

ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

Welcome to Montgomery County Special Olympics! We are excited that you have decided to get involved, and we hope that you have a great season.

While at all Special Olympics practices and events, you are representing Montgomery County Special Olympics. Therefore, it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you conduct yourself in a responsible manner and follow these guidelines at all times.

ATTENDANCE

You are expected to attend <u>ALL</u> practices. You <u>MUST</u> attend practices in order to participate in games at local or state events, unless you have been excused for work or health reasons. If you are going to miss a practice, you <u>MUST</u> leave a message for Vicki at Special Olympics (937-258-5353) **OR CALL YOUR COACH.** You will not be permitted to participate in local or state events if you have more than one <u>un-excused</u> absence.

Any time you are out because of an injury, you will need a Doctor's note to release you to return to sports. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

UNIFORMS

- 1. All uniforms will be provided.
- 2. You must wear appropriate athletic shoes. Shoes must be tied at all times to keep you from turning your ankle.
- 3. Wear comfortable clothes for practice (no jeans).
- 4. When traveling to games and tournaments, please dress appropriately. No ripped jeans or inappropriate T-shirts. Bring a gym bag to keep your clothes in...coaches are not responsible for your stuff.
- 5. Uniforms must be returned after each game before you leave. Uniforms are not to be taken home.



APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

- 1. You are expected to follow all rules and directions as told to you by coaches and chaperones.
- 2. No cussing, name-calling, or rude comments to coaches, teammates, volunteers, opposing team members or officials on or off the court/field. If you have a problem, talk to your coaches, they will help you.
- 3. Keep your hands to yourself.
- 4. No use of any tobacco products while in Special Olympic uniform.
- 5. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR DRUGS MAY BE CONSUMED OR IN AN ATHLETE'S POSSESSION AT ANY TIME DURING A PRACTICE OR EVENT. THIS INCLUDES OVERNIGHT TRIPS.
- 6. No public display of affection!
- 7. No horseplay
- 8. You are expected to respect your coaches and chaperones AT ALL TIMES!
- 9. Any problems with the law will result in immediate removal from the team!

These guidelines will be strictly enforced at all times. Any violation to these guidelines will be handled in the following manner:

1st incident: Written/verbal warning

2nd incident: One-week suspension from practices and games

3rd incident: Athlete will not be permitted to participate for the remainder of the

season. A meeting will be held with the athlete and family or

appropriate staff.

** Depending on the severity of the incident, steps 1 & 2 may be skipped.

- **Aggressive behavior towards anyone or any other behavior that is inappropriate in a community setting will result in immediate removal from the sport for the remainder of the season. (This includes practices, tournaments, and post-season banquets)
- **Note: Major misbehavior (e.g. verbal or physical abuse of a child, sexual harassment, or being arrested for any crime) will result in immediate dismissal from Special Olympics until the issue is resolved by the court. Issues will be handled on a case by case basis.

^{***}Please remember...you must have a current physical on file with our office in order to participate in any sports.

- ***It will be the coaches' discretion as to whether your skills are sufficient enough to participate safely and successfully on the team. Special Olympics offers safe competition for all ability levels through their skills competitions.
- ****If you withdraw from a state event after the registration has been sent in (or do not show up for the state event), you will not be able to attend a state event for a minimum of one year.
- ***If an athlete withdraws from a state event we cannot fill that spot with another athlete. The state does not refund the entry fee for that athlete. Therefore, we forfeit our money. For example: An athlete withdraws from Summer Games...Montgomery County Special Olympics forfeits the \$130.00 athlete registration fee and another athlete is denied the chance to go.

TRANSPORTATION

You must provide your own transportation to and from practices and home events. We will provide transportation from the gym/office/wherever to all away events. You are responsible for getting to the gym/office/wherever and getting picked up when we return. **Parents/Staff need to be on time to pick up athletes. THANK YOU!



I	HAVE BEEN
(ATHLETE'S NAME)	
INFORMED OF THE RULES AND EXPEC	CTATIONS ABOUT
BEHAVIOR, ATTENDANCE AND OTHEI	R POLICIES
CONCERNING MY PARTICIPATION IN	SPECIAL OLYMPICS
SPORTS. I AGREE TO FOLLOW THESE	RULES WHILE
PARTICIPATION IN MONTGOMERY CO	UNTY SPECIAL
OLYMPICS PRACTICES AND EVENTS C	OR ACCEPT THE
CONSEQUENCES.	
NAME	DATE
WITNESS	DATE

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