

# Coach Code of Conduct Agreement



The Coaches Code of Conduct Agreement is designed to assist the coach in abiding by the mission and philosophy of Special Olympics. In return, coaches are treated with respect and openness and have access to self-improvement training opportunities.

The area management team or area training team will review any coach who does not follow the Code of Conduct Agreement. Refer to the Appeals Process in the SIG for further clarification. The Code of Conduct Agreement will be valid as long as the coach remains certified.

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being in Special Olympics.
  - Within the context of the activity, treat everyone equally regardless of gender, ethnic origin, religion or ability.
2. Ensure the athlete's time spent with Special Olympics is a positive experience.
3. Treat each athlete as an individual.
  - Respect the skills, developmental stage and goals of each athlete.
  - Ensure all athletes are provided appropriate training opportunities.
  - Be fair, considerate and honest with athletes.
  - Ensure that accurate scores are provided for entry of an athlete into an event at all times.
  - Instruct all athletes to perform to the best of their ability at all preliminaries/heats and finals in accordance with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules and National Governing Body Rules.
4. Be professional in and accept responsibility for your actions.
  - Language, manners, punctuality, preparation and presentation should display high standards.
  - Display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved in the sport (athletes, coaches, opponents, officials, administrators, parents, spectators, media, volunteers, etc.).
  - Encourage athletes to demonstrate the same qualities.
  - No consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs is permitted while representing Special Olympics at training, competition or while supervising athletes. Use of tobacco products is permitted only in designated areas away from the field of play.
5. Provide a quality service to your athletes.
  - Seek continual improvement through performance evaluation and ongoing coach's education.
  - Provide a planned training program.
  - Maintain medical, training and competition records for each athlete.
6. Operate within the rules and spirit of Special Olympics.
  - Special Olympics Sports Rules, National Governing Body Rules and the policies and procedures of the SOTX Information Guide should be followed.
7. Refrain from any form of abuse toward athletes and others.
  - This includes verbal, physical and emotional abuse.
  - Be alert to any form of abuse from other sources directed toward your athletes while in your care.
8. Provide a safe environment for training and competition.
  - Ensure that the equipment and facilities are safe to use.
  - Equipment, rules, training and the environment need to be appropriate for the age and ability of the athletes.
  - Ensure first aid is available or accessible during all trainings and competitions.
9. Know each athlete's medical background.
  - Encourage athletes to seek medical advice when required.
  - Athletes' safety, health and welfare should always take precedence over competition.
  - Allow further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.
10. Be a positive role model for your athletes and your sport.

I, *(print name)* \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree to the terms of the Coach Code of Conduct Agreement stated above.

Signature	Area	Date
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