

## **Volunteer Code of Conduct**

As a Special Olympics volunteer, I agree to the following:

### **RESPECT FOR OTHERS**

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of athletes, Unified partners, coaches, other volunteers, and spectators in Special Olympics.
- I will treat everyone equally regardless of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity origin, national origin, religion, or ability, or any other characteristic.
- I will be a positive role model for all participants.

### **ACT PROFESSIONALLY AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY ACTIONS**

- I will ensure my language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation will demonstrate high standards.
- I will display control, respect, dignity and professionalism at all times. I will encourage others to demonstrate the same qualities.
- I will not engage in any form of verbal, physical, psychological, emotional or sexual abuse, unwanted sexual advances, or harassing, bullying or hazing behavior in person, via telecommunications, or via any other form of electronic communication, including, but not limited to texting and social media. This includes the exchange or transmission of inappropriate language, derogatory comments or slurs, and/or inappropriate images of a sexual or violent nature.
- I understand all telephonic and electronic communications between myself and any other participant must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about Special Olympics activities, and I will always make best efforts for a third party to be included on communications so that one-on-one communications are avoided whenever possible.
- I will inform my Special Olympics Program leadership immediately should I be subject to such behavior or abuse from another participant and/or if I become aware of such behavior occurring amongst others.
- I will be alert to any form of abuse from other sources directed toward athletes in my care and will immediately report any incidents or concerns to my Special Olympics Program leadership.
- I will ensure I am aware of any applicable law(s) which classifies me as a mandatory reporter. I am aware that I am obligated to report abuse or suspected abuse, regardless of whether laws omit me as a mandatory reporter. I will consult with my Special Olympics Program leadership for guidance, as needed.
- I will abide by the Special Olympics policy on the prohibition of volunteers dating athletes.

- I will not drink or possess alcohol, smoke (tobacco products, e-cigarette devices), or possess or consume recreational cannabis or cannabis-based products, or take illegal drugs while representing Special Olympics or participating in Special Olympics activities.
- I will obey all laws where I am participating, and Special Olympics rules.

## **GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ATHLETES**

- I will provide for the general welfare, health and safety of all Special Olympics participants and fellow volunteers.
- I will follow the established rules and guidelines of Special Olympics and/or any agency involved with Special Olympics.
- I will follow the emergency / crisis communications procedures set forth by my Special Olympics Program.
- I will exercise extreme caution, discretion and care with any documents, material or devices, containing confidential information.