



## **Athlete & Unified Partner Code of Conduct**

Special Olympics West Virginia expects all delegation members to respect each other, display sportsmanship, and follow all Special Olympics and delegation rules. As such, all Special Olympics athletes and Unified Sports partners agree to the following Code of Conduct:

### **SPORTSMANSHIP AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS**

- I will practice good sportsmanship, toward my delegation members, opposing delegation members, officials, volunteers, staff, family members and spectators.
- I will act in ways that bring respect to me, my coaches, my team and Special Olympics.
- I will not use inappropriate or offensive language, including swearing or insulting other individuals, in any form of communication.
- I will not fight with other athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, staff, family members or spectators.
- I will respect the rights and dignity of all athletes, Unified partners, coaches, volunteers, staff, family members, and spectators in Special Olympics.
- I will treat everyone equally regardless of sex, gender identity, age, ethnic origin, religion or ability.

### **TRAINING AND COMPETITION**

- I will train regularly.
- I will learn and follow the rules of my sport.
- I will listen to my coaches and the officials 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/division.

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY ACTIONS**

- I will not engage in any form of verbal, physical, psychological, emotional or sexual abuse, unwanted sexual advances, or harassing, bullying or hazing behavior in person or via any form of communication, including texting and social media.
- I will tell Special Olympics West Virginia leadership immediately if I experience behavior or abuse from another member of Special Olympics and/or if I become aware of such behavior occurring between other delegates.
- I understand all telephone and electronic communications between me and any other member of Special Olympics and the public must be appropriate and respectful.
- I understand that any social media connections I make with delegation members on my personal social media accounts are my choice and I am completely responsible for all such communications and who I choose to friend/follow on social media.
- I will not send or share inappropriate images of a sexual or violent nature via email, text, or social media.
- I will not drink or possess alcohol, smoke (tobacco products or e-cigarette devices) or take illegal drugs while representing Special Olympics at training sessions, competition or during Games.
- I will not take drugs for the purpose of improving my performance.



## **Athlete & Unified Partner Code of Conduct**

- I will obey all laws and Special Olympics rules.

I understand that if I violate this Code of Conduct, I will be subject to a range of consequences, up to and including removal from Special Olympics West Virginia.

Full Name (Printed):

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Signature:

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Date:

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Local County Program:

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