

Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement

Special Olympics reaches for the highest ideals of sport just like the Olympic Games. The Special Olympics Athlete Oath is: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." All Special Olympics athletes repeat these words before each competition. The oath is a pledge, or promise, to try to achieve the highest level of good sportsmanship at training and competition. As a Special Olympics athlete, I understand and pledge that:

Sportsmanship

- I will practice good sportsmanship.
- I will act in ways that bring respect to me, my coaches, my team, my family and Special Olympics.
- I will respect other athletes, volunteers, officials and coaches by not swearing at them, using foul language, or demonstrating inappropriate gestures or actions.
- I will demonstrate good behavior and actions with other athletes, coaches, volunteers, officials and staff.

Training and Competition

- I will train regularly.
- I will learn and follow the rules of my sport.
- I will listen and ask questions when I do not understand.
- I will always try my best during training, divisioning and competitions.
- I will not "hold back" in preliminaries just to get into an easier final heat.

Personal Responsibility

- I will not make inappropriate or unwanted physical, verbal, or sexual advances on others.
- I will use tobacco products only in designated areas away from the field of play and will not share or encourage others to use tobacco products with me.
- I will not drink alcohol or use illegal drugs while representing Special Olympics at events, trainings or competitions.
- I will not take drugs for the purpose of improving my performance.
- I will obey all laws and Special Olympics rules.

Do You Understand the Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement?

By signing below, I am saying that:

- I have read (or have had read to me) this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I agree to obey this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I understand the words and meaning of this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I understand that this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement is a general guide for my conduct and does not describe all types of good and bad behavior.
- I understand that my future participation in Special Olympics activities could be affected if I do not obey this Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I understand and agree to follow the Special Olympics Athlete's Grievance Procedures if I wish to appeal my punishment. My coach or a member of the Games Organizing Committee will explain the steps I must follow.

I, (Print Name) _____, do hereby agree to the terms _____ of the Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement stated above.

Athlete Signature Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____