

SPECIAL OLYMPICS FAMILY MEMBER'S AND CAREGIVER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Special Olympics is committed to the highest ideals of sport and expects all family members to honor Sport and Special Olympics. All Special Olympics family members agree to observe the following code:

- I will let my athlete or Unified partner choose the sports and events in which he/she would like to participate. I will not force my choice upon him/her.
- I will remember that athletes and Unified® partners participate to have fun and that the game/event is for them, not the family members.
- I will respect the role and authority of all coaches, officials and other Special Olympics personnel and treat them in a professional and supportive manner.
- I will learn the rules of the sport/event and the SOMD policies.
- I will abide by the communication processes that are put in place for me, as a family member, to receive the information I need to support my athlete's or Unified® partner's participation.
- I understand that I play a vital role in the health and safety of my athlete's or Unified® partner's participation and I have a responsibility to assist Special Olympics in providing for the health and safety of all athletes and Unified partners, by reporting suspicious behavior, talking to my athlete or Unified® partner about personal safety, dropping off and picking up my athlete or Unified® partner from Special Olympics events at the times designated by the organization (not excessively earlier or later than said established times), and any and all other reasonable measures to assist in the protection of Special Olympics athletes and Unified® partners.
- I (and my guests) will never engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct, such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language and gestures, with any official, coach, athlete, Unified® partner or family member.
- I will praise my athlete or Unified® partner for competing fairly and trying hard, and I will make my athlete or Unified® partner feel like a winner every time. I will never ridicule or yell at my athlete or Unified® partner, or other participants, for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes and Unified® partners ahead of any personal desire that I may have for my athlete or Unified® partner to win.
- I will not smoke or use vaping products (e-cigarettes, etc.) in non-smoking areas, including all Special Olympics training and competition venues.
- I will not use or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs (including cannabis products) while participating or attending Special Olympics training sessions or competitions.
- I will refrain from coaching my athlete or Unified® partner, or other athletes or Unified® partners, during competitions and practices if I am not the assigned coach.