

**Special Olympics Wisconsin
Oshkosh Agency 4-02
Parent/Legal Guardian Code of Conduct**

Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) welcomes enthusiastic, supportive, positive and encouraging parents/legal guardians. Parents/legal guardians serve as role models for their athlete, who often look up to them for advice, direction and approval. Never lose sight of the fact that you are a role model. In order to run a successful program, a positive and cooperative attitude on the part of each parent/legal guardian is expected.

Conduct Expected of all Parent/Legal Guardians:

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship by conducting yourself in a manner that earns the respect of your athlete, other athletes, parents, officials, spectators and coaches at practices, competitions or team activities. **LEAD BY EXAMPLE.**
- Applaud a good effort both in victory and in defeat and reinforce the positive aspects of the sport. Act appropriately. Do not taunt or disturb fans. Enjoy the competition together.
- Be an active participant in all team and Agency activities. Oshkosh Special Olympics 4-02 offers year-round sports in bowling, basketball (skills and team), athletics, aquatics, soccer, softball, tee ball and flag football to more than 120 athletes. The Agency Management Team (AMT), coaches, fund raisers, treasurer and medical records manager are all community volunteers and parent/legal guardians like you. We need everyone's support.
- Support your athlete by encouraging him/her to be on time for practices, competitions and team activities.
- Support the referees, officials and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
- Trust and support your athlete and coach's decisions around goal setting, training commitments and event entries.
- Do not coach your athlete at practice or during competition, from the stands or any other area.
- During practice and competitions, athletes are never to leave the practice/competition area without the head coach's permission.
- Be responsible for your own safety and remain alert to help prevent accidents.
- Conduct all spectating from designated areas. Parent/legal guardians are not allowed in designated team areas, near scoring table, within enclosed start/finish areas, on the practice surface or on the competition surface for the event. (In emergency situations or if special needs occur, exceptions will be made at the discretion of the head coach).
- Refrain from communication with any athlete until the practice or competition is complete. Distracting your own athlete can also be distracting to other athletes and the entire team.
- Be supportive after practices and competitions. Recognize good effort, teamwork and sportsmanship.
- Do not interrupt the coaching staff during competitions. Any questions about disqualifications, judging, etc. should be directed to your athlete's head coach in a respectful manner with consideration to other athletes, teams, families and event managers.
- If you have general concerns (i.e., not related to a competition situation), address it directly with the head coach and/or Agency manager outside of practice and competition times so as to be respectful to them as well as other athletes and families.

As a parent/legal guardian, I understand my responsibilities and agree to support the mission and principals of SOWI. In addition, I agree to conduct myself in a manner consistent with SOWI's core values of accountability, teamwork, positive attitude, mutual respect and dedication.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date