

Special Olympics Wisconsin



Athletes – As – Coaches CERTIFIED TRAINING SCHOOL

This Certified Training School will provide coaches the opportunity to learn skills, which will assist them in training & coaching athletes in (sport).

DATE: Saturday, September 14, 2019 Registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 9, 2019.

TIME: 10:30 am – 2:30 pm (We will have sub sandwiches for lunch)

LOCATION: Hartford Parks and Recreation, 125 North Rural St, Hartford, WI 53027, 262-670-3730

CLINICIANS: Deb Moore-Gruenloh and Travis Stuckart

DRESS: Dress to participate!

Jeanne Hrovat, Director of Special Projects, Special Olympics Wisconsin,
2310 Crossroads Drive, Ste 1000, Madison, WI 53718, jhrovat@specialolympicswisconsin.org
800-552-1324 ext 5666 (or "0" for operator) Fax - 608-222-3578

ATHLETE NAME: _____ **AGENCY:** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **CITY & ZIP:** _____

DAY (Cell) PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Shirt Size: _____ **Dietary Needs:** _____

Do you require any disability-related accommodations, such as written materials in an alternate format, sign-language interpreter, wheelchair accessibility, etc.? ____ yes ____ no

If yes, please describe: _____

Are you on Facebook and will you join a SOWI Athlete Leadership Group? ____yes____no

Are you a registered Class A Volunteer for Special Olympics Wisconsin? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Have you completed the on-line General Orientation Training? ☐ YES ☐ NO

MENTOR NAME: _____ **AGENCY:** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **CITY & ZIP:** _____

DAY (Cell) PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Are you a registered Class A Volunteer for Special Olympics Wisconsin? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Have you completed the on-line General Orientation Training? ☐ YES ☐ NO

To be successful, athletes wishing to coach in the SOWI system should first and foremost communicate their wishes to their Agency Manager.

Agency Manager Printed Name

Agency Manager signature

Date of Signature

OVER

ATHLETES AS COACHES (AAC) PROGRAM

Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) welcomes and encourages athletes to assume leadership positions such as athlete-coach. To be successful, athletes wishing to coach in the SOWI system should first and foremost communicate their wishes to their Agency Manager. This provides an opportunity to determine the best plan for the Agency and athlete, as well as a time to discuss the criteria for involvement (below) and understand important SOWI policies such as the Policy Regarding Volunteers and Staff Dating Athletes, found in the *Volunteer Policy* section of this handbook.

Criteria for Involvement

- 1) Athletes wishing to coach in the SOWI system must be registered and screened as a participant in the AAC program. This is done by completing a *Class A volunteer Registration Form* which includes taking the online Protective Behaviors training, view the online General Orientation, and Concussion Training plus complete the on-line test. (Athlete coaches must be 18 years old or older.)
- 2) Athletes must have a mentor in the AAC process, and have the ability to meet the requirements of being a coach (attendance at practices and competitions, etc.). Agency managers may assist the athlete, but the athlete will be responsible for finding a mentor as well as transportation to and from practices and/or trainings as part of this program.
- 3) The athlete, with the help of their mentor, must adhere to all current coaching certification policies.
- 4) In addition, athletes must complete a one-time ACC face-to-face workshop (a 4-hour training offered periodically throughout the state).

State Games/Tournament Registration Policy

Athletes, including athlete-coaches, are not eligible to act as chaperones or to drive on behalf of SOWI. In order for an athlete-coach to be registered as a coach for a State Games/tournament they must meet all of the criteria for involvement in the AAC program. Because an athlete-coach cannot serve as a chaperone, they must be certified in order to attend State Games.

Teams with an athlete-coach will be allowed extra quota slots to accommodate athlete-coaches. The State Games/tournament ratio of athlete-coaches to competing athletes shall be as follows: Team sports (excluding bocce, team or doubles bowling, and relay teams) – one athlete-coach per team; Individual sports (including bocce, team or doubles bowling and relay teams) – one athlete-coach for every 12 athletes. Even though extra quota is allowed for an athlete-coach to attend state competitions, the specific rules of a sport are still intact. For example, in team basketball, three coaches are allowed on the bench. The athlete-coach serves as one of the three, not a fourth coach.

An athlete-coach may serve as the only certified coach for a team. However, if an athlete is the only coach, please contact SOWI staff to assess if any accommodations are necessary. No athlete-coach will be allowed to register in a coach's role with any of the Unified Sports® offered by SOWI.

To preserve the integrity of the AAC position, SOWI does not allow athletes to participate and coach within the same sports season (i.e. an athlete will not be allowed to attend State competition as a coach if you have competed in that sports season as an athlete). Athlete coaches who no longer participate as an "athlete" do not have to renew their *Athlete Participation and Release Forms*, but must keep their Class A volunteer registrations current. If the AAC maintains a current Athlete Participation form, then can attend all Healthy Athletes screenings.

Advanced Competition Opportunities

SOWI encourages registered athlete coaches to consider applying for coach positions at USA and World Games when applicable. Please contact the VP of Program Services for more information.