



PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in Special Olympics is both an honor and a privilege. Special Olympics Michigan adheres to the highest ideals of sport in the tradition of the Olympic movement.

I pledge that:

Sportsmanship

- I will practice and instruct the athletes to have good sportsmanship and act in ways that will bring respect to the athletes, my team, Special Olympics and me.
- I will not use abusive language or behavior towards other persons. I will be a good role model and have a positive attitude.
- Keep in mind the Special Olympics oath and remember that winning is not the emphasis of Special Olympics competition.
- Allow coaches to do the coaching. Please refrain from shouting instructions to athletes.
- Stay out of the competition areas. Only registered coaches, athletes and officials should be in the playing area.
- Let the coaches coach the players—please refrain from shouting instructions

Personal Responsibility

- I will teach my athlete that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my athlete will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- I will not make inappropriate or unwanted physical, verbal or sexual advances on others.
- I will not drink alcohol or use illegal drugs at Special Olympics events.
- I will not smoke or vape in non-smoking areas or at Special Olympics events.
- I will obey all federal, state, and local laws and Special Olympics rules
- I will always hold the athletes' well-being and safety as my utmost responsibility.

I understand that participation in Special Olympics is an honor and a privilege. I pledge to uphold the spirit of this Code of Conduct, which is only a general guide for my conduct and does not describe all types of good behavior and bad behavior. If I do not obey this Code of Conduct, my Program or a Games Organizing Committee may suspend me from Special Olympics, either temporarily or permanently. If I am suspended from Special Olympics, I can appeal the decision in accordance with the attached Special Olympics Appeal Process.

By signing below, I am saying that I have read, or have had read to me, Code of Conduct and that I agree to obey this Code of Conduct. If I violate this Code of Conduct and disagree with my punishment, I agree to follow the Special Olympics Appeal Process and I will accept their decision as final.

Parent/Guardian Name

Date

Athlete Name

DISCIPLINARY STEPS FOR VIOLATING PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

The following progressive disciplinary steps may be taken with the program beginning at whichever step is deemed appropriate under the circumstances by the Area Director.

- Step 1** Verbal warning to the parent/guardian with a written copy of the Incident Form to the Area Director.
- Step 2** A written Incident Report must be completed giving warning to the parent/guardian with a copy to the Area Director.
- Step 3** The Area Director will conduct a personal meeting with the parent/guardian to review unacceptable behavior and to agree on a plan for improvement.
- The meeting will be documented in writing and copies distributed to the Area Director and state office.
- Step 4** Suspension from Special Olympics practices and events for a specific time period.
- The Area Director will discuss the circumstances and must approve/disapprove the action. The action will be documented in writing and presented to the parent/guardian and a copy will be sent to the state office.
- Any further action must be referred to the Area Director. The Area Director and program staff member responsible for Area Management will approve any further action to be taken.
- Further action could be, but is not limited to:
- Suspension for a longer period
 - Permanent expulsion

PARENT/SPECTATOR APPEAL PROCESS

The parent/guardian has the right to appeal any disciplinary action to the Area Director. The parent/guardian must submit a written notice of appeal, with a copy to the Area Director and to the President/CEO of Special Olympics Michigan. This notice must include a request for a meeting within 30 days of being notified of the disciplinary action.

The appeal will be heard by the SOMI Grievance Committee, made up of staff, board members, area management and athlete representation. A decision must be rendered in writing within 21 days following the meeting and may reverse, amend or affirm the disciplinary action. The decision shall be submitted to the parent/guardian and to the Area Program and should include, if applicable, a plan of action for the parent/guardian to correct the unacceptable behavior that led to the disciplinary action.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS MICHIGAN
CODE OF CONDUCT INCIDENT REPORT**

Incident date: _____ Report date: _____

Name of person(s) involved: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Place where incident occurred: _____

Time of incident: _____

Were there any witnesses to the incident? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, who were they? Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

If athletes were involved were parent/guardians notified? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Was the group/care home notified? ☐ YES ☐ NO

When were they notified? _____ How? _____

Is the athlete his or her own legal guardian? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Description of the incident/accident: _____

Describe any physical injuries: _____

Was treatment necessary? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Describe treatment in detail: _____

Name of attending physician or medical personnel: _____

Name of person making the report: _____

Position: _____

Action taken by Area: _____

Follow-up: _____

Additional comments: _____

