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## **Corollary Sports Teams in Three Sports**

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) offers all high school students the opportunity to participate in the MCPS interscholastic athletics program. In addition, MCPS is pleased to announce that it has formed a partnership with Special Olympics and will offer three sports as part of a corollary athletics program: Team Handball (fall), Unified Bocce (winter) and Allied Softball (spring).

## **Target Group, Benefits**

The corollary athletics program is designed for students with and without disabilities who are interested in playing on a school athletics team but do not necessarily have the skills and/or desire to play at the varsity or junior varsity level. Approximately fifty-percent of the participants in the corollary athletics program will include students with disabilities. The corollary athletics program will offer students who have never been on a varsity or junior varsity team an opportunity to participate on a competitive athletics team.

Among other benefits associated with athletic participation, the program will provide students an opportunity to participate in social activities, improve self-esteem, meet new friends, and enjoy friendly competition. Athletes will wear uniforms, be eligible to earn varsity awards, be included in pep rallies, appear in the school yearbook, and participate in awards ceremonies. Some students who volunteer to assist in the program may qualify for community service hours.

## **Questions, Practices**

Practices for Team Handball are scheduled to begin in September. Practices for Unified Bocce will begin in late-November; practices for Allied Softball will begin in mid-March. Students will need a current physical examination register online to participate. The physical examination is available from the athletic director or the main office or at www.svhsathletics.org

If a student is interested in being on a corollary sports team, then the student or the student's parent should indicated this to the athletic director, Mr. Jesse Irvin, or the special education resource teacher. Similarly, if there are any questions regarding any of the corollary sports, please call the athletic director, Mr. Jesse Irvin, at 301-353-8028.

