



Special Olympics Texas Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

Special Olympics Texas (SOTX) is committed to the highest ideals of sport and expects all parents and guardians to honor sport and Special Olympics Texas. All Special Olympics parents and guardians agree to observe the following code of conduct:

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Any concerns will be brought to the attention of the **HOD**, not the coaches, in a respectful, courteous manner.
- I will make sure my athlete/partner will attend all practices and competitions, (unless other arrangements have been made) and will arrive on time.
- I will ensure a positive experience for my athletes/partners/coaches.
- I will remember that athletes/partners/coaches are participating for their enjoyment.

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

- I will not use offensive language, nor will I harass coaches, other parents
- I will remember that athletes learn best by example, and I will appreciate good performance and skillful plays by all participants.
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the games, regardless of their gender, ability, religion, sexual orientation or cultural background.

ENSURE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

- I will encourage athletes to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will provide positive comments that motivate and encourage all participants.

ACT APPROPRIATELY AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY ACTIONS

- I understand that Special Olympics Texas has a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** for drinking, drug use and physical/verbal acts of aggression during all Special Olympics practices, games and events. I also understand that any parent, guardian or caregiver who fails to comply with this policy will be asked to immediately leave the practice facility or competition venue.
- I understand that parents and guardians are expected to refrain from challenging coaches' decisions regarding athletes/partners/coaches' positions.



CONSEQUENCES

Failure to comply with the Special Olympics Texas Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct may result in:

- The parent or guardian being asked to no longer attend Special Olympics Texas events.
- The parent or guardian being asked to leave the practice facility or competition venue..

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Head of Delegation Signature

Date

Upon entering Special Olympics Texas as an Parent of the organization, the coach should review and have the parent sign the form (if possible). At that time, the coach should explain what the consequences are of the parents not following the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct Agreement needs to be signed only once while the parent participates with any given team. If the parent changes teams, the Code of Conduct should be reviewed with the new coach, consequences explained and the Code of Conduct Agreement signed again. The Parent Code of Conduct Agreement should be kept on file by the head coach or head of delegation.