



Unified Bocce Bulletin 2026



**Special
Olympics**
Maine



Special Olympics
**Unified Champion
Schools®**



2026 MPA CO-ED UNIFIED BOCCE BULLETIN

(3/26/26)

UNIFIED BOCCE SEASON

Monday, April 6, 2026	Notice of Intent to Participate (Click here for notification form)
Friday, April 10, 2026	Schedules Due
Monday, April 27, 2026	First Practice
Friday, May 8, 2026	First Scheduled Match
Friday, June 5, 2026	Last Scheduled Match
Friday, June 5, 2026	SOME State Bocce Competition at the University of Maine

Schedule Requirements: Schools are responsible to develop their own schedules. Teams may play a minimum of a four-match schedule and a maximum of a six-match schedule. Teams are asked to assure that schools located in their geographic region can fill a schedule. *Schools are encouraged to form cooperative teams with schools nearby.

Authorization: The International Federation for Bocce is Special Olympics Inc. and therefore the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules for Bocce shall govern all Special Olympics competitions.

Official Lineup: A team must have two (2) Unified Student Athletes and two (2) Unified Student Partners participating in the match. The game will end if a team is not able to have the correct number of athletes and partners.

Team Rosters: Teams are co-ed. Teams are comprised of four (4) players per team with two (2) being Unified Athletes and two (2) being Unified Partners. *Schools are encouraged to have more than 1 team. A Team member can only compete on one team (ie Team member A cannot play on Bocce Team 1 & 2)

Unified Sport Competitive Model: MPA Co-Ed Unified Bocce follows the Unified Sports Competitive Model.

- All matches will be governed following the [Special Olympics Maine Bocce Rules and Regulations](#)

Scoring: Games are played to 16 points with a maximum of a 30-minute time limit. Players will call their own matches.

Awards: Medals will be provided by Special Olympics Maine for all participants.

Uniforms: Each team must have a home and away jersey (may be reversible). It is recommended that numbers be on the front and back of each jersey.

- **SONA Unified Sports Uniform Branding:** With the goal of increasing brand recognition of Special Olympics Unified Sports®, a set of [Uniform Guidelines](#) and [supporting resources](#) have been finalized by SONA. These guidelines apply to all Unified Sports teams in the SONA region. These guidelines are also in compliance with the NFHS sport rules as a “commemorative patch”. Uniforms, or a visible area of an under layer, should include the Special Olympics Unified Sports® logo. Logo options can be found on the [Resources page for Marketing and Communications – Special Olympics Brand](#) under Special Olympics Unified Sports® and Play Unified.

- Order of preference (red as primary, all other colors as alternates; 4-line versions not recommended):
 1. Special Olympics Unified Sports circle logo or
 2. 2-Line logo or
 3. 2-Line logo lozenge or
 4. Special Olympics Unified Sports® in text
 5. Special Olympics Play Unified logo (white lettered logo is included in blank space)

Meaningful Involvement: All players should have meaningful involvement without any type of individual player dominance. Meaningful Involvement is an effort to **optimize participation by all team members** (athletes and partners) based on the principle that **every player should contribute to the success of the team.** The composition of any team must include players with necessary sport-specific skills. Teams should **not include players who dominate play, exclude other teammates from contributing to the success of the team, or present a health and safety risk on the field of play.** By permitting any player to dominate play, other players' roles and opportunities are greatly limited. This violates both the spirit and intent of the Special Olympics Unified Sports rules and philosophy and will be addressed according to the standards set forth by each sport's rules and governing ordinances.

- If an official determines that a player is dominating play, that official shall sanction the player and/or coach. Consequences for non-compliance are either:
 - Specific Player Sanctions (encourage voluntary substitution, warning, technical foul, ejection)
 - Sanctions will include warning the player and/or coach, citing the player or coach with unsportsmanlike conduct or removing the player or coach from the game.
 - Team Consequences (forfeiture of game, disqualification from tournament)

Unified Bocce - Recommendations:

- It is very important that emergency contact information is collected from each team member.
- If possible, athletic trainer coverage is recommended.
- Each team should be aware of the sportsmanship criteria in place for the awarding of the sportsmanship banner at the end of the season. Banners will be presented at the festival sites where the winning teams are participating.
- Schools must provide facilities for both male and female athletes.
- Teams should have adequate supervision in both locker rooms.
- Coaches and officials should meet prior to the start of the game to exchange line-ups and player development and individual needs of athletes.

CO-ED UNIFIED BOCCE CLASSIFICATION

<u>North</u>	<u>South</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Belfast2. Brewer3. Central4. Gardiner5. Maine Central Institute6. Messalonskee7. Mt. Blue8. Sumner	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bonny Eagle2. Boothbay3. Brunswick4. Falmouth5. Fryeburg6. Gorham7. Gray-New Gloucester8. Kennebunk9. Leavitt10. Marshwood11. Noble12. Scarborough13. Thorton14. Wells15. Westbrook16. Windham17. Yarmouth