



Special Olympics Maine
**Unified Champion
Clubs**



BE A CHAMPION OF INCLUSION

Get involved as a Unified Partner

Promoting Social Inclusion Through Sports

Sports have a way of unifying people. Special Olympics Maine Unified Champion Clubs at the Alford Youth & Community Center (AYCC) is a program that provides people **with (athletes) and without (partners) intellectual disabilities** the opportunity to **play on the same team** through recreational sports and activities in a community setting (i.e. YMCA's, Boys & Girls Clubs, Parks & Rec, etc.). A simple principal that playing and competing together creates a quick path to friendships, understanding, and leads to a more **inclusive community**.



#ChooseToInclude

www.clubaycc.org

Molly Folsom

Unified Champion Club Coordinator

mfolsom@clubaycc.org

207-873-0684 x294

WHAT is a Unified Partner?

A Unified partner is a student, or a community member without an intellectual disability, who actively participates with the athletes in a fun and meaningful way through recreational sports and activities at the AYCC. Unified partners and athletes form friendships and build community.

WHY you should become a Partner!

Through sports and activities, athletes and partners are given the opportunity to spend time together and share a common interest and goal. This supports the development of friendships between athletes and partners as well as social inclusion. As partners spend more time with athletes, their attitudes and beliefs begin to shift, paving the way for greater acceptance of all people with ID!

HOW can you get involved?

It's easy! Reach out to Molly Folsom, Unified Champion Club Coordinator at the AYCC. You can also find more info by visiting www.clubaycc.org or www.somaine.org.

BELONG BELIEVE ACHIEVE