

Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement

Special Olympics
Texas



Special Olympics reaches for the highest ideals of sport just like the Olympic Games. The Special Olympics Athlete Oath is: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." All Special Olympics athletes repeat these words before each competition. The oath is a pledge, or promise, to try to achieve the highest level of good sportsmanship at training and competition. Furthermore, SOTX athletes represent the organization off the playing field as well, so their behavior and actions should always be positive.

As a Special Olympics athlete, I understand and pledge that:

Sportsmanship

- I will practice good sportsmanship.
- I will act in ways that bring respect to me, my coaches, my team, my family and Special Olympics.
- I will respect other athletes, volunteers, officials and coaches by not swearing at them, using foul language, or demonstrating inappropriate gestures or actions.
- I will demonstrate good behavior and actions with other athletes, coaches, volunteers, officials and staff.

Training and Competition

- I will train regularly.
- I will learn and follow the rules of my sport.
- I will listen and ask questions when I do not understand.
- I will always try my best during training, divisioning and competitions.
- I will not "hold back" in preliminaries just to get into an easier final heat.

Personal Responsibility

- I will not make inappropriate or unwanted physical, verbal, or sexual advances on others.
- I will use tobacco products only in designated areas away from the field of play and will not share or encourage others to use tobacco products with me.
- I will not drink alcohol or use illegal drugs while representing Special Olympics at events, trainings or competitions.
- I will not take drugs for the purpose of improving my performance.
- I will obey all laws and Special Olympics rules.

Do You Understand the Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement?

By signing below, I am saying that:

- I have read (or have had read to me) this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I agree to obey this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I understand the words and meaning of this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I understand that this Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement is a general guide for my conduct and does not describe all types of good and bad behavior.
- I understand that my future participation in Special Olympics activities could be affected if I do not obey this Code of Conduct Agreement.
- I understand and agree to follow the Special Olympics Athlete's Grievance Procedures if I wish to appeal my punishment. My coach or a member of the Games Organizing Committee will explain the steps I must follow.

I, (*print name*) _____, do hereby agree to the terms of the Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement stated above.

Athlete Signature	Date
Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18)	Date