

Add more events , ie weightlifting , canoe/kayak/standup paddle board

Advance information

Advertising

Arrange local training sessions in various areas , such as weekly bike rides ,ect.

Athletic competitions for seniors are getting more popular, keep publishing notices about what senior athletes are doing and accomplishing. Also, up here in the more northern parts of Maine there's not much going on as far as the Senior Games. We have to travel a long way to get to events. Maybe branch out to other parts of the state? Contact the local YMCAs to see if they can host events.

Be more inclusive of mid and northern Maine. Offering T-shirts and activities to people throughout the state but only if they come to Portland for pickup or participation effectively means that those in mid- and northern Maine can't participate except under a small range of circumstances. I think this could be thought through differently to allow more inclusion.

Better advertising

Better communication and more community involvement ie special workshops

Branch out into the northern parts of Maine

Bring back softball to the competition.

Communicate with bike clubs State wide, send flyers to bike shops State wide, send flyers to health clubs, men's groups etc.

Connect through A-Copi tennis

constant communication

Contact different leagues to spread the word on events

Continue personal treatment and friendly competitive atmosphere

Continue with the excellent volunteers and officials available for the track and field event.

convenient locations for events

Coordinated, flowing, not a lot of wait time between games!

Do what you do

Email updates are very helpful

Emphasis on health benefits of participation

Encourage formation of clubs for the various sports

Finish line photos of the running events that are posted soon after the event

For golf, advertising at local clubs, associations with MSGA. Better competition brings in more players. It's a bit circular- just need to catch the tipping point.

For pickleball make sure there are age and skill levels(that are accurate.)

For some reason the Maine men's tourney b-ball does not attract men's team from Maine.

Out of state teams including NH teams play there. It was very disappointing when this past September ball game was cancelled. Having consistent play will keep and bring in more participants.

It is recommended that reach out communication's with all statewide recreation departments, gyms, basketball leagues and news release about dates/times. When watching Maine news tv stations they provide impressive b-ball coverage for hs and college.

Having Maine Senior Games regular coverage on this would help get the word out. The Maine women national team participation is remarkable

For volunteers, I would go to companies that have a core volunteer group and solicit them to assist

Friends from Brunswick Y playing in Augusta pickleball tournament

From experience: when you combine age groups more people than not see the folly in trying to keep up despite knowing there are age group performance realities. I see that on group rides as well. You are better starting age groups with some spacing. Take my age of 78! Start me with 70-80s as the field will be smaller. Having us meshed with 50-60 year olds has the older competitor dropped from the start as some older riders can react to the initial jump. The field is split right away and those left behind are demoralized. Few come back for that scenario I'm afraid. They don't show up the next year or worse share the frustration with others.

Games should be in fall after the prices go down

Go to venues and ask the players to play

Good communication. Inspire members to recruit,

Great group of people. Possibly tie the ability to compete with some level of service.

Great way for retired people to stay active. I myself am not retired yet.

Have coaches there to advise and counsel us

Have come a long way since I started in 1999 can't think of any changes to suggest

Have the meet at a good facility and convenient place

Have training opportunities to bring groups together. Example: all throwers, or jumpers or track athletes get together for a afternoon of training with on site BBQ to follow at St. Joe's

Health issues may interfere

hmm, not sure. Stipends or gifts?

Holding the bicycle races in August not October or September so that the weather is warmer. Have each riders age or age group clearly displayed so it is clear who you are riding with/against.

Honestly, for those of us under 65 (and maybe over as well), we are turned off by being included in anything called "Senior." Change the name to Masters or something else and you will get more <65 participants.

I come from NY for the basketball if scheduled after Labor Day. It makes a nice end of summer trip for the wives.

I haven't seen any advertisements. Have there been any?

I need more information on the senior games to help. I have been an athlete all of my life (track, field hockey, pickleball, tennis, biking, ice hockey, basketball even flag football, skiing, golf, etc) and would like to find out more about these senior games

I recommend that the women's basketball teams attend CT and Mass tournaments- if you are going to request that we attend yours

I suggest you may want to explore collaboration with The Maine Municipal Assoc in Augusta. I can assist in initiating contacts with that organization.

I think adding the 1500m, 3000m, 5000m, and 1-mile events on the track would be a great idea.
I think especially for Pickleball you just need to ask. There are many players who would participate if they knew more about the event and many would volunteer as well. Get a point person who is a pickleball player if you don't already have one.
I think the cost has gotten out of reach for some.
I think the people who play are the best "ambassadors"
I thought it was great that you separated the 4.0 and above
In the track and field throwing events, get rid of the open pit concept and go back to age bracket groups throwing at specific times and actually competing against each other (versus just showing up any time at the throw ring and throwing without competition)
Just keep offering good venues for each sport
Keep adjusting to changes!
Keep advertising thru the ME TV and radio media
Keep going with what you are doing.
keep in touch
Keep including summer residents
Keep it competitive but non-competitive if that makes sense. The games should be fun.
Keep running different events with professionalism
Keep the website updated.
Keep up the communications. Doin' good.
keep up the good work
Keep up the good work
Keep us better informed about dates, times and locations
List the tournament in pickleballbrackets.com to reach a wider audience.
local tv media
Lower costs, don't worry about gift bags
Maine residents only.
Maintain playing divisions by age and skill level
Make them feel wanted and part of the team Contact sport clubs and associations
Maybe post the Maine Senior Games schedule (with contact information/website) in locker rooms of gyms/fitness facilities.
Modernize the look and brand of the MSG to reach younger, 45+ people.
more information on social media and reaching out to clubs/organizations the promote the sports
More media notifications and articles
more promotional information

more public visibility and presence

More publicity via social media for events, more organized welcome and introduction in the morning and after play, ie. where to go what to do next, what to expect - it was hard to get acclimated as a new participant on a new course — explain qualifying process for NSG — and better lunch

More publicity, esp. to younger audience. Example: Honoring 207 at the Indiana game this season. Pamphlets at rec centers, Ys, gyms, track meets, etc.

My husband and I are very active in the Portland ten-pin bowling community, For the last few years, with the exception of 2023, Jo Dill has sent me flyers to distribute to my leagues, and the other leagues at Spare Time Recreation on Riverside St. in Portland. I didn't receive any this past year, nor did I ask for any, since I was away for most of the summer preceding the Games, and didn't participate in my summer league, plus both my husband and I had Covid right around the time of the Ten Pin Event in Augusta. This year I would gladly distribute flyers at Spare Time during the whole summer before the 2024 ten-pin event. I can't begin to count the # of people who commented on the fact that they would have entered the event in '23 if they had seen the flyers as they had in years before. Please contact me later in the spring, and send me a couple dozen flyers, and hopefully the turnout at the Augusta games will be back to its former self...and maybe there will be even more entrants!

My problem is there are no events in the Belfast area..

Newspaper articles before states and newspaper results in the local papers.
I remember years ago going through the newspaper results.

Not conflicting with other state's games

Nothing to add, you do an amazing job organizing and promoting

Offer a pool for transportation

Offer both the 5K and 10K time trials and 20K and 40K road race cycling events as was done a few years ago. It provides more opportunity to qualify for the National Games.

Offering both distances of TTs (5 and 10K) and both distances of road races (20 and 40K)

Old boys network

Only concern is the number of very highly ranked pickleball players playing against low rated players. The partner I played with in the Maine Sr Games (where we never won a match) just won our age group at Pictona in Florida. If you separate by skill level, you will get many more participants.

Part of older adult community

People who do not have any intention of going to the nationals, should indicate this right up front. In other words, if somebody has no intent, they should not take away a spot from someone would like to participate in the nationals. Realizing that some people cannot go to the extreme of traveling, if they receive a medal, they should keep it. However, participation in a nationals should go to the next one in line. This is only my opinion.

Perhaps have a social event in different areas of state so folks could stay in touch with each other and have something other than the athletic event to look forward to.

Perhaps reach out to Community Centers with posters etc announcing activities in advance.

Pickleballbrackets.com

Please share any suggestions that you have to help us retain participants and volunteers.

Post information at local libraries; and do some presentations there.

Posters at sites where people work out like all the YMCAs - you probably do that. Poster or notices on Town bulletin boards.

Provide air conditioning in summer—we are old and not having it is a dangerous health hazard!

Put archery back to the traditional dates at the end of August when schedules aren't as busy with other conflicting archery events

Quarterly social events

schedule them in cool weather, e.g. mid-fall; do some winter games, e.g. X-C skiing

Share the golf scores and respond when contacted

Show results from past years

So far everything is working out fine and its well organized

St. Joseph's is a great venue. Restroom access is key. Please keep the 4 x 100 relay.

Stay consistent in everything you do.

Swag is always appreciated. Volunteers might come from young people sports teams or civic groups.

The swimming gig is pretty good, well organized and pleasant volunteers.

There's a trade-off between growth and being too big and to many things to too many people; beware.

Utilize all news media for information about the Games--both local and national

Very well motivated already

Volunteers at various events

Volunteers very helpful, friendly and knowledgeable. Even if they do not initially know the answer to a question they try and find out.

Wider advertising.

Wider publicity about sr games

Work with other groups that have 50+ age members/participants. MOAC, Casco Bay Bike Club, AARP, Trek Across Maine, country clubs, gyms, running groups, etc.

you are doing a good job ... maybe a youth elixir

You are doing fine.

You do a good job

You guys do a great job.

You guys rock.

You have done well