



## VOLUNTEER CODE OF CONDUCT

Special Olympics is committed to the highest ideals of sport and expects all supporters and participants in Special Olympics programs and activities to honor sport and Special Olympics and are required to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of athletes, coaches, volunteers, family members, employees and supporters of Special Olympics.
- I will provide for the general welfare, health and safety of all the Special Olympics athletes and others during the course of any assigned duties.
- I will maintain high standards of moral and ethical conduct that includes self-control and responsible behavior.
- I will display courtesy and good manners to others.
- I will refrain from profane and abusive language, disruptive behavior and behavior that is dangerous to self and others including acts of violence, physical, emotional or sexual abuse, or harassment.
- I will abide by the Special Olympics policy on the prohibition of dating athletes.
- I will abstain from transport, storage and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages and illegal substances when responsible for the safety and well-being of athletes.
- I will only smoke in designated areas and not while at a Special Olympics training or competition.
- I will abide by the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules.
- I will abide by the Special Olympics Official General Rules.

### General Principles

**PRINCIPLE A: COMPETENCE** I will strive to maintain high standards of excellence in my work. I will recognize the boundaries of my particular competencies and the limitations of my expertise. I will provide only those services and use only those techniques for which I am qualified by education, training, or experience. In those areas in which my personal knowledge does not exist, I will exercise careful judgment and take appropriate precautions to protect the welfare of those with whom I work, the athlete.

**PRINCIPLE B: INTEGRITY** I will be honest, fair, and respectful of others. I will strive to be aware of my own belief systems, values, needs, and limitations and the effect of these with whom I work. To the extent feasible, I will attempt to clarify for relevant parties the roles they are performing and to function appropriately in accordance with those roles. I will avoid improper and potentially harmful dual relationships.

**PRINCIPLE C: PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY** I will uphold the standards of conduct, clarify the roles and obligations, accept appropriate responsibility for behavior, and adapt my methods to the needs of different athletes. I will consult with, refer to, or cooperate with others to the extent needed to serve the best interest of their athletes, or other recipients of their services. My moral standards and conduct are personal matters to the same degree as is true of any other person, except when my conduct may compromise my coaching responsibilities.

**PRINCIPLE D: RESPECT FOR PARTICIPANTS AND DIGNITY** I will respect the fundamental rights, dignity, and worth of all participants. I will be aware of cultural, individual, and role differences, including those due to age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, and socioeconomic status.

**PRINCIPLE E: CONCERN FOR OTHERS' WELFARE** I will seek to contribute to the welfare of those with whom I interact. In my actions, I will consider the welfare and rights of their athletes and other participants. When conflicts occur among my obligations or concerns, I will attempt to resolve these conflicts and to perform my role in a responsible fashion that avoids or minimizes harm.



**PRINCIPLE F: RESPONSIBLE COACHING** I am aware to their responsibilities to the community and the society in which I work and live.

I understand that if I do not obey this Code of Conduct, I will be subject to a range of consequences by Special Olympics up to and including termination from Special Olympics activities.

---

Signature of Volunteer Date

---

SOSC Representative Date