

Media Alert

Special Events Mgr.: Kristin Craven, 609-658-6003, kcraven@specialolympicspa.org
Interscholastic Unified Partnerships, Mgr: Alex Christy, 484-888-6535, achristy@specialolympicspa.org

WHAT – SPECIAL OLYMPICS PA - PHILADELPHIA'S THIRD ANNUAL ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL IUS BOCCIE CHAMPIONSHIP

The third annual Elementary/Middle School IUS Bocce Championship is bringing 15 teams together to compete in a bocce championship after teams have practices for weeks. Athletes (students with intellectual disabilities) and partners (students without intellectual disabilities) are allowed to compete in the Championship if they have practiced for at least 8 weeks. Each team will play in two round-robin games and winners will advance to the semi-finals and finals. Lastly, teams will be awarded based on finish.

WHEN – TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018

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| • Opening Remarks: | 10:00 am – 10:15 am |
| • Bocce Competition: | 10:20 am – 12:50 pm |
| • Elementary School Awards: | approx 12:30 pm |
| • Middle School Awards: | approx 1:00 pm |

WHERE – JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY'S GALLAGHER RECREATION CENTER

4201 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

WHO – 3 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS & 5 MIDDLE SCHOOLS

- Andrew Hamilton Middle School
- Hill-Freedman World Academy (Middle School)
- Juniata Park Academy (Elementary School)
- Middle Years Alternative School
- Penrose School (Elementary & Middle School)
- Universal Daroff Charter School (Elementary & Middle School)

WHY – Unified Sports is a movement that is taking over the world. In Special Olympics PA – Philadelphia's Interscholastic Unified Sports program, unified sports bring together students with and without intellectual disabilities together on the same team to train and compete together. This model allows students to create real friendships that extend beyond sports and creates a more inclusive school culture. Events like the Elementary/Middle School IUS Bocce Championship give students the opportunity to compete while joining together for a more inclusive Philadelphia community.

NOTE TO ALL MEDIA – Members of the media are welcome to attend any portion of the Elementary/Middle School IUS Bocce Championship. Contact Kristin Craven at 609-658-6003 or Alex Christy at 484-888-6535 to assist with any questions and interviews.

Special Olympics Pennsylvania – Philadelphia

2900 Southampton Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154 Tel 215.671.5069 Fax 215.671.5033

Email philly@specialolympicspa.org www.SOPAPhilly.org [facebook.com/SOPAPhilly](https://www.facebook.com/SOPAPhilly) [twitter: @SOPAPhilly](https://twitter.com/SOPAPhilly)

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