ATHLETE POLICIES

Statement of Eligibility for Special Olympics Wisconsin	1
Who is the Special Olympics Athlete?	1
Athlete Registration Information	2
The Special Olympics Wisconsin Medical Policy	2
Athlete Medical Restrictions	3
Participant Release Form	4
Athlete Medical Form	5-8
Housing Addendum Sample	g
Athlete Registration- Special Olympics Unified Sports® Partners	10
Athlete Code of Conduct	11
Athlete Standards of Behavior	12
Athlete Code of Conduct Disciplinary Steps	13

Left Blank Intentionally

STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS WISCONSIN

Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) was created, and exists today, to give individuals with intellectual disabilities¹ the opportunity to train and compete in year-round sports activities.

To be eligible to participate as a registered SOWI athlete², a person must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Be at least 8 years of age. There is no maximum age limit. Individuals ages 2-7 may inquire about Special Olympics Wisconsin's Young Athletes™.
- 2. Be identified by an agency or professional as having:
 - a. An intellectual disability¹ (IQ is below 70-75); or
 - b. An intellectual delay³ as determined by standardized measures such as intelligence quotient (IQ) or other generally acceptable measures; or
 - c. A closely related developmental disability. A "closely related developmental disability" means having functional limitations in both general learning⁴ and adaptive skills⁵ such as recreation. work, independent living, self direction or self care. However, persons whose functional limitations are based solely on a physical, behavioral, or emotional disability, or a specific learning or sensory disability are not eligible to participate as Special Olympic athletes, but may be eligible to volunteer for SOWI.
- 3. Agree to abide by the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules and the SOWI Athlete Code of Conduct.
- 4. Persons with multiple disabilities may participate in SOWI as long as they also meet the noted criteria above.

NOTE: No person shall, on the grounds of sex, race, religion, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of SOWI.

¹ A synonym for mental retardation. May also be used synonymously with mental or cognitive disability/delay.

To be a registered SOWI athlete, eligible persons must complete an Application for Participation (medical form) and a release form and register under one of approximately 200 SOWI accredited Agencies.

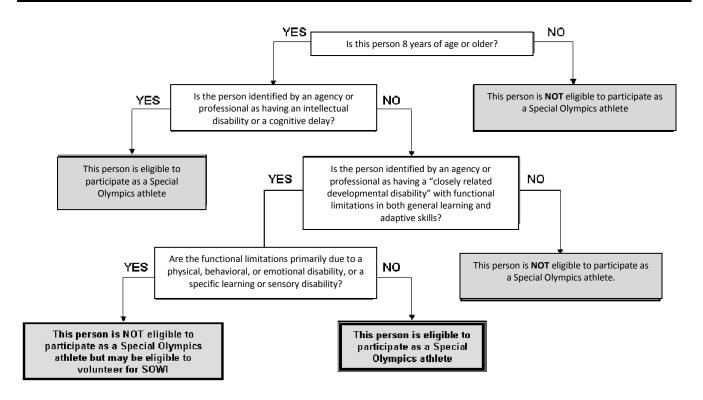
Learning slower than ones typical peers and requiring specially designed instruction.

General learning limitation refers to substantial deficits in conceptual, practical and social intelligence that will result in performance problems in academic learning and/or general life functioning.

5 Adaptive skill limitations refers to an ongoing performance deficit in skill areas considered essential to successful life functioning.

Source: Article 6.01, Special Olympics Official General Rules, Revised 2004.

Who is the Special Olympics Athlete?



ATHLETE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The Athlete Medical Form and Participant Release Form serve as an athlete's registration for Special Olympics and must be completed <u>before</u> an athlete participates in any Special Olympics training program. They provide for necessary medical information, a photo release, secondary insurance coverage by Special Olympics, Inc., and emergency medical treatment in the event a parent or guardian cannot be reached. A current WIAA physical form may be submitted in lieu of the new Athlete Medical Form.

Forms from another Special Olympics program or organization (i.e. camp medical, school medical, etc.) are not transferable or acceptable, with the exception of the new *Athlete Medical Form* and *Participant Release Form*. The *Athlete Medical Form* is acceptable from another Special Olympics program under the condition the program has made no changes to the form.

THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WISCONSIN MEDICAL POLICY

Athletes who are new to Special Olympics, Wisconsin, must submit both the *Athlete Medical Form* and *Participant Release Form* as of January 1, 2017, postmarked by the appropriate medical deadline date for the sport in which they are participating. The previous *Application for Participation in Special Olympics* form and *Official Special Olympics Release Form* is acceptable prior to January 1, 2017. An athlete must be 8 years old by the medical deadline date for the sport in which they are participating in order to be eligible for that sports' competitions.

If a current athlete's medical form expires prior to the last day of the State competition for which the athlete is registered, the new *Athlete Medical Form* must be completed correctly and mailed to the Headquarters office, postmarked by the appropriate medical deadline date for that sport and approved. (Example: An athlete whose medical expires on March 10, 2017 wishes to compete in basketball. The last day of the Indoor State Tournament is April 9, 2017; therefore, the new *Athlete Medical Form* must be postmarked by February 1, 2017.). The previous *Application for Participation* in *Special Olympics* form is acceptable prior to January 1, 2017.

Medical deadline dates are strictly enforced. There will be no exceptions to the medical deadline policy. Completed medical forms may not be faxed to the Headquarters Office.

If an athlete's medical will expire prior to the last day of the state competition for which s/he is registered and the medical deadline for the state competition has passed, the athlete may practice and compete until the date their medical expires. If the athlete's medical expires after Regional/District competition but prior to Sectional competition, the athlete may participate in the Regional/District competition but is unable to advance to Sectional competition. If the athlete's medical expires after a Regional/District or Sectional competition but prior to the State tournament, s/he may participate in the Regional/District and Sectional competitions but is unable to advance to the State tournament. Please use discretion when allowing an athlete to compete if his or her medical expires prior to Regional/District, Sectional and/or State competition.

The Athlete Medical Form must be completed at least once every three years from either date of the medical examiner's signature or the date of exam if indicated, or if the athlete has a significant medical condition change during the three-year period. The Athlete Medical Form may be completed yearly if/when the athlete has their annual physical examination.

The Participant Release Form only needs to be completed once unless there is a change in guardianship for the athlete.

According to Special Olympics, International (SOI) guidelines, all athletes (or the parents/guardians for athletes who are minors and/or not their own guardian) are required to sign an addendum indicating they are aware of SOI housing information for overnight activities and tournaments if they have not signed the *Official Special Olympics Release Form* dated August 2013 or the *Participant Release Form*. This requirement applies to all athletes, even if they do not participate in overnight housing for overnight

activities and tournaments. The addendum must be signed and mailed to the Headquarters Office. A roster indicating which athletes are in need of the housing addendum will be mailed approximately six weeks prior to every medical deadline.

Athlete Medical Forms, Participant Release Forms, and Housing Addendums are available from the Regional or Headquarters offices, the SOWI website and via e-mail – please contact the Headquarters office to obtain forms via e-mail. (Samples are included in this section of the handbook, but they are not for duplication.)

ATHLETE MEDICAL RESTRICTIONS

Athletes must have their restriction lifted prior to training and competition in that particular sport. The following healthcare providers may lift a sports restriction: Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O), Nurse Practitioner (N.P.), and Physician Assistant (P.A.). Releases from medical restrictions must be mailed <u>or</u> faxed to the Headquarters office. Medical deadline dates do not apply when lifting medical restrictions, but restrictions must be lifted by the end of the business day on the Wednesday following the event entry deadline date.

PARTICIPANT RELEASE FORM



I want to participate in Special Olympics activities and agree to the following:

- 1. Able to Participate. I am able to participate in Special Olympics activities. I understand that there is a risk of injury when participating in Special Olympics activities.
- 2. Photo Release. I give Special Olympics organizations permission to use my picture, video, name, voice, and words to promote Special Olympics.

3.	Overnight Stay. I understand that some Special Olympics activities may require an overnight stay in a hotel or dormitory. If I have questions about this I will ask.
4.	Emergency Care. I consent to medical care if needed in an emergency, unless I check one of these boxes: I have a religious or other objection to receiving medical treatment. I consent to emergency medical care, but I do not consent to blood transfusions. (If either box is checked, an EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE REFUSAL FORM must be completed.)
5.	Health Programs. If I choose to participate in a Special Olympics health program, I consent to health-related activities, physical examinations, and treatment. I understand that this should not replace regular medical care. I understand that I can stop participating or say no to treatment or any other activity any time.
6.	Personal Information. I understand that my personal information may be used and shared by amployees and volunteers of Special Olympics organizations to: Make sure I am eligible and can participate safety in Special Olympics activities; Coordinate raining and competition events and publish competition results; Put my information into a computer database maintained by Special Olympics; Provide healthcare treatment, make referrals, consult doctors, and remind me about follow-up services; Research, communicate, and respond to needs of Special Olympics participants (identifying information is removed if) shared with the public), and Protect health and safety, respond to government requests, and report information as required by law. I understand I can ask to see and revise my personal information and to limit how my information is used.
PA	RTICIPANT NAME:
PA	RTICIPANT SIGNATURE (required if Participant is over 18 years old and is signing on own behalf)
l ha	ave read and understand this release. If I have any questions, I will ask. By signing, I agree to this release.
Par	ticipant Signature: Date:
PA	RENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (required if Participant is under 18 years old or has a legal guardian)
	n a parent or guardian of the Participant. I have read and understand this form and have explained the contents to the ticipant as appropriate. By signing, I agree to this form on my own behalf and on behalf of the Participant.
Par	rent/Guardian Signature: Date:
Prir	nted Name: Relationship:

Updated 19 April 2016

ATHLETE MEDICAL FORM SAMPLE

Medical Form for US Programs - updated June 2016

Athlete Medical Form – HEALTH HISTORY Special (pages 1 & 2 to be completed by the athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver) REGION/AREA: DELEGATION/TEAM: ATHLETE INFORMATION PARENT GUARDIAN INFORMATION (If not own quardian) First Name: Middle Name: Name: Cell: Last Name: Phone: Female: Male: Date Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): E-mail: Address (Street): Emergency Contact Name: Same as Above: Address (City, State, Zip): Emergency Contact Phone (cell): Emergency Contact Relationship: Phone: E-mail: Does the athlete have a prir ary care physicia No If yes, list. Eye color. Ethnicity: Name Phone: Athlete Employer, if any: I am my own guardian. ve any o ections to emergency medical care? Yes m to get the Emergency Care Refusal Does the athlete have (check any list any sports the athlete wishes to play: Autism syndrome Cerebral Palsy Fetal Alcol Other syndrome, please sp Has a doctor ever limited the athlete's participation in sports? No Yes If yes, please describe: is the athlete allergic to any of th Latex No Known Allergies Medications: Insect Bites or Stings: Does the athlete use (check any that apply): Brace Food: Communication Device Colostomy List any special dietary needs: C-PAP Machine Crutches or Walker Dentures Glasses or Contacts G-Tube or J-Tube Hearing Aid Implanted Device Pacemaker Inhaler List all past surgeries: Removable Prosthetics Splint Wheel Chair Has the athlete had a Tetanus vaccine in the past 7 years? No Yes Does the athlete currently have any chronic or acute infection? No Yes If yes, please describe: FAMILY HISTORY No Yes Has any relative died of a heart problem before age 50? No Yes Has any family member or relative died while exercising? Has the athlete ever had an abnormal Electrocardiogram (EKG) or Echocardiogram (Echo)? If yes, select below and describe List all medical conditions that run in the athlete's family: Yes, had abnormal EKG Yes, had abnormal Echo

Special Olympics Medical Form | 1 of 4

Athlete Medical Form – **HEALTH HISTORY** (pages 1 & 2 to be <u>completed by athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver</u>)



Athlete's Name:				
HAS THE ATHLETE EVED DEEN	MACHORED WITH OR EVER	DIENCED ANY O	. THE FOLLOWING CO	NOTIONS
Loss of Consciousness	No Yes High Blood Prei			NO TYES
Dizziness during or after exercise	No Yes High Cholestero			No ☐Yes
Headache during or after exercise	No Yes Vision Impairme		4-45	No ☐Yes
Chest pain during or after exercise	No Yes Hearing Impair		Dishetes	No ☐Yes
Shortness of breath during or after exercise	No Yes Enlarged Spice			No Yes
Irregular, racing or skipped heart beats	No Yes Single Kidney	□ No □ Ye		No Yes
Congenital Heart Defect	No Yes Osteoporosis	□ No □ Ye	Color District	No Yes
Heart Attack	No Yes Osteopenia	□ No □ Ye		No ☐Yes
Cardiomyopathy	No Yes Sickle Cell Dise		Line to the same	No Yes
Heart Valve Disease	No Yes Sickle Cell Trait		Broken Bener	No Yes
Heart Murmur	No Yes Easy Bleeding	□ No □ Ye	State and add to take	No Yes
Endocarditis	No Tyes			140 [[160
Difficulty controlling bowels or bladder	No Yes	checked for either of	proken bones or dislocated jo those fields above):	oints (if yes is
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No Yes		1	
Numbness or tingling in legs, arms, hands or t				
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No Yes			
Weakness in legs, arms, hands or feet	No Yes	Epilepsy or any typ	e of seizure disorder	No Yes
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No Yes	If yes, list seizure typ	£:	
Burner, stinger, pinched nerve or pain in the neek, back, shoulders, arms, hands, buttocks, legs or feet No Yes				
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No Yes	Self-Injurious beha	vior during the past year	No Yes
Head Tilt	No Tyes	Aggressive behavio	or during the past year	No Yes
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No Tyes	Depression (diagno	sed)	No Yes
Spasticity No No Yes Anxiety (diagnosed) No Yes				
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?				
Paralyala	No TYes			
If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	No ☐Yes			
List any other ongoing or past medical condit	ons:			
PLEASE LIST ANY MEDICATION, VITA		ENTS BELOW (Includ	les Inhalers, birth control or hor	mone therapy)
Medication, Vitamin or Supplement Dosage Time per L		Dosage Times M per Day	edication, Vitamin or Supplement	Dosage Times per Day
	1			
		_		
is the athlete able to administer his or her ow	n medications? No Yes	lf female athlete, list d	ate of last menstrual period:	
Name of Person Completing this Form	Relationship to Athlete	Phone	Email	
, ,	•			
Medical Form for US Programs – updated June	2016		Special Olympics Med	ical Form 2 of 4

Athlete Medical Form — PHYSICAL EXAM (to be completed by a Medical Professional only)



Athlete's Name:				
MEDICAL PHYSICAL INFORMATION (TO	BE COMPLETED BY EXAMINER ONLY)			
Height Weight BMI (optional) Temperature Pulse O ₂ Sat				
cm kg BMI C	BP Right: BP Left: Right Vision No Yes N/A			
in lbs Body F	Left Vision ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ N/A			
Right Hearing (Finger Rub) Responds No Response Can't Evaluate	Bowel Sounds			
Left Hearing (Finger Rub) Responds No Response Can't Evaluate	Hepatomegaly No Yes			
Right Ear Canal Clear Cerumen Foreign Body	Spienomegaly No Yes			
Left Ear Canal Clear Cerumen Foreign Body	Abdominal Tenderness No RUQ RLQ LUQ LLQ			
Right Tympanic Membrane Clear Perforation Infection NA	Kidney Tendemess No Right Left			
Left Tympanic Membrane	Right upper extremity reflex			
Oral Hyglene Good Fair Poor	Left upper extremity reflex			
Thyroid Enlargement No Yes	Right lower extremity reflex			
Lymph Node Enlargement No Yes	Left lower extremity reflex Normal Dientrished Hyperreflexia			
Heart Murmur (supine) No 1/6 or 2/6 3/6 or greater	Abnormal Galt No Yes, describe below			
Heart Murmur (upright) No 1/6 or 2/6 3/6 or greater	Spasticity No Yes, describe below			
Heart Rhythm Regular Irregular	Tremor No Yes, describe below			
Lungs Clear Not clear	Nedk & Back Mobility Full Not full describe below			
Right Leg Edema	Upper Extremity Mobility Full Not full, describe below			
Left Leg Edema	Lower Extremity Mybility Full Not full, describe below Upper Extremity Strength Full Not full, describe below			
Cyanosis Yes, describe	Lower Extremity Strength Full Not full, describe below			
Clubbing No YeA describe	Loss of Sensitivity No Yes, describe below			
ATLANTIO-AXIAL INSTABILITY (AAI) Athlete shows NO EVIDENCE of neurological symptoms or physical findings associated with spinal cord compression or atlantoaxial instability. Athlete has neurological symptoms or physical findings that could be associated with spinal cord compression or atlantoaxial instability and must receive an additional neurological evaluation to rule out additional risk of spinal cord injury prior to clearance for sports participation.				
Licensed Medical Examiners: It's recommended that the examiner review Items on the medical history with the athlete or their guardian, prior to performing the physical exam. If an athlete needs further medical evaluation please use the Special Olympics Further Medical Evaluation Form, page 4, to provide the athlete with medical clearance.				
This athlete is ABLE to participate in Special Olympics sports without restrictions/limitations				
This athlete is ABLE to participate in Special Olympics sports WITH restr				
This athlete MAY NOT participate in Special Olympics sports at this time and MUST be further evaluated by a physician for the following concerns:				
☐ Concerning Cardiac Exam ☐ Acute Infection ☐ O₂ Saturation Less than 90% on Room Air				
☐ Concerning Neurological Exam ☐ Stage II Hypertension or	Greater Hepatomegaly or Splenomegaly			
Other, please describe:				
Additional Licensed Examiner's Notes and Recommended Follow-up:				
Follow up with a cardiologist Follow up with a neurologist Follow up with a primary care physician				
Follow up with a vision specialist Follow up with a hearing a	specialist Follow up with a dentist or dental hygienist			
Follow up with a podiatrist Follow up with a physical	therapist			
Other/Exam Notes:				
Na Na	ime:			
E-l	mali:			
Licensed Medical Examiner's Signature Date of Exam Ph	none: License:			
Medical Form for US Programs – updated June 2016	Special Olympics Medical Form 3 of 4			

Athlete Medical Form — MEDICAL REFERRAL FORM (to be completed by a Medical Professional only if referral is needed)



Athlete's	Name:		(15)
Aunete 3	realite.		
		y needs to be completed and signed if the physician on page three <u>does not clear</u> low-up is required. Athlete should bring the previously completed pages to the a	•
maio	ates for	the specialist.	spontanent wan
Examiner's	Name:		
Specialty:			
l have exar Please desc		athlete for the following medical concern(s):	
_		al opinion, this athlete MAY participate in Special Olympics sports (Indicate restrictions of Ili	nitations below):
∐Yes,	withou	t restrictions Yes, but with restrictions(list below) No	
Additional i	Examiner	Notes/Restrictions:	
Examiner E	E-mail:		
Examiner F	Phone:		
License:			
MAN AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND A			
Examiner's	s Signatu	ire Date	
This se	ction t	be completed by Special Olympics staff only, if applicable.	
This medic	al exam v	vas completed at a MedFest event?	
The athlete	e is a Unifi	ed Partner or a Young Athlete Participant?	
Medical F	Form for U	S Programs – updated June 2016 Special Oly	mpics Medical Form 4 of 4



ADDENDUM TO OFFICIAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS RELEASE FORM

I acknowledge that Special Olympics events may involve overnight activities and that the housing arrangements for each event may differ. I understand that I should contact the Special Olympics Program in my jurisdiction if I have any questions about housing arrangements for a specific event or the housing policy in general.

SIGNATURE OF ADULT ATHLETE	DATE
I hereby certify that I have reviewed this information with the Athlete whose sign review that the Athlete understands this information and has agreed to its terms	nature appears above. I am satisfied based on that
Name (Print):	
Relationship to Athlete:]
-or-	
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN	DATE

ATHLETE REGISTRATION - SPECIAL OLYMPICS UNIFIED SPORTS® PARTNERS

Special Olympics Unified Sports® is a program which provides individuals with intellectual disabilities (athletes) and individuals without intellectual disabilities (partners) the opportunity to train and compete together as a team. (see the *Unified* section of this handbook for more details about this program and other inclusive opportunities).

Individuals participating as Unified Partners in the Unified Sports program will be categorized as one of the following:

- Class A Unified Partners: These are individuals with extended contact or overnight chaperoning
 duties with athletes. Class A Unified Partners are required to be class A volunteers by the event
 registration deadline. Class A Unified Sports® partners are required to complete the Protective
 Behaviors Training (online at SpecialOlympicsWisconsin.org) and to be re-screened every three
 years as required of all Class A volunteers. Please refer to the Volunteer Policies section for more
 information on Class A volunteers.
- Class B Unified Partners: These are individuals with limited and non-overnight contact with athletes.
 This includes Unified Partners in unity games, player development events or single day competition
 or multi-day events with no overnight/chaperoning. Class B Unified Partners are required to
 complete Class B volunteer form by the day of the event.

ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

SOWI prides itself in sponsoring high quality sports training and competitions for people with intellectual disabilities. The primary purpose of this code of conduct is to establish a high standard of athlete behavior, which will ensure the safety and well being of all athletes involved in training and competition. All athletes (including Unified Sports® Partners) are expected to abide by the Athlete Code of Conduct as established by SOWI. Athletes should be reminded that participation in Special Olympics is a privilege, not a right, and that the Agency manager has the authority to make immediate accommodations until final decisions can be made.

By agreeing to abide by the Special Olympics Wisconsin Code of Conduct, each athlete agrees to adhere to the following athlete behavior:

- Uphold the mission, philosophy, principles and policies of Special Olympics, Inc. and Special Olympics Wisconsin
- Behave in a manner consistent with Special Olympics Wisconsin's core values of mutual respect, positive attitude, accountability, teamwork and dedication
- Each athlete further agrees and acknowledges that participation in SOWI is voluntary and SOWI
 may terminate an athlete's participation if the athlete fails to follow SOWI rules and policies,
 including the athlete code of conduct.

SPORTSMANSHIP

I will practice good sportsmanship.

I will act in ways that bring respect to me, my coaches, my team and Special Olympics.

I will not use bad language.

I will not swear or insult other persons.

I will not fight with other athletes, coaches, volunteers or staff.

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/sandbag" in preliminary competition just to get into an easier finals competition division.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY ACTIONS

I will not make inappropriate or unwanted physical, verbal or sexual advances on others.

I will not smoke in non-smoking areas.

I will not drink alcohol or use illegal drugs at Special Olympics events.

I will not take drugs for the purpose of improving my performance.

I will obey all laws and Special Olympics rules, the International Federation and the National Federation/Governing Body rules for my sport(s).

ATHLETE STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

The following athlete behavior is unacceptable while participating in Special Olympics training or competition, including, but not limited to, practice, in transit, and at the competition venue:

- Profanity or verbal abuse
- Tobacco use in restricted areas
- Use of alcohol
- Physical or verbal sexual overtures
- Physical abuse*/Assault
- Use of illegal drugs or any controlled substance*
- Frequent unexcused absences
- Exhibition of poor sportsmanship
- Violent or disruptive behavior
- Any unwelcome physical contact
- Possession of harmful weapons*
- Public forum posts that degrade the organization
- Felony or misdemeanors (or any other illegal or socially unacceptable behavior) which seriously
 disrupts or impedes the participation of athletes or others*
- The non-payment for any purchased items from the Agency of participation. Items to include but not limited to: Articles of clothing, banquets, travel, etc.

*Criminal offenses regardless of where it occurs may result in immediate suspension from any and all Special Olympics activities.

Guidelines for limiting or denying an athlete's involvement in SOWI

SOWI may limit or deny an athlete's participation in SOWI based on the following, as determined by SOWI in its sole discretion.

- a. Admission or adjudication of involvement in abuse, neglect, sexual assault, or conduct involving violence or threat of violence (for example, assault and battery or armed robbery)
- b. Record of being charged with abuse, neglect, conduct involving violence or threat of violence (for example, assault and battery or armed robbery), or sexual assault with corroborating information
- c. Extreme or repeated violations of the SOWI Code of Conduct
- d. Current use of illegal drugs
- e. If the safety of other athletes is at risk
- f. An open invoice that has not been rectified when there has been a request of the agency and the Regional Athletic Director

Not all situations or circumstances can be addressed in these guidelines. SOWI will address each situation on a case-by-case basis.

SOWI recommends all Special Olympics athletes and Unified Sports partners review, understand and sign the Athlete Code of Conduct before sports training begins. If an athlete or Unified Sports partner participates in multiple sports seasons, he/she need only submit one form per SOWI sports year (i.e., October - September). The Agency manager should retain a copy in the Agency files throughout the SOWI sports year.

Athlete/Unified Sports Partner's Signature	Date		
Print Athlete's Name			
Agency #:Agency Name:			
Parent/Guardian Signature (If athlete is a minor or not their own guardian.)			

ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT DISCIPLINARY STEPS

The following steps may be taken by the Agency manager or a staff member from the Regional or Headquarters office. The Regional office must be contacted before an Agency manager suspends an athlete. The Regional office will discuss the circumstances and approve the action. The action will be documented in writing and presented to the athlete and parent/guardian (or caseworker) and a copy will be sent to the Headquarters office.

- Verbal warning given to the athlete
- Written warning given to the athlete with a copy to the Region office and parent/guardian or caseworker
- Personal meeting with the athlete to review unacceptable behavior and work out a plan for improvement
- If the athlete is under 18, or over 18 and not their own guardian, he/she will be accompanied by his/her parent/guardian or caseworker. If the athlete is over 18 and is his/her own guardian, he/she may choose to have another adult present. The meeting will be documented in writing and copies distributed to the athlete, Regional office, Headquarters office, Agency file, and parent/guardian or caseworker.
- Suspension from practices or competition during the specific sport season

Any further action must be referred to the Regional office. The Regional office and Headquarters staff member responsible for Regional management will approve any further action to be taken.

Further action could be, but is not limited to:

- Suspension for more than one sport season
- Expulsion for one year or more
- Permanent expulsion

Appeal Process

The athlete has the right to appeal any disciplinary actions with the Regional office. The athlete or representative must submit a written request for a meeting to appeal the decision within 30 days of being notified of the disciplinary action. SOWI will review the request and determine whether to uphold the decision of the Regional office or hold an appeal meeting to obtain additional information.

If deemed necessary, the appeal will be heard by a Regional and/or Headquarters staff representative, and an Agency manager (either the manager from that Agency or if deemed necessary a manager not involved with the situation). A decision to reverse, amend or affirm a disciplinary action will be submitted in writing to the Agency manager and should include a plan of action for the athlete to correct the unacceptable behavior that led to the disciplinary action.