

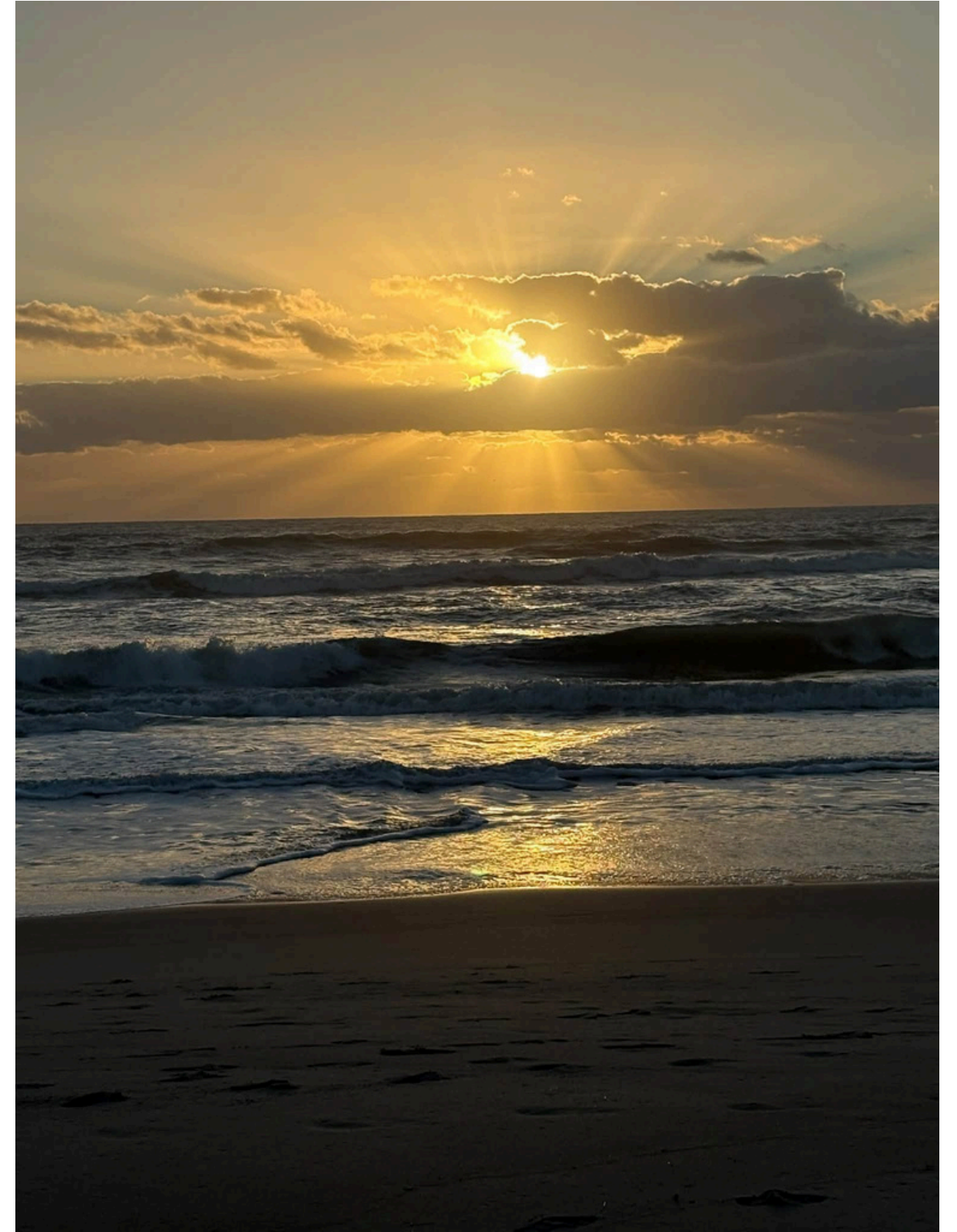
SPECIAL OLYMPICS VIRGINIA

2026 FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS





Update from Dave Pawlowski





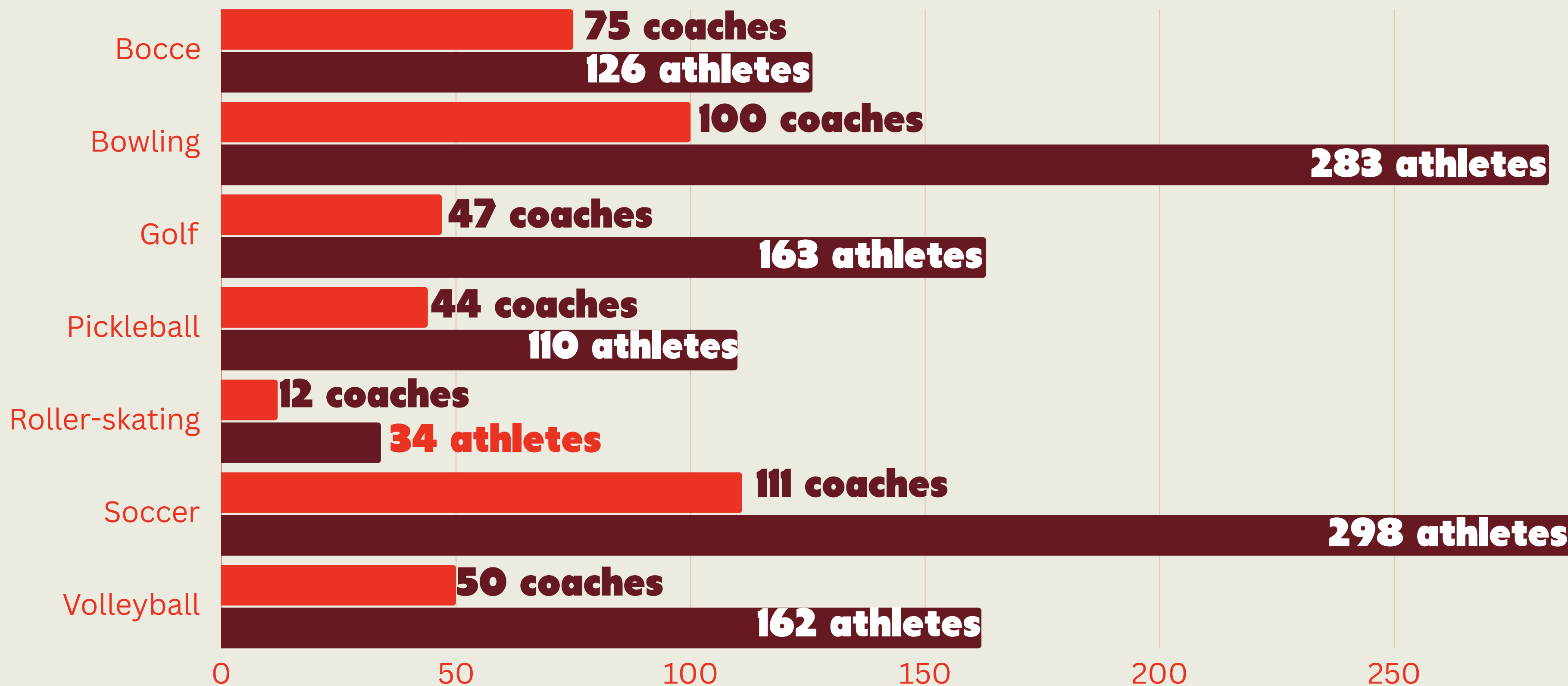
FALL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
SPECIAL OLYMPICS
VIRGINIA



2026 FALL CHAMPS INFO

- Website & Delegation Hub
 - <https://www.specialolympicsva.org/sports/state-games/2026-fall-championships>
- Email = direct communications to coaches & HOD's
- Text Notifications = on-site updates, schedule changes, inclement weather
- Facebook: [SpecialOlympicsVirginia](#)
- Instagram: @specialolympicsva

BY THE NUMBERS



COMPETITION STAFF

BOCCE

Charlotte Smith

BOWLING

Dick Crothers

GOLF

John Cochran

PICKLEBALL

Keron Poteat

ROLLER-SKATING

Stephanie Smith

SOCCKER

Sid Wesseldine

VOLLEYBALL

Barb Besal

LOCATIONS

**BOCCE,
PICKLEBALL &
VOLLEYBALL
GOLF**

Virginia Beach Sports Center

**First Tee of Hampton Roads &
VB National**

SOCCER

Hampton Roads Sports Complex

BOWLING

Pinboys at the Beach

RSK SUNDAY ONLY

Sk8 Dojo

GOODIES @ VENUES

Soccer Complex

Mello Beans Coffee - Sunday
Concession Stand - Both Days
Blue Bell - Free icecream!

Virginia Beach Sports Center

Concession Stand - Both Days
Mello Beans Coffee - Both Days

First Tee of Hampton Roads

Buzz Stop Coffee - Both Days

Pinboys at the Beach

Concession Stand - Both Days



OPENING CEREMONY

- Making enhancements to sound this year
- K of C & LETR involvement
- **Proposed timeline:**
 - 6pm - doors open
 - 6:30pm - all speakers and guest are present to practice
 - 7pm - ceremony starts
 - 7:45pm - dance & other activities begin
 - Bingo, Athlete Game Lounge, Sensory Rooms
 - 9:30pm - clean up & wrap up the night



NUTRITION & HEALTH

- **Ear plugs** will be available Saturday night for the Opening Ceremony & Dance.
- **Electrolyte packets** will be included at all locations for lunch to be added to the water bottle received.
- Fitness Information Tables
 - VBSC, Soccer & Golf will have **Fitness Information Tables** that have information on affiliate gym programs and other fitness resources. RSK & Bowling will have the information but at the main registration table due to space.
 - Plus - sport specific **warm up and cool down** information!
- Nutrition information will be available at all hotels! Infographics of building the proper plate for **portion control and nutrition**.
- **Sensory Rooms** will be available during competition, Opening Ceremony and the dance at VBSC.

ATHLETE INPUT SESSIONS

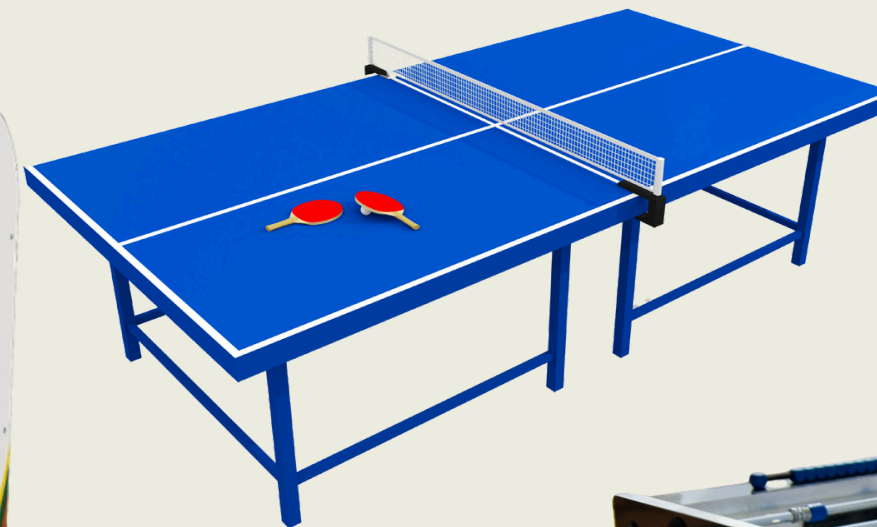
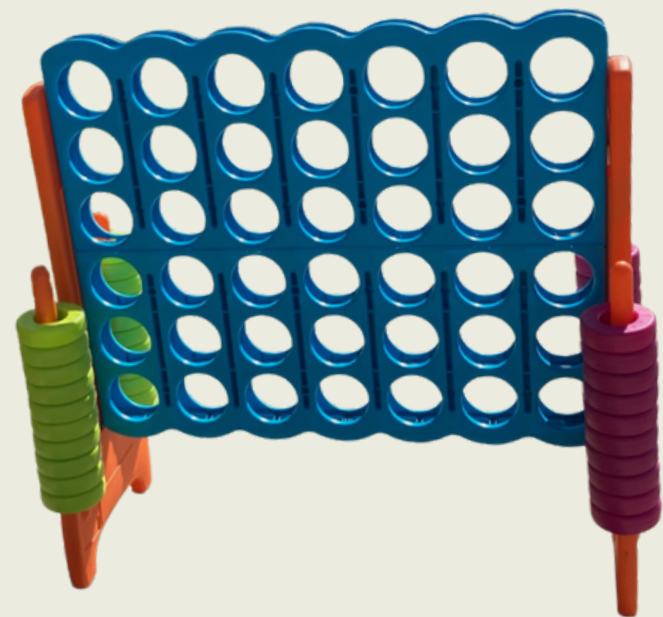
- A group of 9 Athlete Leaders shared their own feedback and were tasked with getting feedback from other athletes in their program.
 - We talked through several topics: **General (pros & cons), Opening Ceremony, Dance, Athlete Activities & Entertainment, Competition and the Overall Athlete Experience.**
 - Some improvements coming thanks to this group:
 - **General**
 - Information Sharing
 - The Delegation Hub QR code will be on the credential.
 - More detailed weekend overview info being added to coaches calls
 - **Opening Ceremony & Dance**
 - Enhanced OC sound
 - Dance theme & song suggestions by athletes
 - Less speeches at OC
 - More energy and engagement - Drum Line!
 - **Athlete Activities and Entertainment**
 - Earplugs & sensory rooms at VBSC
 - Fitness Information Tables
 - Electrolytes
 - Information sharing
 - More details will be added to the “About the Games” section on the website for this event about what is available and where to find it.
- We have LOTS more notes that are also general to state games that we plan to continue implementing. But this has been a great start to this initiative!

ATHLETE GAME LOUNGE

Looking for some friendly competition *off the field*? Be sure to check out the [Athlete Game Lounge](#) — where the fun never stops!

- Located on the second floor of the Virginia Beach Sports Center.
- Open all day Saturday, Saturday night post-ceremony and Sunday!

Challenge your friends to ping pong, battle it out in foosball, build the tallest Jenga tower, or try your luck at arcade games. Bring your energy, your teammates, and your game face!



SOUVENIRS

Fine Designs:
Print-and-go apparel
All day Saturday &
Sunday at VBSC & online

Will Enterprises:
Year-round SOVA and Torch
Run items (on website).

SOVA Promo Items:
Sat. afternoon +evening &
all day Sunday at VBSC



RISK MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY

- Emergency Action and Communications Plan Q&A on the website
- Rally Text System and social media to notify about **schedule changes due to inclement weather**
- Every venue will have medical staff in **red hats**



EMERGENCY ACTION AND COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

POTENTIAL SITUATIONS INCLUDE ANY -

- LOSS OF LIFE
- ACCIDENT OR INJURY WITH POTENTIAL LOSS OF LIFE
- ACCIDENT INVOLVING MULTIPLE PEOPLE (BUS ACCIDENT, ETC.)
- MISSING ATHLETES
- SEVERE WEATHER SITUATION
- LARGE-SCALE DISASTER
- CRIMINAL ACTION
- POTENTIALLY INAPPROPRIATE PHYSICAL CONTACT BETWEEN ATHLETES OR BETWEEN AN ATHLETE, COACH, VOLUNTEER OR STAFF

EMERGENCY ACTION AND COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

(ON DELEGATION HUB HERE)

Injuries or Illnesses

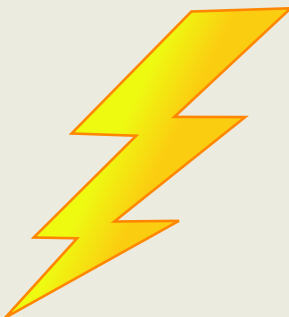


On site medical personel,
Bryan Schubring
Michele Pennison, Medical at Soccer
and one hotel

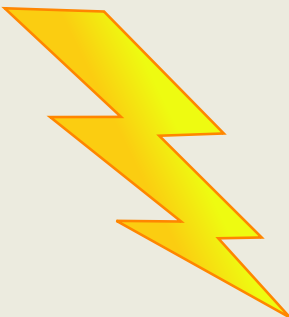
Inclement Weather



Margaret White, Competition
Venues
Izzy for Volunteers, Ceremony,
other pieces



Lightning:
6 miles for Golf
6 miles for Soccer



Other Emergent Situations



Margaret White
Izzy Nelson
Michele Pennison



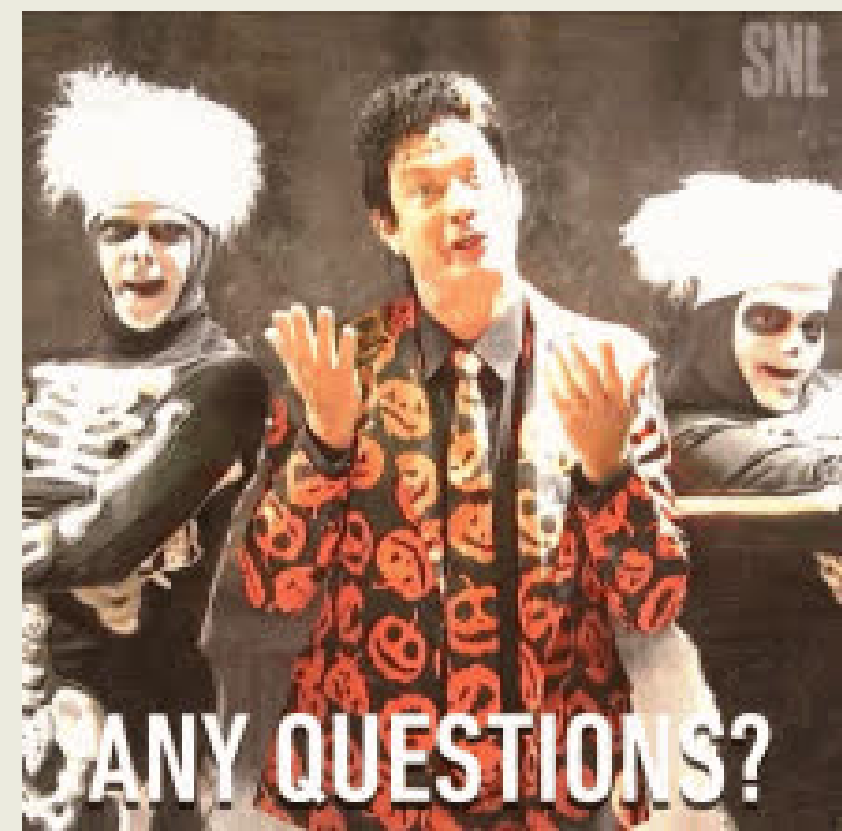
Bryan Schubring



Emergency Action and
Communications Team



LET'S
GOOOOOOOOOOO



ANY QUESTIONS?