easy to follow for each team.

#### **COACHES AND PARENTS:**

In an effort to foster the relationships between partners and athletes, we ask that coaches and parents allow that relationship to grow by learning and playing together. Coaches and parents should make every effort to only involve themselves in the game when absolutely necessary. The event should be athlete and partner driven.

#### FACILITY:

Accessible washrooms are located just outside the entrance to the dome. Should students or staff need a quiet room for any reason, please see the Foote Field front desk and they have a handful of rooms onsite that can be used as needed.

**RULES:** 

### **BOCCE:**

**Overview** – This game is played outside on grass. Each court will be 60 feet in length and 12 feet wide. Courts will be marked with lines on the ground, there will be no walls for the players to bank their shots off of.

• Bocce is played with eight bocce balls and one smaller target ball called a pallina. There are four balls to each team and each team is distinguished by a different colour.

• A coin toss or rock-paper-scissors will determine which team starts with the pallina and has the choice of ball colour

• The players on a team must alternate between athletes and partners, providing the one who tosses the pallina delivers the first bocce ball (e.g. if a partner tosses the pallina, that partner will also toss the first ball. The next person to deliver a ball from that team will be an athlete). The specifics of the player rotation may vary from frame to frame; however, no player may deliver more than one ball per frame.

#### Sequence of Play:

1. The pallina is rolled or tossed by a member of the team having won the coin toss at the start of the game. This can be either a partner or an athlete.

a. Three-attempt rule: after the coin toss, the team possessing the pallina will have three attempts at throwing the pallina to the opposite end. If these three attempts are unsuccessful, the referee will place the pallina in the center of the court.

2. The player who tosses the pallina must then deliver the first ball.

3. The opposing team will then take turns delivering their bocce balls until they have a ball closer to the pallina than the opposing team OR they have exhausted their four balls (each player having thrown one ball).

a. This "nearest ball" rule governs sequence of played balls. The side whose ball is closest to the pallina is called the "in" ball and the opposing side is the "out" ball. When a team gets "in", they must step aside and allow the "out" team to deliver.

b. Example: Team A wins the coin toss and therefore gets to throw the pallina and one ball. Team B throws their first ball too far and their second ball makes it closer to the pallina than Team A's ball. Now, it's Team A's turn to throw until they have a ball closer than Team B or are out of balls. The frame is over when each team is out of balls.

4. Each player throws only one ball per frame.

5. Initial Point: It is always incumbent upon the team with the pallina advantage to establish the initial point.

a. Example: Team A tosses the pallina and delivers the first ball. Then, Team B knocks Team A's ball out of position. In doing so, both balls (Team A's and Team B's) fly out of the court, leaving only the pallina in the court. Team A will throw the next ball because it is incumbent upon Team A to re-establish the initial point.

6. Ball Delivery:

a. A player must use an underhand throw (i.e. the player can grip the ball either overhand or underhand, but the ball must be released in an underhand delivery. An underhand delivery is defined as releasing the ball below the waist).

b. There will not be walls on the court for the player to bank off of. The student must roll the ball down the court in attempt to either land his or her ball closest to the pallina, knock a teammate's ball closer to the pallina, or knock the opposing team's ball further from the pallina or out of bounds. If a player throws their own ball out of bounds, they do not get a re-throw.

**Scoring** – At the end of each frame (when both teams have exhausted their balls), scoring will be determined as follows:

1. Points are awarded to the team whose balls are closer to the pallina than the closest ball of the other team. This can be determined by viewing or by mechanical measurements. All players should look at the court at the pallina end before the balls are removed after each frame to ensure they agree with the points announced by the referee. Any player or coach can request a mechanical measurement before the balls are removed.

2. The scoring team for each frame will be the team to throw the pallina and the first ball in the next frame.

3. Winning score: First team to 16 points, or the team with the highest number of points after 10 minutes.

4. Ties during a frame: In the event that two opposing balls are equidistant from the pallina (tied), the team that rolled last will continue to roll until the tie is broken.

5. Ties at the end of a frame: In the event that the two balls closest to the pallina belong to the opposing teams and are tied, no points will be awarded. The pallina returns to the team which delivered it last.

# Metro Athletics Unified Sport Use of Proper Language

For the Metro Unified Athletics our participants are classified as **Athletes** – Persons with a Disability, and **Partners** – Persons without a disability. Please use these terms before, during and after the event.

If requested to elaborate on what an Athlete & Partner are, please use the chart below to help with the appropriate language. It is of utmost importance to always use the word **Persons** first.

INSTEAD OF	PLEASE USE
Blind or Visually Impaired	Person who is blind Person with a Visual impairment, Athlete
Handicapped, in a wheelchair, challenged, physically impaired	<b>Person</b> with a disability, <b>Athlete</b>
Inarticulate, Incoherent	<b>Person</b> who has a speech disability, <b>Athlete</b>
Challenged, Retarded, Simple, Slow	<b>Person</b> with an intellectual disability, <b>Athlete</b>
Normal, Mainstream, Regular	<b>Person</b> without a disability, <b>Partner</b>

Thank you for your care and attention to this