



# PARTICIPATION PACKET REQUIRED ITEMS CHECKLIST



**PLEASE NOTE:** All required boxes must be checked on this checklist in order for an athlete to be cleared for participation.

## PAGE 1: Release Form

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athlete name | <input type="checkbox"/> Athlete signature (IF OWN GUARDIAN)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Date         | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/guardian signature (IF ATHLETE NOT OWN GUARDIAN) |

## PAGE 2: Emergency Medical Care Refusal Form (Athlete Completion) **OR** PAGE 3: Emergency Medical Care Refusal Form (Parent/Guardian Completion)

- ☐ \*Required **ONLY IF** the athlete or the parent/guardian of the athlete checks either box in item 4 on the Release Form.

## PAGE 4: Athlete Medical Form - Health History (Completed by athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver)

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athlete first and last name | <input type="checkbox"/> Address |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Date of birth               | <input type="checkbox"/> Gender  |

## PAGE 5: Athlete Medical Form - Health History (Completed by athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosed with any listed conditions OR list of current medications | <input type="checkbox"/> Relationship to athlete of person completing form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Name of person completing form                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone OR email of person completing form          |

## PAGE 6: Athlete Medical Form - Physical Exam (Completed by a medical professional ONLY)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner has entered ANY medical physical information | <input type="checkbox"/> Date of exam                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner clears athlete for participation             | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendations*               |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner signature/stamp       |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone, email, AND/OR license # |

## PAGE 7: Athlete Medical Form - Medical Referral Form (Completed by a medical professional ONLY)

- ☐ \* Required **ONLY IF** the athlete is not cleared as per the recommendations section on the Athlete Medical Form - Physical Exam page.

## PAGE 8: Communicable Diseases Waiver

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athlete name | <input type="checkbox"/> Athlete signature (IF OWN GUARDIAN)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Date         | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/guardian signature (IF ATHLETE NOT OWN GUARDIAN) |

Please make a copy of each page to keep for yourself before submission. Please submit the original copy. Thank you for your interest in Special Olympics New Jersey!

REVISED 07.27.2022

# RELEASE FORM

**Special Olympics**  
New Jersey



I want to take part in Special Olympics and agree to the following:

1. **Able to Participate.** I am able to take part in Special Olympics. I know there is a risk of injury.
2. **Photo Release.** Special Olympics organizations may use my picture, video, name, voice, and words to promote Special Olympics.
3. **Overnight Stay.** For some events, I may stay in a hotel or someone's home. If I have questions, I will ask.
4. **Emergency Care.** If I am unable, or my guardian is unavailable, to make medical decisions in an emergency, I authorize Special Olympics to seek medical care on my behalf, unless I check one of these boxes:
  - ☐ I have a religious or other objection to receiving medical treatment.
  - ☐ I do not consent to blood transfusions.**(If either box is checked, an EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE REFUSAL FORM must be completed.)**
5. **Health Programs.** If I take part in a health program, I consent to health activities, exams, and treatment. This should not replace regular health care. I can say no to treatment or anything else any time.
6. **Personal Information.** I understand my information may be used and shared by Special Olympics to:
  - Make sure I am eligible and can participate safely;
  - Run trainings and events and share results;
  - Put my information in a computer system;
  - Provide health treatment, make referrals, consult doctors, and remind me about follow-up services;
  - Research, share, and respond to needs of Special Olympics athletes (identifying information removed if shared publically); and
  - Protect health and safety, respond to government requests, and report information required by law.I can ask to see and change my information.
7. **Concussions.** I understand the risk of concussions and continuing to play sports with a concussion. I may have to get medical care if I have a suspected concussion. I also may have to wait 7 days or more and get permission from a doctor before I start playing sports again.

**ATHLETE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATHLETE SIGNATURE** (required for athlete over 18 years old with capacity to sign legal documents)

I have read and understand this release. If I have questions, I will ask. By signing, I agree to this form.

Athlete Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE** (required for athlete under 18 years old or lacking capacity to sign legal documents)

I am a parent or guardian of the Athlete. I have read and understand this form and have explained the contents to the Athlete as appropriate. By signing, I agree to this form on my own behalf and on behalf of the Athlete.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE REFUSAL FORM



### ATHLETE COMPLETION

**(To be completed by athlete signing on own behalf)**

**If an athlete is not his/her own guardian, please complete Page 3 instead.**

**Instructions:** Only complete this form if you **do not consent to emergency medical care** on religious or other grounds and have checked a box under the Emergency Care provision on the Release Form.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a Special Olympics Athlete with capacity to sign documents on my own behalf and agree to the following:

1. **No Consent to Emergency Medical Care.** I understand that Special Olympics' standard registration form requires athletes or their parents or guardians to consent to emergency medical care for the athlete if needed in an emergency. Based on religious beliefs or other reasons I am not consenting to emergency medical care.

**YOU MUST CHECK THE BOX AND WRITE YOUR INITIALS NEXT TO ONE STATEMENT TO CONFIRM YOUR INTENT:**

- ☐ **I DO NOT CONSENT TO ANY KIND OF MEDICAL TREATMENT, EVEN IN A LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY.** INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ **I DO NOT CONSENT TO BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS, EVEN IN A LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY. I CONSENT TO ALL OTHER KINDS OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE.** INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Printed Instructions.** I agree to carry printed instructions that describe my religious or other objections to medical treatment and how I wish Special Olympics to respond if I get sick or hurt and cannot speak for myself. I agree to carry these printed instructions with me at all times during my participation in any Special Olympics activity, including during meal times, in overnight accommodations, at training sessions and competitions, and during travel to and from Special Olympics activities.
  3. **Friend or Family Accompaniment.** I understand that I must be accompanied by an adult friend or family member in order for that person can take personal responsibility for me during a medical emergency where I am unable to speak for myself.
  4. **Emergency Medical Care If Athlete Is Not Accompanied.** I understand that, if I am not carrying the printed instructions **or** the accompanying adult is not present and actively taking personal responsibility for me during a medical emergency where I am unable to speak for myself, Special Olympics may seek emergency medical care for me as recommended by medical professionals responding to the emergency.
  5. **Liability Release.** I release Special Olympics, its employees, and its volunteers from all claims that may arise out of taking or failing to take measures to provide me with emergency medical care. I am agreeing to this release because I have refused, knowingly and voluntarily, to give Special Olympics permission to take emergency measures, and I am expressly withholding consent to emergency medical care on religious or other grounds.

**I have read and understand this release. By signing, I agree to this release.**

Athlete Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**By signing, I agree to accompany the Athlete during Special Olympics activities and take personal responsibility for the Athlete during an emergency. I understand the extent to which the Athlete does not consent to emergency medical care and agree to act in accordance with the Athlete's wishes as I understand them.**

Signature of Accompanying Adult: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE REFUSAL FORM



PARENT OR GUARDIAN COMPLETION

**(To be completed by parent or guardian of athlete who is under 18 years old or otherwise has a legal guardian)**

**Instructions:** Only complete this form if you **do not consent to emergency medical care** on religious or other grounds and have checked a box under the Emergency Care provision on the Release Form.

I am the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Athlete") and agree to the following:

1. **No Consent to Emergency Medical Care.** I understand that Special Olympics' standard registration form requires athletes or their parents or guardians to consent to emergency medical care for the athlete if needed in an emergency. Based on religious beliefs or other reasons I am not consenting to emergency medical care as follows.

**YOU MUST CHECK THE BOX AND WRITE YOUR INITIALS NEXT TO ONE STATEMENT TO CONFIRM YOUR INTENT:**

- ☐ **I DO NOT CONSENT TO ANY KIND OF MEDICAL TREATMENT, EVEN IN A LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY. INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_**
- ☐ **I DO NOT CONSENT TO BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS, EVEN IN A LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY. I CONSENT TO ALL OTHER KINDS OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE. INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_**
2. **Accompaniment of Athlete.** I understand that I must be present in order to take personal responsibility for the Athlete if any medical treatment is to be refused on the athlete's behalf in a medical emergency arises. This includes during meal times, in overnight accommodations, at training sessions and competitions, and during travel to and from Special Olympics activities.
  3. **Emergency Medical Care If Athlete Is Not Accompanied.** I understand that, if I am not present and actively taking personal responsibility for the Athlete during a medical emergency, Special Olympics will seek emergency medical care for the athlete as recommended by medical professionals responding to the emergency.
  4. **Liability Release.** On behalf of myself and the Athlete, I release Special Olympics, its employees, and its volunteers from all claims that may arise out of taking or failing to take measures to provide the Athlete with emergency medical care. I am agreeing to this release because I have refused, knowingly and voluntarily, to give Special Olympics permission to take emergency measures, and I am expressly withholding consent to emergency medical care on religious or other grounds.

**I am authorized to enter into this Release on the Athlete's behalf. I have read and understand this release and have explained the contents to the Athlete as appropriate. By signing, I agree that this Release shall be binding upon me, the Athlete, and our respective heirs and legal representatives.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

# Athlete Medical Form – HEALTH HISTORY

(to be completed by athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver)



## AREA:

75 @TF5-B-B; DFC; F5A:

### ATHLETE INFORMATION

First Name: Middle Name:

Last Name:

Date Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): Female: Male:

Address (Street):

Address (City, State, Zip):

Phone: Cell:

E-mail:

Eye color: Ethnicity: (optional)

Athlete Employer, if any:

I am my own guardian. Yes No

#### Does the athlete have (check any that apply):

Autism Down syndrome Fragile X Syndrome

Cerebral Palsy Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

Other syndrome, please specify:

#### Is the athlete allergic to any of the following (please list):

Latex No Known Allergies

Medications:

Insect Bites or Stings:

Food:

#### List any special dietary needs:

#### List all past surgeries:

#### Does the athlete currently have any chronic or acute infection?

No Yes If yes, please describe:

#### Has the athlete ever had an abnormal Electrocardiogram (EKG) or Echocardiogram (Echo)? If yes, select below and describe

Yes, had abnormal EKG Yes, had abnormal Echo

### PARENT

### GUARDIAN INFORMATION (if not own guardian)

Name:

Phone:

Cell:

E-mail:

Emergency Contact Name:

Same as Above:

Emergency Contact Phone (cell):

Emergency Contact Relationship:

Does the athlete have a primary care physician?

Yes

No

If yes, list.

Physician Name:

Physician  
Phone:

Insurance Policy (Company and Number):

Does the athlete have any objections to emergency medical care?

No

Yes

If yes, contact your local Program to get the Emergency Care Refusal Form.

#### List any sports the athlete wishes to play:

#### Has a doctor ever limited the athlete's participation in sports?

No

Yes

If yes, please describe:

#### Does the athlete use (check any that apply):

Brace

Colostomy

Communication Device

C-PAP Machine

Crutches or Walker

Dentures

Glasses or Contacts

G-Tube or J-Tube

Hearing Aid

Implanted Device

Inhaler

Pacemaker

Removable Prosthetics

Splint

Wheel Chair

Has the athlete had a Tetanus vaccine in the past 7 years?

No

Yes

#### FAMILY HISTORY

Has any relative died of a heart problem before age 50?

No

Yes

Has any family member or relative died while exercising?

No

Yes

List all medical conditions that run in the athlete's family:

# Athlete Medical Form – HEALTH HISTORY

(to be completed by athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver)



**Athlete's Name:**

## HAS THE ATHLETE EVER BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH OR EXPERIENCED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS

Loss of Consciousness	No	Yes	High Blood Pressure	No	Yes	Stroke/TIA	No	Yes
Dizziness during or after exercise	No	Yes	High Cholesterol	No	Yes	Concussions	No	Yes
Headache during or after exercise	No	Yes	Vision Impairment	No	Yes	Asthma	No	Yes
Chest pain during or after exercise	No	Yes	Hearing Impairment	No	Yes	Diabetes	No	Yes
Shortness of breath during or after exercise	No	Yes	Enlarged Spleen	No	Yes	Hepatitis	No	Yes
Irregular, racing or skipped heart beats	No	Yes	Single Kidney	No	Yes	Urinary Discomfort	No	Yes
Congenital Heart Defect	No	Yes	Osteoporosis	No	Yes	Spina Bifida	No	Yes
Heart Attack	No	Yes	Osteopenia	No	Yes	Arthritis	No	Yes
Cardiomyopathy	No	Yes	Sickle Cell Disease	No	Yes	Heat Illness	No	Yes
Heart Valve Disease	No	Yes	Sickle Cell Trait	No	Yes	Broken Bones	No	Yes
Heart Murmur	No	Yes	Easy Bleeding	No	Yes	Dislocated Joints	No	Yes
Endocarditis	No	Yes						

Difficulty controlling bowels or bladder	No	Yes	Describe any past broken bones or dislocated joints (if yes is checked for either of those fields above):		
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No	Yes			
Numbness or tingling in legs, arms, hands or feet	No	Yes			
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No	Yes			
Weakness in legs, arms, hands or feet	No	Yes	Epilepsy or any type of seizure disorder	No	Yes
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No	Yes	If yes, list seizure type:		
Burner, stinger, pinched nerve or pain in the neck, back, shoulders, arms, hands, buttocks, legs or feet	No	Yes	If yes, had seizure during the past year?	No	Yes
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No	Yes	Self-injurious behavior during the past year	No	Yes
Head Tilt	No	Yes	Aggressive behavior during the past year	No	Yes
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No	Yes	Depression (diagnosed)	No	Yes
Spasticity	No	Yes	Anxiety (diagnosed)	No	Yes
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No	Yes	Describe any additional mental health concerns:		
Paralysis	No	Yes			
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No	Yes			

**List any other ongoing or past medical conditions:**

## PLEASE LIST ANY MEDICATION, VITAMINS OR DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS BELOW (includes inhalers, birth control or hormone therapy)

Medication, Vitamin or Supplement	Dosage	Times per Day	Medication, Vitamin or Supplement	Dosage	Times per Day	Medication, Vitamin or Supplement	Dosage	Times per Day

**Is the athlete able to administer his or her own medications?** No Yes **If female athlete, list date of last menstrual period:**

**Name of Person Completing this Form**

**Relationship to Athlete**

**Phone**

**Email**

# Athlete Medical Form – PHYSICAL EXAM

(to be completed by a Medical Professional only)

**Special  
Olympics**  
New Jersey



Athlete's Name:

## MEDICAL PHYSICAL INFORMATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY EXAMINER ONLY)

Height	Weight	BMI (optional)	Temperature	Pulse	O <sub>2</sub> Sat	Blood Pressure	Vision
cm	kg	BMI	C			BP Right: BP Left:	Right Vision 20/40 or better Left Vision 20/40 or better
in	lbs	Body Fat %	F				No Yes N/A
Right Hearing (Finger Rub)	Responds	No Response	Can't Evaluate			Bowel Sounds	Yes No
Left Hearing (Finger Rub)	Responds	No Response	Can't Evaluate			Hepatomegaly	No Yes
Right Ear Canal	Clear	Cerumen	Foreign Body			Splenomegaly	No Yes
Left Ear Canal	Clear	Cerumen	Foreign Body			Abdominal Tenderness	No RUQ RLQ LUQ LLQ
Right Tympanic Membrane	Clear	Perforation	Infection	NA		Kidney Tenderness	No Right Left
Left Tympanic Membrane	Clear	Perforation	Infection	NA		Right upper extremity reflex	Normal Diminished Hyperreflexia
Oral Hygiene	Good	Fair	Poor			Left upper extremity reflex	Normal Diminished Hyperreflexia
Thyroid Enlargement	No	Yes				Right lower extremity reflex	Normal Diminished Hyperreflexia
Lymph Node Enlargement	No	Yes				Left lower extremity reflex	Normal Diminished Hyperreflexia
Heart Murmur (supine)	No	1/6 or 2/6	3/6 or greater			Abnormal Gait	No Yes, describe below
Heart Murmur (upright)	No	1/6 or 2/6	3/6 or greater			Spasticity	No Yes, describe below
Heart Rhythm	Regular	Irregular				Tremor	No Yes, describe below
Lungs	Clear	Not clear				Neck & Back Mobility	Full Not full, describe below
Right Leg Edema	No	1+ 2+ 3+ 4+				Upper Extremity Mobility	Full Not full, describe below
Left Leg Edema	No	1+ 2+ 3+ 4+				Lower Extremity Mobility	Full Not full, describe below
Radial Pulse Symmetry	Yes	R>L L>R				Upper Extremity Strength	Full Not full, describe below
Cyanosis	No	Yes, describe				Lower Extremity Strength	Full Not full, describe below
Clubbing	No	Yes, describe				Loss of Sensitivity	No Yes, describe below

## ATLANTO-AXIAL INSTABILITY (AAI)

Athlete shows **NO EVIDENCE** of neurological symptoms or physical findings associated with spinal cord compression or atlantoaxial instability.

Athlete has neurological symptoms or physical findings that could be associated with spinal cord compression or atlantoaxial instability and **must receive an additional neurological evaluation** to rule out additional risk of spinal cord injury prior to clearance for sports participation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS (TO BE COMPLETED BY EXAMINER ONLY)

Licensed Medical Examiners: It is recommended that the examiner review items on the medical history with the athlete or their guardian, prior to performing the physical exam. If an athlete needs further medical evaluation please use the Special Olympics Further Medical Evaluation Form, page 4, to provide the athlete with medical clearance..

This athlete is **ABLE** to participate in Special Olympics sports without restrictions/limitations

This athlete is **ABLE** to participate in Special Olympics sports **WITH** restrictions/limitations →

This athlete **MAY NOT participate** in Special Olympics sports at this time and **MUST** be further evaluated by a physician for the following concerns:

Concerning Cardiac Exam

Acute Infection

O<sub>2</sub> Saturation Less than 90% on Room Air

Concerning Neurological Exam

Stage II Hypertension or Greater

Hepatomegaly or Splenomegaly

Other, please describe:

## Additional Licensed Examiner's Notes and Recommended Follow-up:

Follow up with a cardiologist

Follow up with a neurologist

Follow up with a primary care physician

Follow up with a vision specialist

Follow up with a hearing specialist

Follow up with a dentist or dental hygienist

Follow up with a podiatrist

Follow up with a physical therapist

Follow up with a nutritionist

Other/Exam Notes:

Name:

E-mail:

Licensed Medical Examiner's Signature

Date of Exam

Phone:

License:

# Athlete Medical Form – MEDICAL REFERRAL FORM

(to be completed by a **Medical Professional** only if referral is needed)

**Special  
Olympics**  
New Jersey



**Athlete's Name:**

**This page only needs to be completed and signed if the physician on page three does not clear the athlete and indicates follow-up is required. Athlete should bring the previously completed pages to the appointment with the specialist.**

Examiner's Name:

Specialty:

I have examined this athlete for the following medical concern(s):  
*Please describe*

**In my professional opinion, this athlete MAY participate in Special Olympics sports (indicate restrictions or limitations below):**

**Yes, without restrictions**

**Yes, but with restrictions** *(list below)*

**No**

Additional Examiner Notes/Restrictions:

Examiner E-mail:

Examiner Phone:

License:

**Examiner's Signature**

**Date**

**This section to be completed by Special Olympics staff only, if applicable.**

This medical exam was completed at a MedFest event?

Yes

No

The athlete is a Unified Partner or a Young Athlete Participant?

Unified Partner

Young Athlete

**WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT  
FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES  
("Agreement") for  
SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW JERSEY**

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in Special Olympics sports training, competition or fundraising activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. Participation includes possible exposure to and illness from infectious and/or communicable diseases including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. While particular rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist; and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation as regards protection against infectious diseases. If, however, I observe and any unusual or significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS Special Olympics, Inc, Special Olympics New Jersey, their officers, officials, agents, and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("RELEASEES"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL ILLNESS, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IF FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE (UNDER AGE 18 AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION) OR THOSE OVER 18 WITHOUT THE CAPACITY TO SIGN FOR THEMSELVES.**

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian, with legal responsibility for this participant, have read and explained the provisions in this waiver/release to my child/ward including the risks of presence and participation and his/her personal responsibilities for adhering to the rules and regulations for protection against communicable diseases. Furthermore, my child/ward understands and accepts these risks and responsibilities. I for myself, my spouse, and child/ward do consent and agree to his/her release provided above for all the Releasees and myself, my spouse, and child/ward do release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees for any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's/ward's presence or participation in these activities as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE, to the fullest extent provided by law.

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONCUSSION AWARENESS AND SAFETY RECOGNITION POLICY

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### Objective

It is Special Olympics' intent to take steps to help ensure the health and safety of all Special Olympics participants. All Special Olympics participants should remember that safety comes first and should take reasonable steps to help minimize risks for concussion or other serious brain injuries.

### Defining a Concussion

A concussion is defined by the Centers for Disease Control as a type of traumatic brain injury caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head as well as serial, cumulative hits to the head. Concussions can also occur from a blow to the body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth—causing the brain to bounce around or twist within the skull. Although concussions are not usually life-threatening, their effects can be serious and therefore proper attention must be paid to individuals suspected of sustaining a concussion.

### Suspected or Confirmed Concussion

Effective immediately, a participant who is suspected of sustaining a concussion in practice, game or competition shall be removed from practice, play or competition at that time. If a qualified medical professional is available on-site to render an evaluation, that person shall have final authority as to whether or not a concussion is suspected. If applicable, the participant's parent or guardian should be aware that the participant is suspected of sustaining a concussion.

### Return to Play

A participant who has been removed from practice, play or competition due to a suspected concussion may not participate in Special Olympics sports activities until either of the following occurs (1) at least seven (7) days have passed since the participant was removed from play and a currently licensed, qualified medical professional provides written clearance for the participant to return to practice, play and competition, or (2) a currently licensed, qualified medical professional determines that the participant did not suffer a concussion and provides written clearance for the participant to return to practice, play immediately. Written clearance in either of the scenarios above shall become a permanent record.