Outcome and Takeaways

• Discover, Develop, Dedicate.
• Gain knowledge about the multiple ways to engage and participate with Special Olympics.
• Gather resources to go back to your conference and school and educate/activate others.
• How to use this PowerPoint as a resource for upcoming school/conference meetings.
Discover.

Where are we now?
1968 – An empty stadium
Division III SAAC Partnership

• On January 18, 2011, the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) initiated a partnership with Special Olympics in a coordinated community-outreach effort.

• Mutual learning experience.

• Citizenship.

• What should the Call to Action be?

• What opportunities do you see at the school/conference level?
Student Athlete Leadership

• Not only the leaders of the future— but the leaders of today!
• Develop leadership skills through multiple opportunities to grow and succeed.
• Special Olympics values youth leadership.
• Opportunity: Plan Unified Sports Events.
Develop.

Making Connections & Unified Sports®
Contact with SO state program

- Find your state SO website.
- Call or email staff member with following titles:
  - Manager of Sports
  - Manager of Outreach
  - Manager of Youth
  - Manager of Volunteers
- Introduce yourself and briefly highlight the SO/Division III partnership.
- Ask about upcoming events that need volunteers or ask to set up a meeting to talk about hosting an event on campus.

Resources:
- Program Finder
- State Contact NCAA
Multiple Ways to Engage

- Unified Sports
- SO College Campus Clubs
- Clinics
- Fundraise
- Volunteer at Local Events
- Host Events on Campus
- Coach
- Invite SO athletes to your events/games
- Advocate
What is Special Olympics Unified Sports?

- Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team.
- It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

**College Level Unified Sports:**
- One Day Experiences
- One Day Round Robin Tournament
- Intramural league
- Conference leagues

Resources:
- [Unified Sports webpage](#)
- Unified Sports at the Collegiate Level
One Day Unified Sports Events

Experience or Round Robin Tournament

• Way to introduce participants to Unified Sports, without making a multiple week commitment.

• Can take place in any setting with any sport.
  • Conference Meetings
  • On Campus

• Time Commitment: 1-2 Hours

• Planning Time: 5-7 Hours

Resources:
• Unified Sports Experience Info
Intramural Leagues & Conference Tournament

• Provides a genuine opportunity to build friendships and inclusion.

• Student athletes can participate or provide leadership.

• 4-8 week commitment.

• Involvement needed from:
  • Athletic Department/Campus recreation
  • Local SO Program
  • School or Conference SAAC

Resources:
• Special Olympics Michigan Intramural league.
• Heartland Conference Unified Sports.
Dedicate.

Activating Others
Activating your school and conference

• Present at a conference or school meeting—invite local SO staff to join.

• Use this PowerPoint as a template for your presentation.

• Create a small group of student-athletes and SAAC advisors who share a similar vision.

• Create an Action Plan with your local SO Program.

• Create multiple leadership opportunities so many people are involved!
CHANGE DOESN'T HAPPEN FROM THE SIDELINES. GAME ON.
Q&A

Thank you!

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