

COLUMBUS SCHOOLS SPECIAL OLYMPICS CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS

The main goal of the Columbus Schools Special Olympics program volunteer is to provide a safe environment in which athletes train and compete in a quality sports program. Another important goal of the program is to provide every volunteer (coach, chaperon, unified partner, etc.) the opportunity to grow mentally, morally, and emotionally. To assure that the program can provide these opportunities, a degree of self motivation and self discipline is necessary from each volunteer. Self discipline involves compliance with rules and regulations concerning personal behavior.

Rules promote order and safety, and assist athletes to reach their performance potential. It must also be remembered that participation as a Special Olympics volunteer is not a right but a privilege that may be regulated. Listed below are the expectations for all volunteers.

CONDUCT REQUIREMENTS:

/ All volunteers will know the purpose and philosophy of Special Olympics (copies available from Special Olympics office).

/ Special Olympics volunteers are models whose behavior serves as a positive example for the Special Olympics athletes.

/ The volunteers verbal and physical behavior will reflect a positive and constructive attitude toward Special Olympics competition and toward those volunteers, coaches, officials, and event directors whose time and efforts provide competitive opportunity.

/ The Special Olympics coach is one who has succeeded in tempering his/her own competitive urges and desires for success in order to assure that the fairest and most positive experience is realized by all persons involved.

/ Only when necessary for safety reasons may an athlete be physically restrained and only by coaches and/or volunteers who have received proper physical restraint training. At no time should foul language or physical punishment be used towards an athlete.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

/ Along with the Special Olympics coordinator, the coach accepts the responsibility for the behavior of his/her athletes, parents, and spectators both in and out of the competitive arena while attending a Special Olympics event.

/ When notified of training schools that will benefit my role as a volunteer, I will make an effort to attend.

/ When accepting the responsibility of a coach I will attend practices and events to the best of my ability. If I cannot attend a practice and/or event I will notify the head coach.

/ When accepting the responsibility of a chaperone, I will keep the athletes safe at all times.

/ When participating as a unified partner, I will respect all athletes and encourage the building of friendships with one another. I will participate as an equal teammate by following all rules and procedures and serve as a positive role model for the program and everyone involved.

/ All volunteers should be aware athletes respond best when organization and planning is evident and tasks are being accomplished.

