

# **SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW JERSEY**

## **CODES OF CONDUCT**

### **SPECIAL OLYMPICS COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

#### **RESPECT FOR OTHERS**

*I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of athletes, coaches, other volunteers, friends and spectators in Special Olympics.*

*I will treat everyone equally regardless of sex, ethnic origin, religion or ability.*

*I will be a positive role model for the athletes I coach.*

#### **ENSURE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE**

*I will ensure that for each athlete I coach, the time spent with Special Olympics is positive.*

*I will respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each athlete.*

*I will ensure each athlete competes in events that challenge that athlete's potential and are appropriate to that athlete's ability.*

*I will be fair, considerate and honest with athletes and communicate with athletes using simple, clear language.*

*I will ensure that accurate scores are provided for entry of an athlete into any event.*

*I will instruct each athlete to perform to the best of the athlete's ability at all preliminaries, heats and finals in accordance with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules.*

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

*My language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation will demonstrate high standards.*

*I will display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved in the sport (athletes, coaches, opponents, officials, administrators, parents, spectators, media, etc.).*

*I will encourage athletes to demonstrate the same qualities.*

*I will not drink alcohol, smoke or take illegal drugs while representing Special Olympics at training sessions, during overnight stays or during competition.*

*I will refrain from any form of personal abuse towards athletes and others, including verbal, physical and emotional abuse.*

*I will be alert to any form of abuse from other sources directed toward athletes in my care.*

#### **QUALITY SERVICE TO THE ATHLETES**

*I will seek continual improvement through performance evaluation and ongoing coach education.*

*I will be knowledgeable about the Sports Rules and skills of the sport(s) I coach.*

*I will provide a planned training program.*

*I will keep copies of the medical, training and competition records for each athlete I coach.*

*I will follow the Special Olympics and the National Governing Body rules for my sport(s).*

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE ATHLETES**

*I will ensure that the equipment and facilities are safe to use.*

*I will ensure that the equipment, rules, training and the environment are appropriate for the age and ability of the athletes.*

*I will review each athlete's medical form and be aware of any limitations on that athlete's participation noted on that form.*

*I will encourage athletes to seek medical advice when required.*

*I will maintain the same interest and support towards sick and injured athletes.*

*I will allow further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.*

I understand that if I violate this Code of Conduct I will be subject to a range of consequences, up to being prohibited from coaching in Special Olympics.