

**Special Olympics GB
Volunteer Code of Conduct V5**

Special Olympics GB
Office Use Only
Registration Number:

Special Olympics is committed to the highest ideals of sport and expects all coaches to honour Sport and Special Olympics. All Special Olympics volunteers agree to observe the following code:

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of athletes, coaches, other volunteers, friends and spectators in Special Olympics.
- I will treat everyone equally regardless of gender, ethnic origin, religion or ability.
- I will be a positive role model for athletes.

ENSURE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

- I will ensure that for each athlete I work with, the time spent with Special Olympics is positive.
- I will respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each athlete.
- I will ensure each athlete competes in events that challenge that athlete's potential and are appropriate to that athlete's ability.
- I will be fair, considerate and honest with athletes and communicate with athletes using simple, clear language.

ACT PROFESSIONALLY AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY ACTIONS

- My language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation will demonstrate high standards.
- I will display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved in the sport (athletes, coaches, opponents, officials, administrators, parents, spectators, media, etc.).
- I will encourage athletes to demonstrate the same qualities.
- I will not drink alcohol, smoke or take illegal drugs while representing Special Olympics at training sessions or during competition.
- I will refrain from any form of personal abuse towards athletes and others, including verbal, physical and emotional abuse.
- I will be alert to any form of abuse from other sources directed toward athletes in my care.

SPORTS COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

- I will seek continual improvement through performance evaluation and ongoing coach education
- I will be knowledgeable about the Sports Rules and skills of the sport (s) I coach.
- I will provide a planned training programme.
- I will follow the Special Olympics, the International Federation and the National Federation/Governing Body rules for my sport(s).
- I will ensure that accurate scores are provided for entry of an athlete into any event. I will instruct each athlete to perform to the best of the athlete's ability at all preliminary competition and finals competition in accordance with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules.

HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE ATHLETES

- I understand that I have to show a reasonable Duty of Care towards athletes for whom I am responsible.
- I will ensure that the equipment and facilities are safe to use.
- I will ensure that the equipment, rules, training and the environment are appropriate for the age and ability of the athletes.
- I will review each athlete's medical form and be aware of any limitations on that athlete's participation noted on that form.
- I will encourage athletes to seek medical advice when required.
- I will maintain the same interest and support towards sick and injured athletes.
- I will allow further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.

I understand that if I violate this Code of Conduct, I will be subject to a range of consequences, up to and including being prohibited from being a volunteer for Special Olympics.

SIGNED: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Please return completed form to:

Special Olympics GB, National Volunteer Office, Jeffersons Business Centre, 6 South Bar, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX16 9AA

DATA PROTECTION

The information given in this form will be kept by Special Olympics GB in accordance with the Data Protection Act. Special Olympics GB may, from time to time, make this information available to a third party to enable us provide you with the information, service or goods you need. Such a third party would be either an international Special Olympics programme, or an organisation endorsed by and authorised to act on behalf of Special Olympics GB.