



Special Olympics

North Carolina

Be a fan™

Special Olympics North Carolina (SONC) is a non-profit organization which provides sports training and competition for over 38,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities. In North Carolina, 20 sports are offered on a year-round basis including alpine skiing, aquatics, athletics, basketball, bocce, bowling, cheerleading, cycling, equestrian, figure skating, floor hockey, golf, gymnastics, powerlifting, roller skating, speed skating, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball.

Special Olympics athletes get continuing opportunities, to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. The goal of Special Olympics is for all persons with intellectual disabilities to have the chance to become useful and productive citizens who are accepted and respected in their communities

To become a Special Olympics athlete, contact the SONC office in your area to receive information about your local program.

ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

Special Olympics training and competition is open to every person with an intellectual disability who is at least eight years of age. There is no maximum age limit. Children who are ages two through seven may participate in the Young Athletes Program. A person is considered to have an intellectual disability if that person satisfies any one of the following requirements: 1) the person has been identified by an agency/professional as having an intellectual disability as determined by their localities, 2) the person has a cognitive delay, as determined by standardized measures such as intelligent quotient (IQ), or 3) the person has a closely related developmental disability meaning that person has functional limitations in both general learning (such as IQ) and in adaptive skills such as in recreation, work, independent living, self-direction, or self-care. Persons whose functional limitations are based solely on a physical, behavioral, or emotional disability or a specific learning or sensory disability are not, however, eligible to participate as Special Olympics athletes.

Special Olympics North Carolina Athlete's Code of Conduct

All Special Olympics athletes are expected to abide by the following code of conduct:

Sportsmanship

Every Special Olympics athlete shall:

- practice good sportsmanship.
- act respectfully to other athletes, coaches, volunteers and spectators.
- not use bad language, swear or insult other persons.
- not fight with other athletes, volunteers, coaches, volunteers or staff.

Training and competition

Every Special Olympics athlete shall:

- train regularly as determined by their coach.
- learn and follow the rules of their sports.
- listen to the coaches and officials and ask questions when they do not understand.
- always try their best when training, divisioning and competing.
- not "hold back" in preliminaries just to get into an easier final heat.

Responsibility for Actions

Every Special Olympics athlete shall:

- not make inappropriate or unwanted physical, verbal or sexual advances on others.
- not smoke in non-smoking areas.
- not drink alcohol, use illegal drugs or possess weapons at Special Olympics functions/events.
- not take drugs for the purpose of improving one's performance.
- obey all laws and Special Olympics rules and policies.

Code of Conduct Violations

If a Special Olympics athlete violates any part of the code of conduct, Special Olympics may impose disciplinary actions.

Athlete Participation Form Procedures

All persons who are eligible to participate in Special Olympics training and/or competition, including the Young Athletes Programs, must complete an athlete participation form. This form consists of four parts. The first portion requests the athlete's identifying information and medical background and contains a physician's report and certification concerning results of the initial physical examination. A physical examination is required for the first participation form completed. Subsequent participation forms can be completed by an adult athlete, parent, guardian or caregiver unless there has been a significant change in the athlete's health or the answer to any *item is yes. In these cases, a physician must conduct a follow-up examination. Participation forms must be renewed every three years.

The second portion is the release form concerning medical matters, Healthy Athletes screenings and permissions regarding publicity and it is to be signed by an adult athlete, parent, guardian or caregiver. This must also be renewed every three years.

The third portion consists of background questions. This section only needs to be completed if an athlete is also serving in a volunteer capacity for the organization.

The final portion provides athlete census information regarding the programs and sports in which the athlete is participating. All census information included on this form will replace/update all previously submitted information. This section should be completed by the local program coordinator.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NORTH CAROLINA OFFICES

If your Area does not have an active office, you can contact the Headquarters office in Morrisville.

Cape Fear Area

5041 New Centre Dr.
Suite 213
Wilmington, NC 28403
Work: 910-392-5776
Fax: 910-392-5722
Toll Free: 877-499-6276

Historic Albemarle Area

4196 West Lang Street
Farmville, NC 27828
Work: 252-753-2296
Fax: 252-753-2638
Toll Free: 800-931-6182

Mountains of Opportunities Area

1095 Hendersonville Rd.
Suite L
Asheville, NC 28803
Work: 828-236-9753
Fax: 828-236-9715
Toll Free: 828-698-1706

Piedmont Triad Area

3409B W. Wendover Ave
Greensboro, NC 27407

Work: 336-272-0142
Fax: 336-378-2543
Toll Free: 888-396-6369

Southern Piedmont Area

4421 Stuart Andrew Blvd.
Suite 605

Charlotte, NC 28217
Work: 704-358-1935
Fax: 704-358-3211
Toll Free: 800-358-6276

Triangle Area

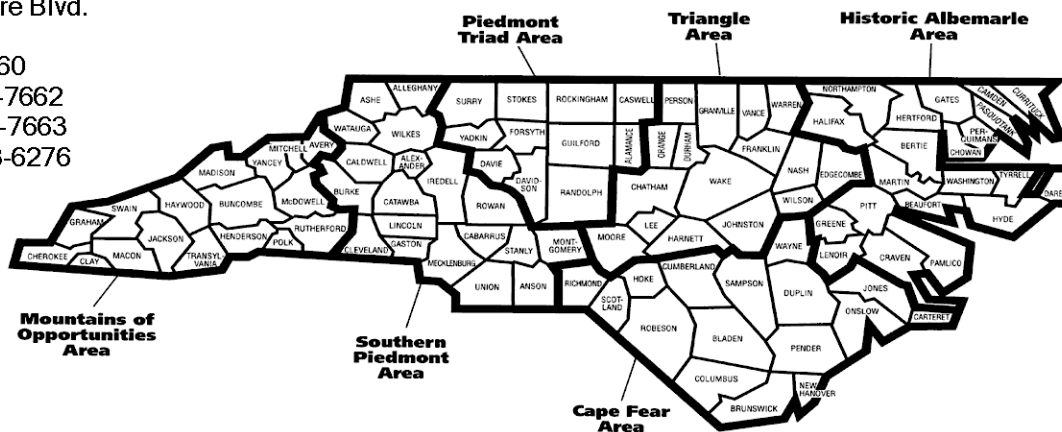
2200 Gateway Centre Blvd.
Suite 201

Morrisville, NC 27560
Work: 919-719-7662
Fax: 919-719-7663
Toll Free: 800-843-6276

Headquarters

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OFFICIAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS RELEASE FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT, GUARDIAN, CAREGIVER OR ADULT ATHLETE

Local Program _____

I represent and warrant that to the best of my knowledge and belief, _____ is physically and mentally able to participate in Special Olympics. With my approval, a licensed physician has reviewed the health information set forth in the Application for Participation, and has certified, based on an independent medical examination, that there is not medical evidence which would preclude the athlete's participation. I understand that if the athlete has Down Syndrome, he/she cannot participate in sports or events which, by their nature result in hyper-extension, radical flexion or direct pressure on the neck or upper spine unless a full radiological examination establishes the absence of Atlanto-Axial instability. I am aware that the sports and events for which this radiological examination is required are equestrian sports, gymnastics, diving, pentathlon, butterfly stroke and diving starts in swimming, high jump, alpine skiing, and soccer.

In permitting the athlete to participate, I am specifically granting my permission to Special Olympics to use the athlete's likeness, name, voice and words in television, radio, film, newspapers, magazines, and other media, and in any form for the purpose of advertising or communicating the purposes and activities of Special Olympics and/or applying for funds to support those purposes and activities.

If a medical emergency should arise during the athlete's participation in any Special Olympics activities at a time when I am not personally present so as to be consulted regarding the athlete's care, I hereby authorize Special Olympics on my behalf, to take whatever measures are necessary to insure that the athlete is provided with any emergency medical treatment, including hospitalization, which Special Olympics deems advisable in order to protect the athlete's health and well-being.

I authorize the participation of the athlete in the Healthy Athletes Programs which offer non-invasive health care services to athletes at Special Olympics events. Services may be offered in the following areas: vision; oral health; hearing; physical therapy; and a variety of health promotion areas (height, weight, sun protection, etc.). I understand the following: 1) participation in the Healthy Athletes venues is free of charge, 2) participation is voluntary and that authorization can be withdrawn at any time without penalty, 3) participation in Healthy Athletes is not a requirement for participation in other Special Olympics activities, 4) the provision of these health services is not intended as a substitute or alternative to regular care that has been received in the past or that may be recommended in the future, and 5) information that is gathered as a part of the screening process may be used in group form (anonymously) to assess and communicate the overall health needs of athletes and to develop programs to address those needs.

I, the undersigned, am parent, guardian, caregiver, athlete (own guardian) of the below specified person. I have read and fully understand the provisions of the above release and have explained them to that person. I hereby agree that I and said person will be bound thereby and I shall defend you and hold you harmless for any disaffirmation thereof by said person.

I hereby give my permission for _____ to participate in Special Olympics training, competition, and physical activity programs.

Signature of Parent/Guardian/Caregiver/Athlete (over 18-own guardian) _____

Date _____

ATHLETE VOLUNTEER SCREENING INFORMATION: Only to be completed if athlete is serving in a volunteer capacity (i.e. Global Messenger, speech coach, sport coach, etc.)

Please check yes or no

- | | | |
|---|------------|----------|
| 1. Do you use illegal drugs? | *yes _____ | no _____ |
| 2. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense? | *yes _____ | no _____ |
| 3. Have you ever been charged with neglect, abuse, or assault? | *yes _____ | no _____ |
| 4. Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked in any state? | *yes _____ | no _____ |

* You may be asked to provide a written explanation for questions answered "yes"

CENSUS UPDATE FORM

1 Please indicate all sports in which this athlete has participated in within the past three years.

<u>Aquatics</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Bowling</u>	<u>Golf</u>	<u>Tennis</u>	<u>Unified Sports™:</u>
<u>Alpine Skiing</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Ramp <input type="checkbox"/>	Ind. Skills <input type="checkbox"/>	Ind. Skills <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Aquatics</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Athletics</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Singles <input type="checkbox"/>	9 hole Ind <input type="checkbox"/>	Short Court <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Bocce Doubles</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Basketball</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Doubles <input type="checkbox"/>	Alt shot <input type="checkbox"/>	Match Play <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Bocce Team</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
5 on 5 <input type="checkbox"/>	Team <input type="checkbox"/>	18 hole Ind. <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Softball</u>	<u>Bowling Doubles</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
3 on 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Cheerleading</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MATP</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Team <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Bowling Team</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Ind. Skills <input type="checkbox"/>	Ind. Skills <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Powerlifting</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Ind. Skills <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Cheerleading</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Bocce</u>	Team <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Rollerskating</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Speed Skating</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Equestrian</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Singles <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Cycling</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Soccer</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Volleyball</u>	<u>Golf</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Doubles <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Equestrian</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Team <input type="checkbox"/>	Team <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Softball</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Team <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Figure Skating</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Ind. Skills <input type="checkbox"/>	Ind. Skills <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Tennis</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
	<u>Gymnastics</u> <input type="checkbox"/>		<u>Young Athletes Program</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Volleyball</u> <input type="checkbox"/>

2 Does this person only participate in Special Olympics Training? Yes No

3 Does this person participate in Special Olympics Athlete Leadership Programs (ALPs)? Yes No
If yes, which programs? _____
Does s/he only do ALPs (no sports training)? Yes No